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PREDICT & WIN COMPETITION BACK PAGE

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The Right Place

The Right Sunday

Makhosazana
makes
partner at
PwC

PAGE 10

JULY 8, 2018

PRICE: E6.50 (VAT INCLUSIVE)



SPUR SHEBA'S ROCK CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS FROM THE 9th TO THE 20th OF JULY

All others (Spur Mdzimba Rock, Manzini & Spur Sibebe Rock, Mbabane) will continue to operate.

We are sorry for the inconvenience

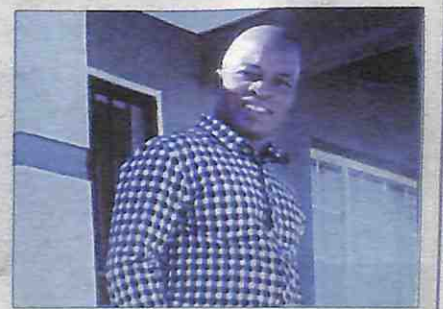


SIGODLO GRACE NOSMILO AND MPHOS WEDDING



Emakhosikati LaMatsebula and LaNtentesa were among the special guests who attended the wedding ceremony between Nosmilo and Mpho Mkhwanazi at the Swaziland College of Theology yesterday. They are joined by the bride's mother Sylvia Mthethwa the Lubombo RA and groom's mother Gloria. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

**MORE ON
PAGES 8-9**



**Help find
Patrick
Gwebu's
family**

PAGE 7

'I HAVE NO

● PM expects to get
new car and house as
exit package

SYMPATHY'



STORY ON PAGES 2-3

CLARIFICATION

STORIES BY THEMBEKA
DLAMINI

If you are bothered by the retirement benefits due to Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini when he leaves office, know that he has absolutely no sympathy reserved for your dissatisfaction.

The outgoing PM revealed this during an exclusive interview on Friday, when he was asked about the new wheels he is expecting when he leaves office.

Packages

The PM, who has over the years been driven around in a Range Rover, as well as an executive Mercedes, said he was expecting to get his new house and car when he left office without any qualms as he was not the one who created the retirement package, but it came as a result of a nationwide outcry, when members of the public, as well as the press, complained about Finance Circular No.1 of 2010 and how it left politicians beggars after their term of office had come to

an end. Recalling Sibaya, The People's Parliament, which took place in 2013, the premier said members of the public called for better pay for politicians, especially prime ministers, who were living in shameful poverty despite having served the country.

"Even old people, who were not aware of what a circular is, called for better packages as they decried the exit packages which were obtained by PMs of yester-

years," Dlamini said, adding that this was done despite cabinet having made provisions towards exit packages,

which he felt were adequate.

Circular

"You were also there at that Sibaya meeting. Even those who had little, in the way of formal education; they stood up and talked of the circular hence, a new one was drafted, resulting in these benefits," he said.

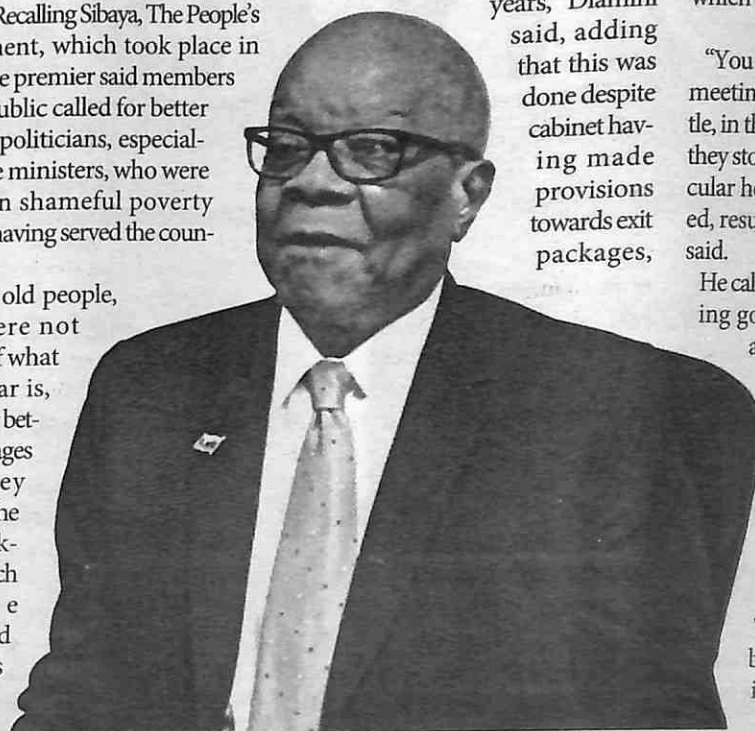
He called for people to stop blaming government as they called and allowed for this to happen;

"You all agreed to this by taking authority from cabinet and gave it to others and, hence the circular came to be."

Of note, the contentious circular was drafted by PricewaterhouseCoopers Tax Services (Pty) Ltd after being engaged by the ministry of finance to assist

CIRCULAR NO. 2 OF 2013 BENEFITS:

I HAVE NO



Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini.

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New E3 million wheels for PM?

He doesn't care much about the type of car he travels in and does not know the difference between a Range Rover L Vogue SE Supercharged and its cousin within the same range of the L Autobiography.

However, Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini expects to get a new vehicle at the end of his term, which is expected to take place prior to the general elections in September.

The premier admitted that he was not aware of the nitty-gritties pertaining to the type of car he would get but stated that he did not expect people to get, shocked when they saw him driving a new one on retirement, which will be of the same status as for the incoming PM.

He does not even know the value of his current vehicle, as he is only aware that it is a Range Rover, nothing more.

"The car I am travelling in does not belong to a former Prime Minister, it is a serving PM's vehicle, so I will not leave with it," he

said, adding that he would take whatever it is he would be given and as such, he was not aware of its size or model.

According to the Finance Circular No. 2 of 2013, "The state shall provide a vehicle to a retiring prime minister and his deputy of the same status as those that are in service. These will be owned and maintained by the government beyond their term of office. On the death of the former prime minister or deputy, the official car shall be sold to his estate at depreciated value."

"I haven't seen any communication concerning my car. I will not be shocked in the event I get one because you (the nation) asked for this," he said, adding how the ministry of public works would be the decider in coming up with the make of the vehicle. Sources revealed that the premier's vehicle, a Range Rover, could cost up to E3 million, a figure which was not confirmed by the ministry as both the Minister, Lindiwe Dlamini, and her Principal

Secretary, Makhosini Mndawe's cellular phones rang unanswered on Thursday and Friday. The premier said his current vehicle was past its usefulness as it had surpassed five years of regular use and as such, and according to government policy, it was supposed to be removed from its fleet.

"Whatever they decide on, I don't care much for it as I will not decide for them because I don't know much about vehicles as I just get in as long as I get to my destination," he said.

Perusal through several websites revealed that a Range Rover which could cost along the region of E3 million was the Range Rover L Autobiography P400e, priced at E2 674 600 before extras.

Others are the Range Rover L Autobiography Supercharged and the Range Rover SV Autobiography Dynamic Supercharged which are both priced at E2 716 200 and E3 248 952 respectively before modifications.

Ministers to take home fully-serviced BMWs - PS

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

What may come as good news to ministers; government is working against time to fix their faulty BMWs before the end of their term of office.

According to Ministry of Public Works and Transport Principal Secretary Makhosini Mndawe, some of the vehicles have already been serviced, while others are still being serviced.

"Like any other car, the BMWs do develop some faults and are taken for service and then returned, it is a cycle. Maybe in this situation, in this case around, the cycle affected a lot of the vehicles but it is nothing out of the ordinary, cars develop faults and are taken for repairs and returned. I cannot confirm that all the cars have been repaired but I'm sure there are those that have been fixed," said the PS. Mndawe assured the ministers that

they would be taking home fully-serviced vehicles, saying such was their right, as the motor vehicle allowance provision of Circular no. 2 of 2013 includes running and maintenance costs.

"By the time they vacate office they will all be fixed, we cannot give them vehicles in the garage we have to give them repaired cars. There is no two ways about it, it is not a favour or something, we have that obligation as government," he added.

This follows an outcry by the ministers last month, where they lamented that the end of their term was nearing yet the vehicles were still not fixed. The ministers revealed that as a result government was renting them cars for their official duties.

Government is believed to be spending at least E1 million a month on rented cars for ministers.

This is because the ministers' lux-

ury sport utility vans (SUV) have been faulty and taken for service in the dealerships in South Africa.

However, government's cash flow crisis resulted in failure to pay the dealerships, something that has led to the cars being kept for long periods. This newspaper understands that several cabinet ministers are either driving cars rented by government, while others are chauffeured in vehicles borrowed from the Central Transport Administration (CTA) as government has been failing to service their BMWs X5s. Ministers, in an interview with this publication, confirmed that it has been a while since they drove in the luxury vehicles, stating that they were in the garages, while others said theirs were kept at CTA.

"Even mine (BMW) has been away for some time now it is at CTA, they said they were not going to be given

the car allowance as they said we will be entitled to them. I'm not the only one as others are also in the same predicament, we now rely on CTA," said Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiywayinkosi Mabuza.

Other ministers shared the same sentiments, saying their vehicles were having mechanical faults and needed attention and as such they were no longer using them but other vehicles provided for by the government. Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David Ngcamphalala said his car had shocks problems and was being fixed at Carson Motors.

"They promised us that they will fix them soon, I was talking to them, they said they have ordered parts. We would be glad if they speed up the process, there are a few days left for us in office. We are quite a lot who have the same problem," he said. Similarly, the ministry of agriculture PS said the minister's car was still in the garage still being fixed.

CIRCULAR NO. 2 OF 2013 BENEFITS:

SYMPATHY - PM

with the review and update of some aspects of the Terms and Conditions of Service of the political cadre as contained in Circular No. 1 of 2010.

The following stakeholders were said to have been consulted before the final draft was approved; the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers, Regional Administrators, Presiding Officers, Members of Parliament, Tindvuna Tetinkhundla, Bucopho Betinkhundla and the public for views and submissions.

Awareness

"Communication with key stakeholders during the project was considered vital. Open communication provided awareness, understanding and commitment to the project, as well as promoting its vision, scope and the implications for both the Swaziland Government and its

stakeholders. In particular, communication was needed to address key inputs and concerns, and early embedding of core messages was required to ensure effective understanding of the objectives of the project," reads part of the communicate detailing approach and methodology. Economic conditions considered included revenue or income of the country, gross domestic product (GDP), growth, inflation, unemployment, inflation, unemployment rate, pay equity ratio, monarchical democracy, as well as socio-economic stability.

Despite the increased perks, some of the contents which were done away with from the 2010 circular, included decreases in salary rates for the PM, presiding officers, DPM as well as ministers.

It also did away with interest free

loans which had previously been afforded politicians by government, as well as tax reimbursive allowance, which provided tax exemptions for parliamentarians.

Funeral

The PM said it did not help for one to complain about his package, "Don't complain too much about my package because cabinet had decided well on the circular (pertaining to circular no. 1 of 2010)."

He said the benefits which he was supposed to get prior to the November 2013 circular on retirement, included medical aid as well as a personal assistant however, the circular gave him too much as per calls by the nation.

His benefits include a home, car, state funeral as well as others; "I have no sympathy because the nation did not want that which was done

by cabinet. Presenters during Sibaya all complained about circular one." Of note, despite bearing lucrative benefits for the PM, the 2013 circular excluded all his predecessors as it was deemed forward-looking and did not put into account the issues raised by Sibaya of former premiers and parliamentarians living in deplorable conditions. He advised dissenters to visit the commission looking to review the terms and conditions of the 11th parliament, because nothing would change his package so late in the day, with weeks left in office.

"What I would ask of you, is that you do not complain too much because nothing will change. Even labour laws do not allow for changes in terms and conditions in the absence of consulting with the affected party."

...PM's retirement perks

- 80 per cent of his current salary, which is at over E800 000 per annum, increased annually in line with approved civil service salary adjustments.
- Approximately E5 million home, located in Manzini past Lugaganeni
- Full medical aid
- A vehicle similar to that purchased for a serving PM
- Security detail as determined by the National Commissioner of Police
- A personal assistant

PM not expecting salary review before term ends

Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini is adamant that he is not expecting a salary review before his term ends and as such refused to contribute to consultations, held by the commission which is reviewing politicians' pay.

The premier explained that the commission was looking into salaries of the incoming parliament. He stated that the commission would not affect their current state and benefits as prescribed by Circular no. 2 of 2013, as any new circular would be forward-looking and affect new parliamentarians.

According to the 2013 circular, it came into effect on the date of appointment of the PM, DPM, Cabinet Ministers and Regional Administrators; and the date of swearing in for Members of Parliament and Members of Senate. The premier said whatever terminal benefits determined in the new circular would be effective at the end of the term of the 11th parliament.

Thanks journalists for comfortable retirement

The outgoing prime minister says he owes everything he will receive on retirement to journalists who wrote repeatedly about the shortcomings of Circular No 1 of 2010.

"I would like to thank journalists and the nation for making my retirement so comfortable," said the PM, with a chuckle.

He said journalists were the ones who fuelled the issue of the circular to the extent that others, who might have not appreciated its contents, became livid and talked about it in every avenue. "Every publication talked of Circular No 1 to the extent that the whole country demonised it and called for something to be done about it."

FACELIFTED RANGE ROVER - PRICE IN SA	
Range Rover Vogue TDV6 -	R1 881 900
Range Rover Vogue P400e -	R2 072 400
Range Rover Vogue SE Supercharged -	R2 296 200
Range Rover L Vogue SE SDV8 -	R2 337 100
Range Rover L Vogue SE P400e -	R2 350 300
Range Rover L Vogue SE Supercharged -	R2 380 800
Range Rover Autobiography SDV8 -	R2 558 500
Range Rover Autobiography P400e -	R2 571 700
Range Rover Autobiography Supercharged -	R2 613 300
Range Rover L Autobiography SDV8 -	R2 661 400
Range Rover L Autobiography P400e -	R2 674 600
Range Rover L Autobiography Supercharged -	R2 716 200
Range Rover SVAutobiography Dynamic Supercharged -	R3 248 952
Range Rover L SVAutobiography SDV8 -	R3 727 500
Range Rover L SVAutobiography P400e -	R3 740 700
Range Rover L SVAutobiography Supercharged -	R3 897 362

*Pricing sourced from CarMagSA



Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini is chauffeured in a car similar to this one.

Fears over government being ESNPF guarantor

BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

The business community on Friday afternoon, in an urgent meeting held at the Happy Valley Hotel, raised some serious concerns over the governing of the proposed Eswatini National Pension Fund (ESNPF).

This was during a meeting which was called by the Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC). The FSE&CC conducted a stakeholder engagement meeting to discuss the ESNPF Bill, 2018 which aims to establish the ESNPF that will require for every employee to be pensionable.

FSE&CC wanted to brief its mem-

bers on some sections of the Bill that they found needed to be scrutinised. FSE&CC also wanted the business sector to make submissions to the bill.

The concerns over government being ESNPF guarantor come in the wake of the Financial Services Regulatory Authority's (FSRA) inspection of the Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) halted by Cabinet.

Concern

During the business sector's meeting, one of the attendants raised her concerns about government being the guarantor of the fund. This concern was met with a round of applause from the attendants, who also showed disapproval of the Sections which permit the move.

"I'm just worried, government is

supposed to be the guarantor of the fund but again government has the right to borrow from the same fund. I'm sitting here and thinking how does this happen," explained the attendant. One of FSE&CC employees asked the business lady to explain the meaning of borrowing stipulated in the bill. The woman explained that the bill permits government to take out loans. She quoted Section 57 which is about loans; she further quoted Section 55 which is about the prohibition of money and investment guidelines.

Section 55 reads, "A loan or collateral support shall not be made to any person or institution, unless the loan or collateral support is secured."

Section 57 (1) reads, "the Fund shall

not grant loans or collaterals to members unless the loan or collateral is funded, in accordance with prescripts set by the Board from supplementary contributions, made on a voluntary basis." Sub-section two of the section states that the granting of loans to a natural or legal person, including Government, shall comply with the provisions of Section 55.

Most of the employers gathered in the conference room mumbled and laughed when they learnt that government would be able to borrow from the fund.

Another speaker said she feared that the fund would end up killing businesses when means to sustain it are being made as it would have to hand out loans to government.

Before ending the not more than an hour meeting, FSE&CC President Andrew Le Roux invited all parties who would like to make submissions on the bill. He said they should submit their comments to the FSE&CC offices before the end of business on Tuesday. He encouraged the business sector to make submissions and further assured them that should the bill be passed without considering the submissions then legal routes can be taken. The bill was gazetted on June 21, 2018 and was brought to Parliament on a certificate of urgency, last week Monday.

The FSE&CC has submitted that it was not against the conversion but that there had been insufficient consultations on the details of the bill and the secretariat needed to consult its members for it to be in a position to give a definite response to the bill.

July 8, 2018

INDLOVUKAZI CONGRATULATES SAKHILE



Her Majesty the Indlovukazi congratulates Princess Sakhile after her successful wedding ceremony to South African businessman Mduduzi Tsabedze. The umtsimba delegation was commissioned by Their Majesties at Ludzidzini Royal Residence last Friday. The weekend long ceremony was held in Badplaas where Sigodlo was also in attendance. The ceremony ended with bridal gifts by the royal family to the Tsabedze family. The princess is the first born daughter to Prince Lonkhokhela and Inkhosikati LaMabuza. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Princess Sakhile joined by her siblings; Melusi, Simile and Mgubho in song and dance.



Prince Sigombeni dressing up the groom with the Inyoni while the princess looks on.



Imbali from the royal family also came through to support one of their own.



Royalty and guests following proceedings of the ceremony.



It was a happy moment for the Tsabedze family as they were all presented with special gifts by the royalty.

Reverend Mngomezulu, Eugenia renew their wedding vows



Parents to Inkhosikati LaMbikiza Reverend Percy Mngomezulu and Eugenia say their vows during the celebration of their 50 years of marriage in a colourful event held at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre yesterday. The event was attended by members of the royal family, chiefs, Mngomezulu clan and other invited guests. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



The couple cuts the cake.



They hug each other after cutting the cake as a symbol of oneness.



Local singer Symphony entertains the guests.



Some of the guests following the proceedings.



Inkhosikati LaMbikiza and Princess Sikhanyiso enjoying every moment.



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MBABANE

COUNCIL PRESS STATEMENT

As the Mayor of the Municipal Council of Mbabane and acting under the full mandate of Council following the special council meeting held on the 5th July 2018, I want to offer clarity on a few matters that could have created wrong perceptions with regard to how Council operates.

Councillors, as true ambassadors of this great city and its populace, want to state the following:

- i) Council notes that the Mayor had been informed of the contents of two press statements that were published in the Times of Swaziland and the Swazi Observer on 29th of June 2018 and the other press statement that was published in both publications on the 2nd of July 2018.
- ii) Both statements publicised on the 29th June 2018 and 2nd July 2018 were properly authorised and reflect the position of Council.
- iii) *As per best practice in Municipalities and as required by law, Council has a delegation of authority instrument which also provides for how the media should obtain information from Council. The Office of the CEO has full authority over media relation matters. Journalist are requested to channel their request for information to that office. The Information and Public Relations Officer of Council is located within the office of the CEO for that purpose.*
- iv) *Council regrets any misunderstanding that may have resulted from the comments by the Mayor on the press statement.*

MBABANE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR ZEPHANIAH NKAMBULE

ACC speaks out:

CORRUPTION CASES PILING UP
AT THE HIGH COURT SINCE 2016

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has disclosed its challenges and its position regarding the recent probe.

The commission has also assured the nation that the country can win the fight against corruption if all arms of government work coherently in the fight against corruption.

This was revealed by the ACC Director Jabu Phakathi during an interview on the breakfast show on Eswatini TV.

One of the questions that she responded to was why it appeared as though the commission had not been active or carrying out its duties for the past two years and if that meant that there was no more corruption in the country.

Phakathi said the commission continued to strive with its investigations as mandated by the enabling legislation.

"Yes, nothing much has happened after 2016. The nation will recall that the 2016 judgment in the case of the former minister, the CJ said we had failed to make a prima facie case warranting prosecution.

...Punches holes on the probe, stands with AG

The CJ then touched on the key sections of our Act, saying they are unconstitutional. Currently, we do have cases pending applications before the High Court.

Since DPP has appealed the judgment, we are hoping that it will be heard by the Supreme Court," she said.

The pronouncement of the chief justice came as a result of the case between the ACC and the former minister of commerce industry and trade, where the Anti-Corruption Commission was seeking orders to enter and search the premises of Gideon Dlamini, who was the first respondent, with the sole purpose of seizure of properties and consequently arrest them.

Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala said certain sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act were unconstitutional and contravened the principles of natural justice.

He said the sections of the act that empower the Anti-Corruption



ACC
Director
Jabu
Phakathi.

Commission (ACC) to enter and search people's premises in order to seize property and consequently arrest them without having notified the

person first flies against the provisions of the Constitution which protects the dignity of a person and bars degrading treatment of a person.

Parliamentary
probe eroded
public trust

The director of the ACC said Parliament has a right to probe institutions under government and ACC is not opposed to a probe if there is a need.

She said, however, ACC is a law enforcement entity which is also guided by the law in terms of its operations, therefore, the probe on it requires clear policies and processes.

The attorney general opined that when conducting a probe of this nature, there must be no perceived or real conflict of interest, therefore, the probe would be neater if done by an independent body.

"Firstly, institutions tasked with probing the Commission should be mindful as it is a key institution in the governance of any country. Therefore, we should be mindful that public trust is not eroded since a probe is investigating allegations which may be true or false," she said.

SEC internal audit debacle:

We are registered - Supplier responds

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

The South African based supplier which has been cited several times in part of a Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC's) internal audit has refuted that they were deregistered and further disowned the email listed as their contact on a South African company's website.

In a letter dated July 3, the company, through lawyers Ndlangamandla Attorneys at Law, stated that they sought to clarify and respond to last week's article wherein this publication revealed how an audit report revealed that the company was not registered with the Registrar of Companies in the country either as a local trading company or as a foreign company.

Audit

The internal audit had stated that the company was sought on the internet and when the same search was initiated by this publication, information gathered was to the effect that its status was a deregistration process and no information, other than on two websites which states this was found about it.

"Reputational issue of dealing with a company that does not comply with local trading laws and regulations.

Registration with and returns to SRA also doubtful. To be probed further," reads part of the internal audit.

Further, in another subsection titled Supplier Selection and approval consignment stores (WIP) the report stated that the company's filed documents were attached and a printout of information in the internet was found in the internet about the company;

Identification

"The identification number ties with the one quoted in their invoices and their registration documents (filed by Commercial Services)."

Responding to the Sunday Observer article which stated that the information on the website is only for 2013, the last time this company appears anywhere online, the lawyers representing the company wrote; "(South African company) is a legally registered company with the now CIPC formerly known as CIPRO under the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). When we find reason to or chose (sic) to prove this then we will do so."

The South African company, in the letter addressed to this publication, revealed that they were a tax compliant company and have been for years.

The company stated that

their annual returns are in place and their clients have all their contact details where they can get assistance.

"The company's profile and catalogues have constantly been sufficient to advance its course and if we find need for a certain website (as expected by your newspaper) then we will develop one."

...charluzaza@yahoo.com not ours

The company highlighted several times in the SEC internal audit has distanced itself from an email listed as their contact detail in the South African company's website. "For the record, the charluzaza@yahoo.com email you claim belongs to our client actually does not as that was an agent the company used when registering back in 2008 which is the norm in RSA. Our clients details are clear to its clientele," wrote the lawyers.

Last week, the Sunday Observer revealed how the email address was listed as a contact for the company as well as of four other entities with different concerns, something which was found to still be the case yesterday evening.

SEC not our only client

The company has refuted that they have only one client.

Through their lawyers, they wrote, "We do not know how many clients a company should have at a particular time as you suggest that SEC seems to be our client's main/only client.

Our client (the company) has several renown partners hence to deliver quality products (SABS) approved all the time to its client,

SEC inclusive."

On the other hand, SEC's internal audit report stated, "Observing the sequence of the invoice numbers issues by (SA based company) to SEC for payment, SEC seems to be their major or only client.

Invoice

Of invoice range 001200-001244 paid in December and January, only one invoice number 001239 is missing from this range."

SEC owes us for goods delivered in January

Denying that the company was ever paid instantly as queried by the SEC internal audit report, the South African company has alleged that they are owed for unsettled invoices from January (seven month ago).

"Our client (the South African company) delivered quality products on time every instance when requested by the SEC, their officials always inspected these products before acceptance.

Our client (the South African company) has never been paid instantly as suggested by your article (the South African company) has always paid according to the consignment stock principle which was also requested by the SEC this is when you invoice a client after supplies have been used/consumed.

Our

As it is, our client still has unsettled invoices from January

2018...which have not been paid yet and some would take several months before payment which is accepted as normal from SEC as per their request we embraced"

Of note, the internal audit stated; "Invoicing and payment of invoices is not complaint with SEC payment terms outlined in Clause 6 of the accounts payable procedure, instead invoices are processed on receipt (the 30 days requirement does not apply)."

Detailed

This is further detailed in the report where invoice numbers 001200-001239 are passed for payment the next day after being captured in the Main Stores.

They are listed as having been authorised by the Commercial Services Department, captured for payment and passed for payment the very next day.

This is noted for stock delivered with delivery notes 0151-00155 which are goods satisfy-

Further, on a different page, the report stated, "VAT declarations for goods supplied by (SA based company) could not be verified. No declaration forms attached with delivery notes and/or invoices on delivery documentation could not be traced to SRA VAT credit statements.

Supplier is either a middle man between SEC and another company or they are recycling the same stock i.e delivering stock to SEC, taking the same stock somehow and delivering it back to SEC."

ing orders invoiced 001200-001209.

Dates

Invoice dates are December 11, 2017; captured at main stores on December 13, authorised by the Commercial Services Department and captured for payment and passed for payment on the same day were paid via cheque dated December 15.

Other goods paid with a cheque dated December 29, 2017 have delivery notes 00155-00156 and have concurrent invoices 001210-00139.

The invoice dates for delivery note 00155 which has invoice number 001214 was invoiced December 13, 2017, captured at main stores December 21, 2017.

It was further authorised by Commercial Services Department (CSD) on December 27, 2017; captured for payment on the same day and further passed for payment the next day.

Mbabane Municipality debacle:

MAYOR ZEPHANIAH DISOWNS STATEMENT IN HIS NAME

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule has denied being the author of a press statement from the Mbabane City Council purporting to be from him.

The mayor, yesterday evening, denied that he was aware of the damning press release, which details inflammatory statements allegedly made by Mbabane resident Ndavela Dlamini, outgoing Member of Parliament Esther Dlamini, as well as former mayor, Reverend Solomon Nxumalo prior to its release on June 29.

This is in line with his stance during interviews where he distanced councillors and himself from the contents of the statement, which sent shockwaves through residents and the municipality alike.

Concerning yesterday's statement which was alleged to have been a council resolution after a meeting on Thursday, the unshaken Nkambule said his assertions still stand; that he was not informed of the first statement and would not have endorsed it. He said he was disappointed by the CEO's tactics of using ratepayers' money to serve his agendas and hide behind councillors. Even though the call was made before 8pm, he said he had not read the paper as he had been away.

This latest distancing from a press release was similar to the one made on June 29 when approached briefly by this reporter personally.

On the day of the publication of the June 29 statement, Nkambule was found outside the Mbabane branch FNB ATMs going towards the parking lot, facing the circle leading to the municipal council offices and he revealed his shock to this reporter about the con-

tents of the press statement.

Dressed in a Chinese collar purple shirt and black slacks, he stated that he was not in communion with the contents of the council's statement, and further asked not to comment as he was yet to consult on its origins as he was not aware of the author, but was shocked at its intention. Yesterday, a press release headlined, Council Press Statement and signed off, Mbabane Mayor, Councillor Zephaniah Nkambule, revealed that the publicised statements were properly authorised and reflected the position of council as he was also made aware of its contents prior to publication. The mayor was said to have been appraised prior to its issuance to the two print media houses.

Of note, prior to the release of the official statement, the mayor was

asked by this reporter about the recording which was in a file dated December 7, 2017,

which was a month after current councillors were elected into office. The recording was made during a meeting which was attended by Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiyinkhosi Mabuza, who was meeting residents from Mbabane, comprising Zone Leaders, ratepayers' representatives, as well as an association of elderly Mbabane residents, Lalufadlana.

Nkambule was asked about the recording's contents a few days after he was elected mayor, during the height of the investigations by the Council in Committee, led by Councillors Sabelo Magagula and comprising former Mayor Sikhatsi Dlamini, as well as Councillor Dube.

He was called on Saturday, May 19 and he categorically stated that if there was such a recording, it was made illegally, without the knowledge of all attendees of the meeting which he was part of.

He went to the extent of refuting a lot of the recording's contents, which he said must have been made a long time ago as a lot had changed, making such statements invalid to be used as reference during Chief Executive Officer Gideon Mhlomo's suspension.

"As you are aware, the balance of power has been restored within council, as there is an equal number of councillors for and against Mhlomo, which makes for healthy debates," he said during the May 19 telephonic interview with this reporter.

As a result, some of his clarifications appeared in the Sunday Observer May 20th edition headlined, 'Mhlomo to know his fate come month end' without reference to the recording.

He had been asked to substantiate if there were eight councillors who sided with Mhlomo against a small clique of four, which, according to his assertions in the recording, he was part of. In the

recording, which the Sunday Observer has in its possession, Nkambule can be heard telling the minister that he was not supposed to communicate with Mhlomo, but to consult the mayor on issues arising in Mbabane because the CEO was hired by council.

He warned the minister that whatever he spoke with Mhlomo would not be discussed at council level because they would have to come through the CEO, who cannot suggest the agenda.

"In the hierarchy of council proceedings, you, as a politically elected person, your stature is equal to that of the mayor, not the CEO. After talking to the mayor, the mayor is able to table whatever it is you want to say to the rest of the councillors orderly."

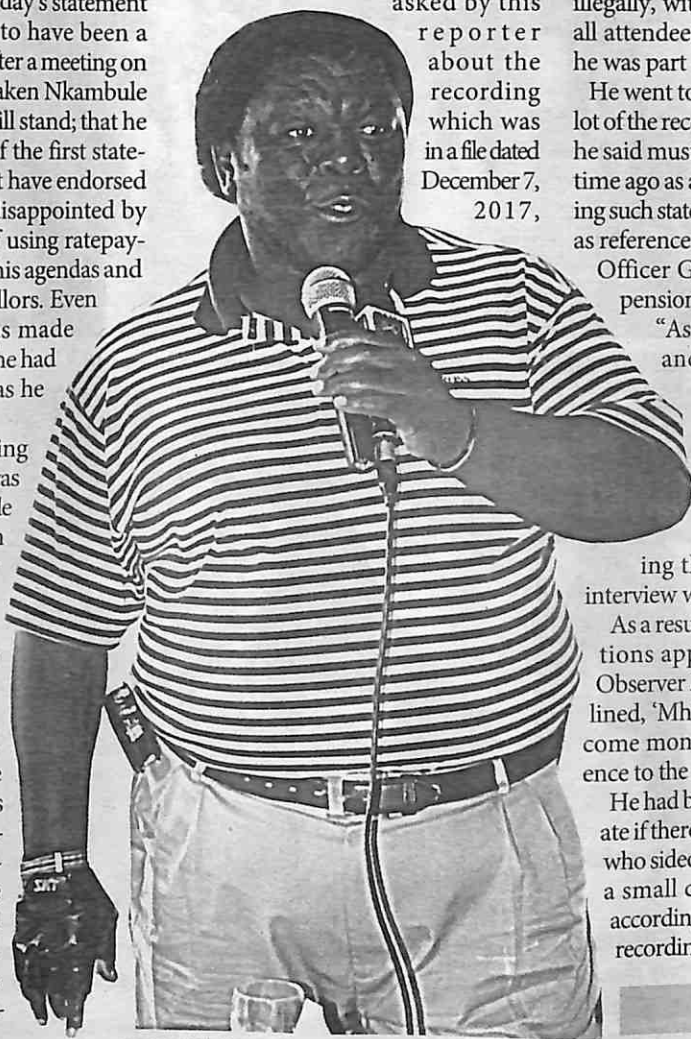
Prior to that, Nkambule warned those in attendance that they were going about the wrong way as they were attacking symptoms of their problems instead of going back to the beginning where things went awry, the day they signed community leaders' powers over to the Local Community Committee, headed by councillors.

In the recording, Nkambule makes it known that even though there is no journalist present as all those in attendance are residents, he can identify, he reveals that there are always clandestine moves to get information of what happens in such meetings, but adds that he does not care as what was being said was the truth.

The recording is one hour 17 minutes, where Nkambule talks uninterrupted for over 20 minutes save for a few interjections, either in agreement or disagreeing with what he says.

He called for strategic means of fighting against Mhlomo and stated how he needed help to ensure that residents who voted him into council came out as winners in the issue, which sees those in informal settlements disadvantaged.

Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule.



Sandile Patrick Gwebu.

Help find Patrick Sandile Gwebu's relatives

BY SUNDAY OBSERVER REPORTER

A man from Manzini was yesterday admitted to the Steve Biko hospital after intervention by Good Samaritans, who took pity on him after South African police allegedly dumped him in Bosman, a suburb situated within Pretoria Central.

According to one of the people who made frantic efforts to assist the man they identified as Sandile Patrick Gwebu, the man was suspected to have been from Sunnyside. He was reported to have various gashes, bruises and other injuries, the businessman was suspected to have been hijacked, beaten and drugged as he could not disclose a lot of information due to being disoriented.

The South African woman said the man was brought to their flat in his scary state, while draped in a curtain and all they could get from him was the number for a former school, which he was able to recall.

However, the former school was unable to assist as she revealed she was scared of the state of the local man, who she was only able to reveal as having previously worked in Cape Town before moving to Pretoria, where he has his own business.

The Good Samaritans were able to assist in calling for an ambulance where the man was said to have been attended to yesterday evening.

They requested that friends and family members contact the hospital.

Temporary relief as Eswatini gets E1.4 billion SACU injection

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The country has received its E1.4 billion quarterly inflow from the Southern African Customs Union (SACU).

The receipt of the revenue was confirmed by the Ministry of Finance Principal Secretary Bheki Bhembe on Friday.

"We always receive it every first week of the first month of each quarter, the amount is always the E5.8 billion divided by four, which is E1.45 billion thereabout. It is always received at this time, even if I can contact the

Accountant General who manages our accounts she will tell me it has been deposited or it will be soon be received," he said.

The principal secretary said the injection would relieve the country's cash flow situation considering the askew status that was presented by the minister last month in parliament.

The minister stated that government was faced with an acute cash flow shortage in the recent past and it was reasonable to assume that this trend would continue into the medium term.

The minister said for the month of June alone, about E1.1 billion was required to settle priority expenditure that could not be postponed.

Of this amount, E702 million was for salaries for that month and this included payment of on-call allowances of E56 million, while E363 million was for outstanding deductions for pension and cooperatives due in May 2018.

"Talking about the impact, this will relieve us on the cash flow, you will recall that the minister made a statement in parliament indicating that the government cash flow was not

good. It is bad, however, within the first month of each quarter, it usually becomes better because of the relief we get from SACU," said.

On another note, Bhembe revealed that last week heads of state said they were giving SACU an additional 12 months to conclude the revenue sharing arrangement.

"These 12 months will fall in December 2019, this, therefore, means there is no implication of the formula because of the two reasons which are: the budget has already been passed using the old formula and that there is no new formula," he said.



Ministry of Finance Principal Secretary Bheki Bhembe.

NOSMILO, MPHO



Pastor Raymond Mwiinga leading the couple, Nosmilo Mthethwa and Mpho Mkhwanazi from Durban during their wedding ceremony held at the Swaziland College of Theology yesterday. Members of the Royal family, businesspeople, family members and friends travelled from near and afar to be part of the classy and colourful ceremony. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Musa Mthethwa walking his daughter Nos'milo down the aisle to be wedded to the love of her heart.



Nosmilo and Mpho showing their love and affection to the gathering after they were declared husband and wife.



The couple exchanging wedding rings on their special day.



Mpho supported by his mother, Gloria, as he arrived to receive his bride.



Parents to the bride Musa Mthethwa and his wife, Sylvia, doing a grand march at the wedding venue.



1. Guests from the Royal family were also in attendance.



2. Parents, family members, friends to the couple and guests follow proceedings of the day.

3. The couple during a prayer session before the officiation.



Emakhosikati LaMatsebula and LaNtentesa joined by Sigodlo as they follow proceedings with guests.



TIE THE KNOT



The couple's wedding cake.



Nosmilo flanked by Emakhosikati LaMatsebula and LaNtentesa.



Musa Mthethwa and his wife, Sylvia dancing up a storm as their daughter was getting married.



The bridal party standing ready to enter the wedding venue on arrival.



Fikile Simelane, Dr Khosi Mthethwa, Sakhile Mabilisa and Linda Simelane looking classy on the special day.



Guests mingling and snacking before the start of the reception session.



The newly-weds joined by the bride's family during a photo shoot before the reception. The second stage of the ceremony was held at the plush Mthethwa homestead at Gumtree in Manzini.



(Above) The Mkhwanazi family also made the trip from Durban to celebrate with one of their own.

It was a happy day for Lubombo RA Sylvia Mthethwa and friends as they were captured getting down to the beat. She is joined by Dr Khosi, Mary, Nonhlanhla and Linda.



(r) The couple showing their dancing skills on arrival for the reception session after the main ceremony.



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- * 1 Day Old Pekin Ducks
- * 1 Day Old Geese
- * Fertilised Eggs



- * Day Old Chicks
- * 4 Weeks Old Chicks
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PWC'S MAKHOSAZANA'S PURPOSED RISE

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

It has taken more than 12 years of hard work and dedication for her to rise to the coveted position of partner within what was previously known as a male dominated industry.

Being orphaned at a young age did not serve as deterrent; but was motivation for Makhosazana Mhlanga (37) to strive for success in everything she did.

Recently unveiled as the first local woman to rise to the near pinnacle of Price waterhouseCooper's organogram, Mhlanga attributes her determination to the example displayed by her predecessors, Mvuselelo Fakudze, now Standard Bank Chief Executive, as well as Paul Lewis.

PwC is a multi-disciplinary entity which was initially known for their auditing and accounting services and her confirmation as partner following a nomination by Managing Partner Theo Mason is yet to really sink in.

Despite this, Mhlanga is well aware that her hard work has taken her this far.

She is a mother of two, wife to a supportive husband and has vast wealth in extended family support as well as friends who help her keep life in perspective.

"I was nominated, and my business case was used to justify why I deserved it."

She stated that a multi-national committee had to go through the various nominees and thereafter, she was invited to a gruelling interview where independent checks and tests were done.

She remembers the May 3 interview with disbelief and relief as she tries to embrace her success which saw her elevated along with 34 other partners in Africa, 14 of whom are women. Sitting before five partners and being asked varying questions was one of the most trying periods of her career, however, getting a call that she had succeeded in getting the promotion towards the end of last month was more than enough to compensate for all the long hours and time spent away from her family over the years.



She reveals that everything is still a haze, though of an orderly kind, and she is yet to be informed of what the position entails.

"When I got the call, I was sick in bed and even though it removed a lot of stress caused by anticipation of whether I had been made a partner or not, I did not get a chance to immediately celebrate as I had to see a doctor the next day as the flu worsened."

Her love for her job sees her enjoying coaching those she works with as she believes she too can learn from those who glean knowledge from her.

Meeting clients and embracing new technology within the profession are some of the highlights which see her looking forward to working on a daily basis.

As a forward-looking woman, she embraces innovation and technology within the industry and as such does not consider advancement as a threat, but as value addition to the quality and quantity of work done at the same time.

Mhlanga says she wanted to be a chartered accountant from a very young age based on the fact that her

sisters are all within the profession. After she lost both her parents while at a young impressionable age, she recalls how work ethic and determination were instilled in her by her sister who raised her.

"I wanted to make my parents proud with whatever I did, and I had an example from all my sisters who are in the profession."

She recognises that the long hours at work would not be possible without a strong support system at home and revealed that her in-laws, husband and sisters were very supportive of her, which has enabled her to not only work out of the country, but to pursue her studies towards attaining her qualification.

"I am comforted by the fact that when there is a need, my children can go home to their grandparents."

Her hectic work schedule dictates that she finds means of relaxing and she embraced running a long time ago and recently embraced watching movies in order to immerse herself into destressing mode.

To keep abreast with trends

within her profession outside of the trainings offered by PwC, she revealed that she is an ardent reader who thoroughly studies financial and economic publications regularly.

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Salem High School teacher publishes novel on plight of OVC

The beauty of poetry and literature is finally finding its feat in Eswatini alongside the exquisite art that flourishes in the country.

Salem High School English literature teacher, Sebzile Sikhosana, has published a 136 page-turner titled 'The Petals of the Rose Have Withered' birthed from a poem by William Blake titled 'The Sick Rose.'

"This novella is about the world-famous Swazi Reed Dance's uniqueness, splendour, awesomeness, magic, euphoria, beauty and richness of which there is no equal; the world-



Sebzile Sikhosana.

over, she said.

In her book, she markets the different landscapes and cultural events

that the Kingdom of Eswatini is well-known for, including Incwala and Umhlanga. She added a glossary of

Siswati words and expressions used in the publication to educate the masses in the Siswati language. She addresses the covetousness and lack of self-control of Duduzile Dlamini, the protagonist. Her plight as an orphaned and vulnerable child heading a homestead, her struggles with poverty, peer pressure and survival are intriguingly laid out as the story unfolds.

Sikhosana has been analysing different publications for the past 20 years in her teaching career and was convinced to write her own novel drawing inspiration from renowned African writers like Chinua Achebe,

Ngugi wa Thiongo, and other international writers. The literary work of fiction has taken two years to complete and Sikhosana is ecstatic that it was finally published.

"New Generation Publishing house based in the United Kingdom will launch the book this month in London and distribute it around the world. It is already available online through Amazon and will be availed as an e-book soon," she revealed.

The inspiration behind the project was her love for literature and her vision to have local literature books as part of the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)



The side view of the Isuzu van that was involved in an accident.



A closer view of the vehicle parked at a garage.

WORKS' TOP OFFICIAL IN HOT SOUP OVER VEHICLE MISUSE AND DAMAGE

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

After intense investigations, the ministry of public works and transport has finally found the remains of the government vehicle that was allegedly last authorised to a senior government official who failed to return and report it as per the stores regulations.

Ministry of Works and Transport Principal Secretary Makhosini Mndawe has confirmed the breakthrough and has promised to crack the whip and to leave no stone unturned.

"The car has been found, we are now carrying out the assessment of the damage since we have recently found it. Once the assessment report is out, all the regulations pertaining to the authorisation and reporting of government vehicles will be implemented. This is where we will divulge who was driving it and whether he had the authority and if there was any criminality, it will be dealt with accordingly," he said.

The PS stated that the damage of the vehicle was extensive. He emphasised that the law would be followed to the letter and would like to see justice being done as the ministry was against the misuse of government vehicles.

...Fails to report wrecked car, allegedly tries to replace it with another



The extensively damaged government vehicle.

The ministry has been without the vehicle registered GSD 129 CT since mid-February, after allegedly being authorised by the Deputy General Transport Manager, who was acting on behalf of the General Transport manager who was out of the country. The vehicle was reportedly involved in an accident while in Mozambique, it is

not clear whether it was being driven by the officer who had requisitioned for it or not. This was so because the vehicle is wrecked to a point that the repair costs would actually amount to its purchase cost.

The ministry has stated that the car was recovered last week and is currently parked in another garage for an

assessment of the damage and its value.

When the Sunday Observer team visited the garage, the car was found in a ravaged state. Personnel from the garage told the team that the vehicle had been there for some time as some speculated that it arrived last week Thursday.

"It would cost government about E400 000 to repair this car, I doubt they would want to fix it, rather they would scrap it and perhaps auction some of the parts," said one of the officials.

Four months of investigation

In April, Central Transport Administration (CTA) General Transport Manager Washington Khumalo reported to the Sunday Observer that he had received a letter from the principal secretary, requiring him to explain how the vehicle disappeared. The manager said 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 at the time.

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

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

The senior officer being probed is alleged to have on February 15, 2018

requested for authority to cross the border to Mozambique, though it is unclear whether the trip was for official work or not.

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 or 48 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.

curriculum in schools. Her target audience are high school pupils as the book is good for equipping them with English language and literature skills.

"For me writing is a hobby; I find it more intriguing than anything in the world. Writing novels gives me pleasure and satisfaction that surpasses all understanding and I have more novels in store", she added.

Sikhosana also mentioned that other writers and people who would like to know more about her book can search it online or contact her on her mobile @ 7633 2898.

ABOUT BOOK:

This novella is about the world-famous Eswatini Reed Dance's uniqueness, splendour, magic, etherealness, beauty and richness of which there is no equal the world-

over. Here, the harsh realities and unique Eswatini culture will dazzle, mesmerize, intrigue, captivate, and touch the reader, all at once. An awe-inspiring story about cultural heritage and the plight of an orphaned girl-child.

The narrative depicts the breath-taking Eswatini landscape, and rural grandeur of Eswatini with exotic settings and spectacular views of indigenous flora and fauna, which is to die for. The story set in Eswatini in the 1990's. Dudu, the protagonist, is a teenager, who finds herself being the breadwinner in a child-headed family. She has a strong will to survive but will she manage to pull through the numerous colossal challenges? Overall, it is a poignant story of the struggles of numerous orphaned and vulnerable children living in Eswatini.

THE
PETALS
OF THE ROSE
HAVE
WITHERED



SWAZILAND NATIONAL PROVIDENT FUND

SNPF NEWS

With Mlungisi Dlamini
- SNPF Senior Marketing
Communications Officer



HOUSING PROJECTS HANDOVER

The Fund has a Corporate Social Responsibility to the country as supported by the SNPF Order, which provides for social responsibility initiatives targeted at the elderly and disabled. One of the initiatives under the program this year is the identification and construction of housing for the elderly in the four (4) regions of the country. The CSR committee partnered with Red Cross Swaziland to help identify four candidates for the housing project.

In 2018, the Fund's CSR committee revisited the site to inspect progress, this began other initiative by the Fund to complete the structure it had started by plastering, flooring, installing windows and curtain rails, painting, and wiring the house. To cater for both male and female occupants on the premises the Fund oversaw the construction of two (2) external toilets.

As a result of the completion of the structure, two (2) elderly people (MkhuluTfwala and Mkhulu Ngcamphalala) took occupation of the house. However, the number of occupants has since increased. For this reason PhumulaNgwane is now a home and our thirteen (15) beneficiaries who are now able to assemble at the home at least every two (2) months to receive their food hampers and spend a day together.

SNPF NEWS took a moment to interview the CSR Chairperson, Sindi Mango, to find out more about the various community projects that the Fund was involved in this year.

SNPF NEWS: You have built 3 houses for the elderly, how were they identified?

SM: Actually we have built 4 houses in total, these cover all the regions of Swaziland. There's another house in

Lavumisa. However due to the distances between all location we weren't able to hand them all over within the same day. Plans are in place to also handover that project soon. The committee was able to identify the houses with the help of Red Cross Swaziland as they normally have daily access to remote areas of the country. In January the committee went to visit all four sites to assess whether the situation needed the intervention of the Fund...the SNPF Board approved all four locations that were presented by Red Cross.

SNPF NEWS: Who was used to build the houses, can companies apply for a tender.

SM: From the onset the committee made a commitment to empower local businessmen for any of the housing projects, so all resources were sourced from the same locale. Which means we asked for builders from Umphakatsi, river sand and crush stone were also

sourced from suppliers within the same neighbourhood. Everything else was done by our experienced property team.

SNPF NEWS: Besides Red Cross were there other companies involved in the housing projects?

Yes there some that were quite instrumental to the success of the projects. During construction we realised that most of the areas suffered from a shortage of water and we had no means of drawing water from the nearest rivers to deliver them to the construction sites. The Rhodes Food Group came to our rescue and donated 300L water barrels which were used to bring water to all the construction sites. The committee then realised that because we had brought water closer for not only the project beneficiaries but also the nearby community, many individuals were now making use of the water meant for construction. We asked Conco

Swaziland for a donation of 1000L water barrels so we could build a rain water collection system. As a committee and a Fund we would like to thank both companies for their valuable contributions to the success of the projects. We also thank umphakatsi for the various contributions they made.

SNPF NEWS: If other companies would like to make similar donations how may they get in touch with the committee?

We would welcome donations from any business small or large, they can get in touch with the CSR Secretary via email at info@snpf.co.sz or by calling marketing unit at 2508 2009. We are currently looking for someone to donate sleeping beds to the recipients, having moved into a new house it would nice to also sleep on a new bed.

GUNDVWINI RECIPIENT'S PROFILE:



Name of Pupil: Mr. Mabuza
Region: Manzini
Area: Gundvini
Age: 80+

BACKGROUND:

On the 16th January the Fund's CSR committee identified the Mabuza family from Gundvini as deserving of inclusion into the Housing Project. Mr. Mabuza and his wife are an elderly couple who live in a dilapidated structure which at the time was on the verge of collapsing. As the structure was deemed not safe for them to live in, when the committee came to make an assessment the couple were living in a tent supplied by the Red Cross Swaziland.

Mr Mabuza suffers from mental illness and is thus unable to provide for this family through normal employment. The family solely depends on the income

that can be raised by his wife from doing manual labour jobs around the community. The couple have no children to take care of them as all but one of their 8 children passed away. The couple do not know the whereabouts of the only



surviving child, who it is reported may have migrated to neighbouring South Africa.



LUBHUKU RECIPIENT'S PROFILE:



Name of Pupil: Gogo Maziya
Region: Lubombo
Area: Lubhuku
Age: 80+

On the 26th January the CSR committee travelled to Lubhuku to assess the living conditions of Gogo Maziya. Gogo Maziya from Lubhuku around the Siteki area is an elderly woman whom live all by herself since all her children and husband have passed away. She lives in a very poor structure held up by a single log and is said to be at risk of collapsing at any moment.

The roof of the structure has a large hole such that whenever it rains the old woman is at the mercy of the elements. During the construction of her new home, the one she was currently living in collapsed.



PHUMULA NGWANE HOME FOR THE ELDERLY

Area: Malindza

PhumulaNgwane home for the Aged is a community based organization working with the aged in Swaziland. The organization was established in 2004 by Ayanda Dladu upon realization that the elderly tend to be deserted and excluded in and by the society despite the fact that aging is the most vulnerable stage of human life. It is also a gruesome fact that the elderly are shouldering the burden of HIV/AIDS, and

poverty upon watching their children die of HIV/AIDS living with them a burden of caring for their grandchildren.

In 2016, Swaziland National Provident Fund made a generous donation of building material. The material was used on-site. However, it could not be completed as paying building labour put it on a snail pace because PhumulaNgwane has no constant flow of income.

HOUSING PROJECT HANDOVER IN PICS



Mr & Mrs Mabuza are excited to be moving into their new home.



SNPF CEO (Prince Lonkhokhela) covers the Mabuza family with a new blanket during the handover ceremony.



SNPF Board Chairperson (Sabelo Mngomezulu) presents a key to the Mabuza family.



Finished house being handed over to Mr. & Mrs. Mabuza.

GUNDVWINI



The last day gogo Maziya will spend a night here.



Gogo Maziya's new home

LUBHUKU



SNPF CEO and Board chairperson present the house to gogo Maziya



SNPF Board, CEO, project patron, CSR Committee and project caretakers take a group picture.

MALINDZA



SNPF CEO Prince Lonkhokhela doing his part (left pic) and Prince Masitsela (Phumula Ngwane Patron) contributing to painting work (right pic).



Complete Malindza old age home -Phumula Ngwane.



DPM, SNPF Board, SNPF Executive Committee and CSR Committee present the soup kitchens to Philani Maswati.



Some of the elderly who received meal packets on the day (above pic).

The Deputy Prime Minister in front of the soup kitchen donated by SNPF (right pic).



Lutfo Dlamini (Philani Maswati) during the handover.

PHILANI

SCU GRATEFUL TO KING FOR HIS WISDOM, FORESIGHT

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Feel it, it is here! That is how best to describe the vibe around the long-awaited graduation of about 190 Swaziland Christian Medical University students, which has now been officially slated for July 27, 2018.

The exhilaration about the graduation ceremony is triggered by the fact that they waited roughly 10 months for the event, delayed by, among other things, irregularities in the courses that needed to be fixed before the students could graduate.

This resulted in the institution being suspended by the Swaziland Education Higher Council (SHEC) on August 30, 2017.

Speaking on behalf of the university, Executive Director Administration Samuel Siphon Vilakati, also known

as SS, has explained the importance of the graduation, saying a graduation ceremony mark a significant accomplishment to students, staff, parents and those who witness such ceremonies.

"This will be our first graduation ceremony. It will be a historic day of jubilation for all as we see the candidates walk to the stage as graduands and leave as graduates," Vilakati said.

Vilakati added that more importantly, staff and students of the university were most grateful to His Majesty King Mswati III for his wisdom and foresight. Furthermore, he thanked His Majesty's Government for its role and the former Members of Parliament (ex-MPs) for their unfailing support during the time of challenges. Vilakati added that preparations for the graduation ceremony were on course. He further gave all thanks to God.

"We are aware that a few students transferred to other institutions at the time the university was closed. This had nothing to do with the graduation ceremony," Vilakati said, when asked if there were any challenges caused by the graduation delay.

Vilakati said the Senate was still checking the final list of graduands, however he said about 190 students were expected to graduate.

Moreover, he passed condolences to the family of a student who was stabbed to death last weekend. He said the university was shocked by the untimely passing on of one of the students.

"Our heartfelt condolences go to his family, relatives and friends. We are praying that the murderers be found and brought to book," Vilakati said. On the other hand, Students Representative Council (SRC) president Thabani Mkhwanazi said stu-

dents were excited about the graduation ceremony. He viewed the upcoming graduation as a breakthrough for other students enrolled in the university.

"The first graduation means that there is credibility of the university, so as students we are very happy to see that the graduation date has been stipulated," the president said.

SCU Mathematics, Physics and Statistics Lecturer Phila Dlamini said he was happy and looking forward to the graduation, further hoping there would be no hiccups.

"It is a proud moment for me as lecturer who trained the students in the beginning of their programmes," Dlamini said.

He said his biggest wish had always been to see the students joining the workforce. Dlamini said he would be heartbroken to see the students loitering the streets because of being unemployed.

'Students' torture, suffering shall never be forgotten'

In as much as the Swaziland National Union of Students (SNUS) is joyful over the Swaziland Christian University's upcoming graduation ceremony, the union said the students' torture and suffering would never be forgotten.

SNUS President Brian Sangweni has implored government to ensure that the issue of SCU and all the crisis that had been taking place did not happen again in any institution.

"A graduation is something that should be celebrated but the torture and all the suffering that SCU went

through shall never be forgotten," Sangweni said. He went on to state that without the purpose of graduating and obtaining a certificates that are conferred on the graduation day, it was like they (students) never went to tertiary. He said this was because the only highest qualifications held by some students at that moment were Form five certificates.

Happiness

Of note, on October 2017, eight students were reportedly arrested in relation to the costly arson attack on outgoing Information and

Communications Technology (ICT) Minister Dumisani Ndlangamandla's property.

Ndlangamandla's property is located at Mahwalala, Lomkiri, Zone 4, a few metres from SCU. On the other hand, as an interested party, the National Workers Union in Swaziland Higher Institutions (NAWUSHI) has also expressed its happiness over the graduation.

NAWUSHI Secretary General (SG) Fundizwi Sikhondze explained that the dream to have a university that dealt with medical sciences was being realised by the graduation.

He said the future of the graduands and those still studying looked brighter because of the upcoming graduation.

The SG added that the students would realise their dreams.

He said the health fraternity was crucial in building a healthy working population in a country.

Sikhondze added that the health sector also helped in increasing production.

"We are happy that the health sector is growing, we hope to see it continuously growing with trained students," Sikhondze said.

Students' reactions



Fezile Tsabedze – Pharmacy graduand

"I guess after 10 months it is a big relief; it feels like huge weight has been lifted off our shoulders. It has been a long, hard journey for us, so knowing that in a few weeks' time we would finally get what we deserve and what we have worked hard for is a huge relief for us. We would like to thank His Majesty King Mswati III and the Swaziland Christian University. I would like to thank my schoolmates for being patient because most people would have failed to bear the situation."

Themba Mthembu – Nursing graduand

"It's prayer answered because it has been really tough on us. We have been waiting in the dark not knowing what was going to happen but now that the institution and the ministry of education and training have agreed on the graduation date, it's prayer answered. We can now see that our future is really there. The delay has an impact because we were in the dark of the outcome, we were living in a dilemma, it has affected us in a lot of ways. We are happy that at the end everything is okay, we are happy."

3 EXPERTS VISIT SCU MEDICAL SCHOOL

BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Eight experts in Basic Medical Science have expressed keen interest to be part of the Swaziland Christian University when the institution launches the very first Medical School in the kingdom.

This is indeed a significant contribution by the institution to His Majesty's vision of seeing the country elevate to first world status by the year 2022.

The experts have expressed interest in forming part of the team that will equip Eswatini students with the necessary and suitable skills to be best players in the area of medicine.

Currently three of the eight experts are in the country to examine the current status of the facility where the medical school will be operated.

Fields

All three experts boast of over 30 years of medical education and experience and administration of medical institutions worldwide.

The three visiting professors are Professor Chae Hong Suh, Professor Sungil Cho and Professor Hyun-Cheol Lee.

Professor Chae Hong Suh, Professor of Pathology, holds a Ph.D and MD in Pathology. He has about 35 years'



SCU Chancellor Professor Yoon with the Basic Medical Science professionals, Professor Cho, Professor Suh and Professor Lee.

education experience working in various medical institutions in Korea. He lectured in one of the largest medical schools that held a capacity of 20 000 students in various fields. Moreover, through his expertise, Suh successfully served as Dean of Medical College, managing about 250 medical professors and also president of the entire university.

Professor Cho holds an MD and Ph.D in Physiology and also brings with him 40 years' experience in medical education, with areas of practise covering Korea, USA and Germany.

He served as Dean of Medical Schools in Korea, and has been nominated as medical coordinator for the Swaziland Christian University.

Lastly, Professor Lee, a Professor

holding a Ph.D and MD in Microbiology, boasts of over 35 years of medical education experience in medical institutions in Korea and in the United States of America. He was a dean and has managed a faculty with over 300 medical professors at the Medical College of Chonnam University in Korea. Lee is the current President of Korean Society of Microbiology in academics

and administration.

Chancellor of the Swaziland Christian University Professor Yoon expressed great appreciation for receiving interest from people with such rare skills. He acknowledged that Basic Medical Science professors were difficult to find and even more difficult to secure.

"They all have experience in establishing medical institutions and developing step by step from humble beginnings up until they are at world class medical schools" he noted.

He added, "We are fortunate to have the experienced Basic Medical Science professionals willing to join us to help."

Professor Yoon expressed confidence that the medical school, though starting at a humble level, will flourish steadily over the years.

"Let us start the Medical School with best available resources, even though humble at the beginning stage, work together to make it grow into a world class university," he added.

The three experts managed to visit the structure where the medical school will be situated and assessed the infrastructure.

They acknowledged that though lower the standard compared to Korean institutions, what was available at present was good enough to start operating the medical university.

ZION CHURCHES' WALK AGAINST RITUAL KILLINGS

BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

About 10 Zion Churches took to the streets of Mbabane to walk against ritual killings yesterday morning.

The churches included Restoration House, Faith, Mountain of God, Sisekelweni, Gagasini, Ekuphileni and Ebekizandla to name but a few. Their slogan was 'Union in Zion'.

According to the Coordinator of the walk, who is also Ekuphileni Church in Zion Secretary General (SG) Wandile Dlamini, the Zion church learnt with concern the escalating number of ritual killings reports in the print media. Dlamini said it was for that reason the church came together and agreed on the awareness campaign walk.

The walk, which was attended by roughly 55 congregants, started and ended at the Supply Centre after the congregants had gone around the city. They carried placards with messages that condemn killings. After the walk, the congregants held a meeting, where speeches were delivered. After the brief gathering, they proceeded to Waterford for their sports day.

During the walk, the enthusiastic Zion churches members sang Zion songs and also performed *siguico*. Strangely, the church members were not in their normal church gowns. Dlamini said the



Some of the Zion church members who attended the walk.
(Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

reason they were not wearing gowns was that in the evening they were going to have an all-night vigil at Mangwaneni. He said they feared that the gowns were going to get dirty during the walk.

"Churches are not only for preaching the word of God but also to deliberate on issues arising in the society, like the ritual killings," Dlamini said.

When asked why they chose to organize the walk during this time of the year, Dlamini said it was because alarming numbers of killed people were usually reported on each national election's year. He said they also wanted to condemn the killings as well.

Recent ritual killings associated cases

that have rocked the country include Phiyayinkhosi 'Thithi' Kunene's (8) case.

She was from Hholoshini; Phiyayinkhosi was later allegedly found beheaded kilometers away from her home. Another incident is that of a 16-year-old boy, who escaped from the jaws of death with a slit throat after three men believed to be ritual killers pounced on him in a forest at Mafutseni.

These and other incidents led to the National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula forming a task team dubbed 'Sting Operation Strategy'. Its main mandate is to assist in combating violent crimes. It was launched on June 15.

Mystery surrounds death of Moz. man

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Mystery surrounds the death of a Mozambican man who was found floating in a dam, holding a rabbit firmly.

The Mozambican, Telmo Eugenio Muhlono, was found dead last Sunday in a dam at Phumlancashi around Siphc faneni. However, Muhlono's wife Lorda Sabno Maziwe suspects foul play.

She believes that if Muhlono drowned, then he would have let go of the rabbit as he would have tried to swim his way out of the dam. The wife suspects that her husband was killed and later thrown into the dam. The wife now points an accusing finger at one of her husband's previous employers who allegedly owed Muhlono around E21 000. The man suspected by the wife was ordered by the Conciliation Mediation and Arbitration Commission (CMAC) to pay Muhlono for labourer services.

She believes that the previous employer allegedly eliminated her husband to avoid paying the money.

The suspect's wife, however, although acknowledging the debt, said Muhlono's death had nothing to do with her husband, instead raising suspicions of witchcraft, given that he was found holding onto a rabbit.

To compound the matter further, the suspect's wife has also claimed that as Muhlono's wife was married before, her first husband could not be ruled out as a suspect.

The suspect's wife further defended her husband by stating that her

family and the deceased were still in good talking terms despite the CMAC issue.

For this reason, they offered to cater for Muhlono's funeral costs. Muhlono disappeared last Saturday after having left home to work in the sugarcane fields in the area. He never returned and was discovered the following morning.

Muhlono was found with stains of blood in his nostrils.

According to his wife, Maziwe, she was amazed that the man who owed her husband money was offering to cater for all funeral costs. She claims to have rejected the offer as she wanted to locate her husband's relatives.

Relatives

She complained that the police were no-longer willing to give her the court papers they took, which have the CMAC agreement between Muhlono and the woman's husband.

"I want the police to give back the court papers, I'm now suspecting that the police are colluding with the woman's husband to destroy the agreement between the two parties," she suspected.

She said the police should at least take her husband's patient card instead of the Court papers because the relatives might continue with the CMAC case.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the incident. He clarified that no criminal offence has been opened at the moment.

Addressing the issue of seized court documents, Mamba said the police wanted to use them to track down the dead man's relatives.

Outcry over forestry workers injuries

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The health and safety standards of the local forestry industry are being questioned because of the statistics of people sustaining serious injuries while at work.

The union, nearby hospitals and the ministry of labour and social security have raised a concern over the increasing injuries of employees, especially in the saw mills. The union has, however, commended the efforts made by some of the companies in improving the safety of the workers. Similarly, the major players said this year's statistics indicated a decline in the incidences.

Safety

"Yes, there are some workers who have sustained injuries, especially in the saw mills. Issues of health and safety were not up to the expected standard, we have engaged the employers several times on the matter," admitted Federation of Swaziland Trade Unions (FESWATU) President Mashumi Shongwe.

Mankayane Government Hospital Casualty and Emergency Services Department staff told the Sunday Observer that on average they attended three patients who had been injured from the different mills weekly, which made them question the occupational safety of the company.

"I won't lie, we have seen several patients with all ranges of injuries, some with broken bones, open fractures, those who needed to be repaired the muscles to mention but a few. If it was not for the confidentiality policy, we would be showing you this injury book, where we record the injuries on duty," said one of the doctors at the hospital.

A nurse from the hospital also cited that they had witnessed the amputation of a young man's hand, and recently she had to accompany one of the patients to the Mbabane Government Hospital.



Swaziland Trade Unions (FESWATU) President Mashumi Shongwe.

Three of the victims who sustained serious injuries and were given different jobs within their different work stations (Bhunya and Nhlanguano) said the compensation they received was meagre and as such they had to return to work.

Jobs

"You are forced to come back to work as soon as the wound heals, because the compensation is very little, it cannot sustain you for the rest of your life, hence most of us return to work depending on your condition and the company then gives you another job," said *Musa Dlamini "There are different reasons for the accidents, some of them may be attributed to the pressure from the supervisors who are concerned with an increase in production and meeting targets. The company is reactive other than being proactive, they only upscale the safety measures after a number of accidents have been reported. For instance, the chains were only covered after my case," said one of the victims, who requested not to be named.

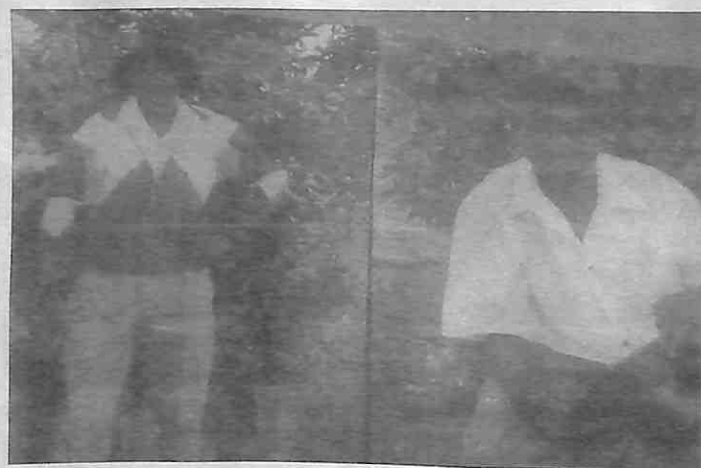
Ministry of Labour and Social Security Principal Secretary Thulani Mkhalihi said there was an under-reporting of injuries in the workplace hence the ministry would engage employee education. "There is an under-reporting of injuries at work, hence we suspect lack of knowledge, we need to go to the factories and educate the employees of their rights, indulging the human resources officers. A person who gets injured in the workplace or on his/her way to work or way home is still considered as injury at work. It is a criminal offence for employers not to report injuries, while some employers hide incidents for whatever reasons," he said.

Control

Mkhalihi said the ministry did visit some companies to inspect and educate them about safety measures.

Montigny Usutu CEO Andrew Le Roux said he was certain that the accidents had declined this year and the company had strengthened the safety measures. "We take health and safety seriously, and I get a monthly report, but I must say in general incidences are going down significantly, nothing has been reported to me in the past few weeks. I can assure you that the trend is definitely down and it is because of policies that we have put in place to look after health and safety," he said.

The CEO said not all the reported cases were from his company alone, as some may be from their subcontractors which they had no direct control of their safety. "What happens is that sometimes we have contracted people, it may not be a Montigny employee, it might be one of the contractors in the compound, and obviously, they are indirectly, we can't look after everybody because we are not always in direct control of all the safety issues. I will need to find exactly what the figures are and then respond accordingly," he said.



Telmo Eugenio Muhlono in un-dated pictures.

Moz. Association wants answers

The President of Mozambicans Association in Eswatini, Domingo Thomo, said he was shocked by the news of the mysterious death of Telmo Eugenio Muhlono.

He said he learnt about the death of Muhlono after he was informed by the former Member of Parliament's (MP) husband. He said the former MP's husband called him on his mobile phone. Thomo said the ex-MP's husband said they had to meet as he wanted to offer free transport in ferrying Muhlono's corpse to a burial place around Mozambique.

When he received the sad news regarding Muhlono's death he

was in Mozambique so he had to rush back to the country.

"We are very shocked and saddened by the death of Muhlono. The way they said he died is something new. We have never seen such in the past, we don't understand how one can drown and still be found holding a rabbit in his hands," Thomo explained.

He said he hoped police would make sure that the wrong-doers were apprehended to bring closure in the case. He stated that he also hoped that the post-mortem would also help determine whether Muhlono drowned or he was killed and later thrown into the dam.

AKA REIGNS SUPREME AT HIPNOTIK FIRST DAY

STORIES BY AYANDA DLAMINI

AKA the Super Mega heated up the Hipnotik Festival's first day on Friday as he brought his A-game to youthful Emaswati.

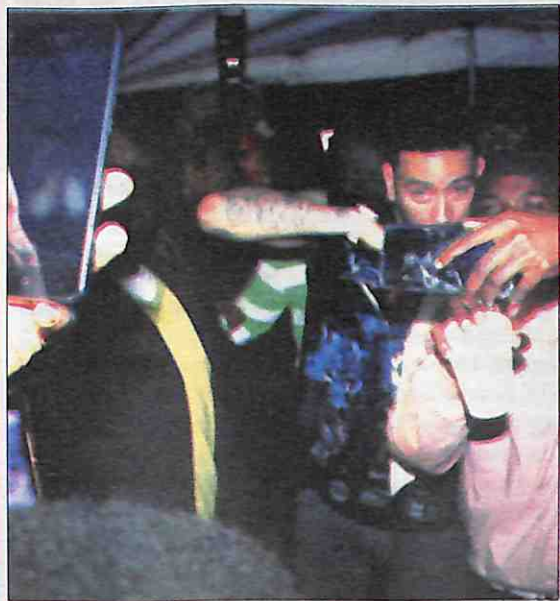
Returning to the Greyhound, Ezulwini, the festival saw thousands of youthful hip-hop fanatics thrilled by the South African controversial hip hop star AKA as he came with his live band and did the most on stage.

He had everyone on their feet during his one hour performance. He mounted the stage at 2am yesterday morning with his hit song 'The world is yours' as he hypnotised the crowd with his dance moves.

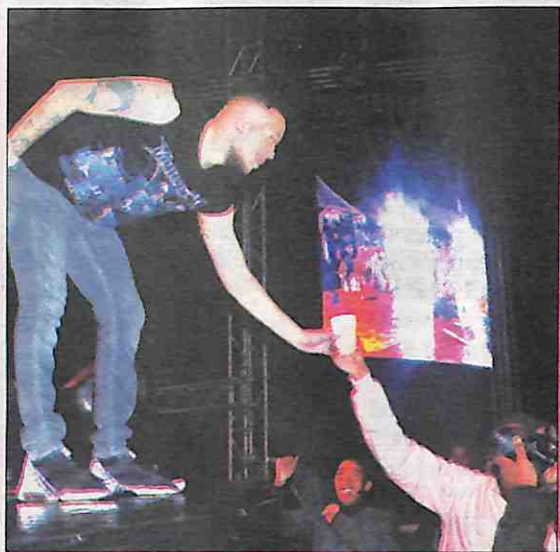
Contrary to expectations of drama and controversy from the South African star, he was down to earth, cool with his fans as he was willing to take selfies and shake hands with them on his way to and from stage. He did not pull his diva tendencies he is notorious for.

He thrilled the crowd when he rendered 'The Caiphus Song' taken from his recently released album 'Touch my Blood'. He also delivered renditions of '10 fingers', 'Composure', 'Beyonce' (a

... AKA's 'Touch my Blood' debuted before thousands
... Teens well behaved at the festival
... Thousands came through for Hipnotik first leg
... Sound glitches fail to spoil the fun



AKA taking selfies with his diehard fans after his set.



AKA receiving a drink from his fans while performing.



AKA shaking hands with fans after his performance.



South African superstar AKA was a thriller at the Hipnotik Festival 2018's first day on Friday which was held at Greyhound in Ezulwini. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini)

song widely believed to be a diss track revealing his dissatisfaction with his ex-girlfriend, personality Bonang Matheba for not being a girlfriend that everyone thought she was) and 'Don't forget to pray,' to name a few.

AKA's fans sang along to every song he rendered.

Even though the sound system

had glitches, this did not stop AKA from doing what he does best.

He pretended like everything was just okay as he would continue belting it out whenever the sound connection was not at its best.

Another highlight of the night was Nasty C's performance.

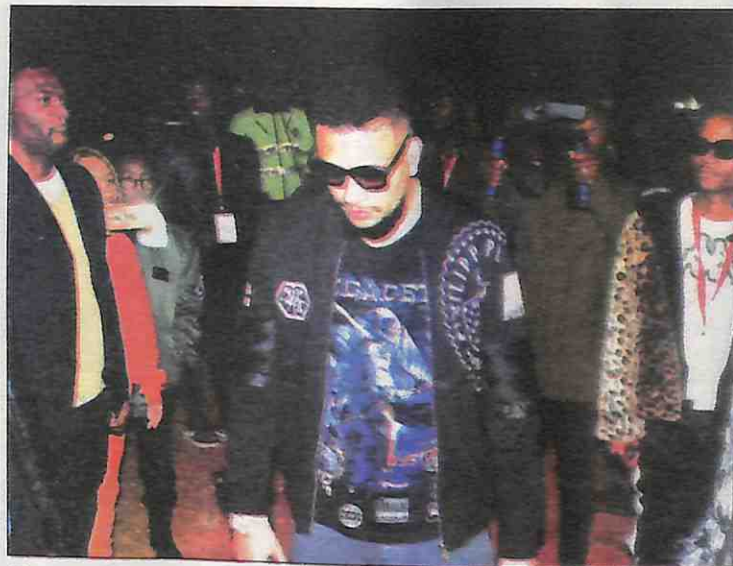
He kept all eyes on stage as he spit rhymes.

He thrilled his fans when he rendered 'Particular'; a song that has been on high rotation in most TV and radio stations.

He also delivered a lively rendition of 'Juice' and unveiled his new album 'Strings and Bling,' which he released on Thursday.



AKA greeting his fans on his way to the stage at 2am yesterday.



Super Mega making his way to the stage.



Ladies screaming AKA's name as he mounted the stage.

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...SJAVA A DUD



Sjava making his way to the stage.



Sjava failed to impress as he performed for 30 minutes and his performance way below the BET award winner's acclaimed status.

Sjava was the first act on stage as he mounted the stage at 10pm.

His face was just written tired. However, his fans stayed loyal to him as they sang along to every song he rendered.

They were just happy to see him yet again he failed to impress his diehard fans. "Sjava is really not himself tonight. At Solani's he was not like this. He he is just lazy tonight, or is it because he is the first act and people are still coming

through?" wondered Nokwanda Mdluli; a diehard fan situated at the VIP.

She was echoed by model Bianca Nkhosi, "So this is the Sjava that everyone been talking about. My friends told me he is a good performer but I can't see that right now." Worth noting is that this year, the youthful crowd were well behaved as there was no unbecoming behaviour or waywardness at the car park and gate. Everything was under control. The teens were in celebratory mood. Master P, Mozaik and Kena did the most on stage as they had evidently prepared themselves for the festival.



Zweli Hlophe and Sanele Zondi could not miss the youthful festival.



Lili Smith and her friend Mimi Miranda looked stylish.



Fun fanatics reacting to the gqom music that was rendered after the last performance.



Sands, George Ngwenya and SWAMA President Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini were also spotted.



Nasty C with 'The Beat Down' host Mangaliso 'Elfoe' Masilela during an interview.



Nasty C doing the most on stage as he was nothing but a thriller.



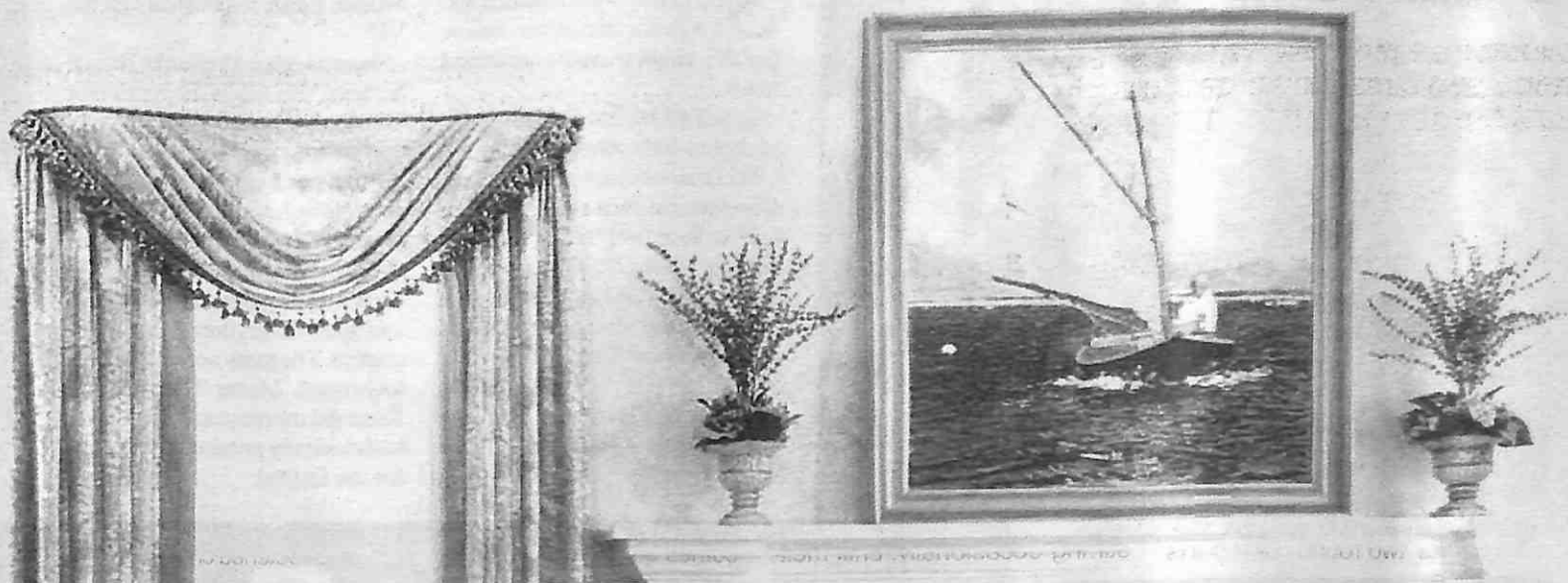
Fun fanatics came in numbers for the festival.



SA's Roro looked sexy on stage as she rendered tracks from her upcoming album.



Simo Mdladla slaying at the festival.



QUICK FIXES TO SELL YOUR HOUSE FASTER

Home staging is when a home seller intentionally prepares a residence exterior and interior to be desirable to as many potential buyers as possible, positioning the home to sell quickly, and fetch the highest possible price.

Staging is a strategy.

While sometimes clients are reticent to change elements about their home because of emotional attachments, it's essential to have the frank discussion about the benefits of staging as a strategy for sale. Staging isn't a personal attack on a homeowner's taste or style, but an essential element of showcasing the home's best features so that buyers can envision themselves taking residence.

When you're putting your house on the market, preparation and presentation can be the keys to selling faster and for a better price. While curb appeal improvements can definitely help, interiors are always the most important selling point. "Most buyers today shop for homes online, making a home's web appeal just as important as its curb appeal," says Jeremy Wacksman, Zillow's chief marketing officer. "To sell a home fast you want to attract as many potential buyers to your listing as possible. Featuring high-quality, staged listing photos and videos are a great way to boost your home's virtual appeal and help it stand out in today's competitive marketplace."

Home staging doesn't have to be a costly, time-consuming process—especially if your house is already in good shape. "You want buyers to be able to easily envision themselves in your home, so it's important to de-clutter and remove personal items that might cloud that vision," says Kerrie Kelly of Kerrie Kelly Design Lab, a Zillow Digs expert. "Neutral colors, small details, and reorganizing furniture to make your space feel roomy and inviting are all easy and affordable ways to make your home more appealing to future buyers."



The team at Zillow Digs recently surveyed interior design experts and real estate agents for their tried-and-true DIY home staging tips. Take a look at the top ideas they shared exclusively with RealSimple.com below:

Add mirrors

A mirror not only adds some style to a space, its reflective quality can open up a room, making it brighter and seem less cramped (even if it's tiny). "If you lack artwork, consider picking up a sizable mirror at your local home store," Christina Salaway of Eleven Two Eleven Designs says. "It will make your space feel more

curated and designed."

Replace Window Treatments

If you have old and heavy drapes, toss them for something more modern and breezy. "Simple, functional window coverings on opened windows allow a space to breathe and appear visually larger and more open," says Kelly. Choose floor-length curtains and hang them from the ceiling instead of at the top of the window frame.

Buy Crisp, White Towels

To stage your bathroom, go with mono-

chromatic hues. "Put all-white towels in your bathrooms," says Marc Thee of Marc-Michaels Interiors. "Colored towels don't feel spa-like and they can seem dingy and add heaviness to a space. White towels feel fresh and clean."

Upgrade Rugs

"Buy rugs that actually fit your rooms and your furniture," says Salaway. For a living room rug, avoid one that's too small; make sure at least the front legs of your couch or chairs are touching the rug. The right-sized rug in a complementary style to the room will make the space look larger and feel more "pulled together."

De-Personalize

We know you went to great lengths to make your home your home, but now that you're trying to sell it, keep in mind that not everyone has the same tastes. "Take out personal photographs and everyone's clutter," says Thee. "You want the potential buyer to be able to envision their lives inside the house."

Reorganize Bookcases

And while you're tidying everything up, give your shelves some style. "Remove 25 percent of your books entirely, and then rearrange what's left so that some books are vertical and some are stacked horizontally," says Salaway. "Place a couple of trinkets within the bookcase to function as accents and bookends. This will add character and personality to the room while also lightening up your bookcases."

Deep Clean

No prospective buyer wants to walk into a house with a dirty bathroom or scuffed-up walls. Take some time to clean every room in your house, but beware of cleaning smells. "Don't overpower homes with scented items," says Christina Esala of Tierra Antigua Realty. "They will think you are hiding something. Instead, make a batch of chocolate chip cookies and leave on the counter for future buyers."

AMERICAN CHOCOLATE LAYER CAKE

This recipe is for a real old-fashioned American chocolate layer cake. It's very moist, very chocolatey, easy to make and best baked the day before serving.

I found this recipe online and have baked this cake only time before because it's more time consuming than my regular chocolate cake recipe, and uses a lot more ingredients.

However, the results are definitely worth it, as the cake is moist and rich, just how I like them. I can't wait for another special occasion so I can have this decadent cake again.

The cake batter will be runny because of the water content, so don't worry.

Just make sure you stay away from springform cake pans because they have a tendency to leak.

Chocolate cake | Makes one two layer cake

Prep time: 25 mins

Cook time: 25 mins

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups sugar
- 120ml unsweetened

chocolate

- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten

Tools

- 2 round cake pans
- Medium bowl
- Large bowl
- Whisk

- 2 medium pots
- Large bowl
- Wooden spoon
- Cake tester or toothpick
- Cooling rack
- Offset spatula or butter knife
- Electric mixer or stick blender with whisk attachment

Directions

Step 1

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Butter and flour two round cake pans and then line the bottoms with wax or baking paper. In a medium bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt and then set aside.

Step 2

In a medium pot, combine the sugar with two cups of water. Bring to a boil over high heat and

stir until the sugar dissolves; then pour into a large bowl. Add the chocolate and butter and let sit, stirring occasionally, until melted and slightly cooled. Stir in the vanilla.

Step 3

Beat the eggs into the chocolate mixture at medium speed until combined. Add the dry ingredients all at once and beat at medium speed until smooth.

Divide the batter evenly between the prepared pans and bake for

about 25 minutes, or until the top springs back when pressed lightly and a cake tester or toothpick comes out clean.

Cool the cakes in their pans for about 25 minutes, then invert onto a rack to cool completely.

Step 4

In a medium saucepan, bring 1 1/3 cups heavy cream and 1 1/2 cups sugar to a boil over medium-high heat.

Reduce the heat to low and simmer, stirring occasionally, until

the liquid reduces slightly, about six minutes. Pour the mixture into a medium bowl and add 180mls unsweetened chocolate, 120mls plus two tablespoons of butter, two teaspoons of vanilla and a pinch of salt. Let the mixture stand, stirring occasionally, until the chocolate and butter are melted.

Set the bowl in a larger bowl of ice water. Beat the frosting on medium speed with your mixer, scraping the sides occasionally with a spatula to make sure you

incorporate all of it. Beat until thick and glossy, about five minutes. Use immediately.

Step 5

Set one cake, right-side up, on a serving platter. Using your offset spatula, spread one-third of the Chocolate Frosting evenly over the cake.

Top with the second cake and frost the top and sides with the remaining frosting. Be creative with your decorating!

Make croutons for soups and salads

Croutons are pieces of bread that have been toasted, either in a frying pan or the oven, until they are crisp and golden brown. They can be tossed into green salads, sprinkled on top of soups and casseroles, crushed over cooked vegetables such as asparagus or broccoli, and used as the base for stuffings or savory bread pudding. While you can purchase them already made at the supermarket, there is something special about making them yourself. They will always be fresher, for one, and you can control the salt, type of fat, and flavorings based on what you plan to use them for. Croutons are an excellent way to use up any leftover bread because stale bread is best, but you can use fresh bread. I like to bake two loaves and

then use one to eat and one to make croutons. You can use white, brown, whole wheat, any type of bread you prefer, but a rustic, handmade-style loaf is usually the best. I generally prefer to use a baguette.

Croutons | Makes about 3 cups

Prep time: 5 mins **Cook time:** 15 mins

Ingredients

- A partial loaf of slightly stale bread
- 1/4 cup of olive oil or melted butter, or a combination of the two
- Salt
- 1 garlic clove, finely minced
- 1 tbs fresh or dry herbs, finely minced
- 1/2 cup freshly grated parmesan (optional)

Tools

- Knife and cutting board
- Small bowl
- Pastry brush
- Baking tray

DIRECTIONS

Step 1

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Prep the bread by either roughly pulling it apart into small chunks or slicing and then cubing for a more square look crouton.

Step 2

Mix the herbs and garlic with your melted butter or olive oil, and then drizzle some onto the baking sheet to grease. Add the bread, bunching it close together in a single layer, and then drizzle the remaining fat on top. Sprinkle a heavy pinch of salt and the

parmesan, and toss lightly to coat. Spread the croutons out so that they are no longer touching.

Step 3

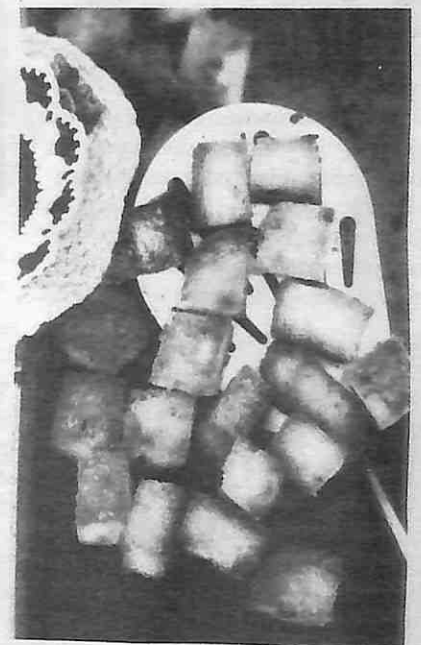
Place the baking sheet in the oven and bake for about five minutes. Remove the tray, carefully toss and stir croutons. Bake another five minutes and check for doneness.

Depending on the size of the bread and how browned you want them, they may need another five minutes or so. Just keep checking them regularly and tossing until they are how you'd like.

Step 4

When the croutons are done to your liking, remove them from the oven and cool on the pan.

If not using right away, store croutons for a few days in an airtight container, or freeze in a large freezer bag for up to three months.



8 Things You Didn't Know You Could Paint

Making the old new is as simple as a fresh coat of paint.

Jars and Cannisters

These handy vessels can be used to hold a number of things around the kitchen. Chalkboard paint on a jar allows you to change the labels as you change the purpose of the jar. This week it could be cookies, next week it's rice. Easy-to-apply stencils can also transform plain cannisters into a unique accessory anywhere in the house.

Upholstered Chair

There's always that one chair that gets passed around from family member to family member, the much beloved but often abused favourite. If you have one of these and don't quite know how to get it to fit in with your furniture, paint it. Use a mixture of water, fab-

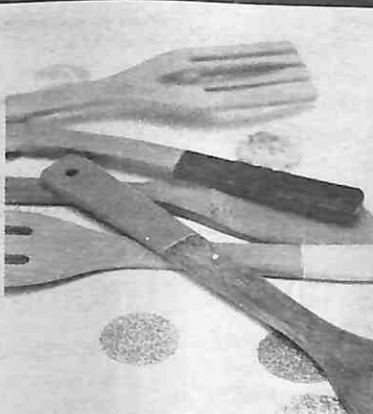
ric medium and latex paint to give an old chair a facelift. After the fabric has been painted, hit the wood legs with a few coats of glossy white for a glam modern look, or wood stain for a classic look and feel.

Curtains

Turn your plain white cotton curtains into works of art by using a few shades of paint, a few rolls of painter's tape and a lot of patience. Lay your curtains on the floor, and then create patterns with the painters tape. Once your pattern are complete, paint the spaces with your choice of fabric paint colours.

Dried Flowers

The best way to preserve spent hydrangeas or your favourite bouquet of flowers is to hit them with a coat of spray paint. Rich, deep colours will



make a striking centerpiece for your dining room table, while soft pastels can add colour to a nursery without the worry of allergens in fresh pollen.

Carpeting

Before you say no way, yes, you can

paint carpet. Cover pesky stains by creating stripes or custom patterns with some paint. Go crazy.

Appliances

Can't afford a kitchen makeover? Paint it! Liquid Stainless Steel can be used on appliances and taps all over your home to give them that brand new shine. The water-based resin is stainless steel in liquid form, and it provides a brushed-stainless look that is as durable as an automotive-grade finish. Turn your old white fridge into a new one with just a few coats of this creative paint.

Wooden Spoons

Cooking needn't be a chore with bright, color block-inspired kitchen utensils. Simply tape and paint for a cheap, chic project you can complete in an after-

noon. And when paired with natural wood or bamboo-hued tones, those neon colors just sing. These make a wonderful housewarming gift, and can be painted in your favourite colours.

Toys

Whether you're planning a quirky party or want to spice up a bland area of your home, try your hand at making an animal garland by painting different plastic toys. From dinosaurs to farm animals, you can create your dream garland with little more than some rope and spray paint. This is a great way to vucut decorating costs for a themed birthday party or baby shower. Just buy a large bag of cheap toys and have your way with them. You can even give them away as party favours.



Focus on SA Scene



RAMAPHOSA TELLS KING ZWELITHINI THAT LAND IN INGONYAMA TRUST IS SAFE

URBAN - President Cyril Ramaphosa cancelled his community meeting in Chatsworth to meet with King Zwelithini on Friday night.

The meeting is understood to be part of the ANC's "damage control" following veiled threats of succession and violence made by the Zulu King during a special *imbizo* he held in Ulundi this week. The two are understood to have met at Empangeni in an urgent meeting on Friday night.

The meeting was also attended by IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

King Zwelithini held a special *imbizo* on Wednesday, angry over recommendations by a high level parliamentary panel led by former president



President Cyril Ramaphosa with Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini.

Kgalema Motlanthe to repeal The Ingonyama Act that was enacted just

before the democratic elections in 1994. King Zwelithini is the sole trustee.

Ramaphosa assured the King that government would not touch land under the trust.

"I had a wonderful meeting with King Zwelithini. He and I have a wonderful relationship and when the issue of the Ingonyama Trust came up, I felt the need for a meeting," Ramaphosa said.

"I assured him that [neither] government nor the ANC has any intention whatsoever to take the land from the Ingonyama Trust. I reaffirmed that land under control of the trust as per legislation at the end it is the land he has custody of on behalf of people," Ramaphosa said. *News24*

Ramaphosa kicks off 'Thuma Mina' campaign in KZN

URBAN - African National Congress (ANC) President Cyril Ramaphosa has kicked off the 'Thuma Mina' campaign in KwaZulu-Natal. Ramaphosa is accompanied by provincial and regional leaders, as well as some members of the national executive committee. He started with a cleanup campaign in KwaDukuza Local Municipality yesterday morning and his famous morning walk, which he hopes will encour-



age healthy living. In a document, the ANC explains the 'Thuma Mina' (send me) Campaign is about reconnecting

with South Africans through activities that improve people's lives. The ANC says it hopes to solve the problems ordinary South Africans face.

The ANC says it's committed to working with South Africans to improve communities across the country. Some of the activities under 'Thuma Mina' campaign include improving social services, environmental activities and land expropriation, among other things. *News24*

Parliament welcomes Ramaphosa's plans to ease petrol price hike burden

CAPE TOWN - Parliament's select committee on economic and business development has welcomed President Cyril Ramaphosa's announcement that government is seeking to soften the blow following fuel increases.

Ramaphosa will announce economic measures in the coming weeks, to help South Africans deal with rising fuel prices and the recent value-added tax increase. Committee Chairperson Mandla Rayi explains: "We appreciate and commend him for his quick response on the establishment of the panel, to look at how to ease the effect of these hikes."

The price of a litre of petrol has more than doubled over the past decade and, as always, the pain is being felt the hardest by ordinary South Africans.

Fuel prices have gone up again; 93 octane will cost 26 cents more, while 95 is going up by 23 cents per litre. Motorists will also have to fork out up to 26 cents more for diesel, while illuminating paraffin is going up between 22 and 30 cents.

Many South Africans are struggling to make ends meet, as this woman explains: "As low-income people, we are unable to cope because there's no increase in my salary."

This man says he is tired of the increas-

es. "I don't really know who to blame for the whole thing. I'm getting tired of it."

On Wednesday, Economic Development Minister Ebrahim Patel said there was very little government can do to stem fuel price increases. At the same time, the African National Congress requested an increase in petrol reserves freezing or decreasing the fuel levy.

Meanwhile, EFF leader Julius Malema on Friday blamed Ramaphosa for the continued rise in petrol prices and said it was a sign that he doesn't care about the poor. *eNCA*

Duduzane Zuma may be trapped in SA after detention

JOHANNESBURG - Duduzane Zuma's return to South Africa may have been more difficult than he anticipated, but trying to leave the country could be even more challenging. The controversial son of former President Jacob Zuma was stopped for two hours at OR Tambo International Airport on Thursday night on his return from Dubai, after his passport was flagged - allegedly because of a criminal case opened against him.

While it's unclear what the charges in this matter entail, it's understood the case was opened in Rosebank in 2016. According to Duduzane's lawyer, Rudi Krause of BDK Attorneys, his client was briefly detained at the airport to allow Hawks officers to "confirm his identity". When this process was completed, he was free to leave.

However, Krause was adamant that no arrest warrant had been issued for his client, despite the case opened against him. He also added that the reason his client had returned was to attend his brother Vusi's funeral this weekend, as well as to appear in court on Thursday on charges of culpable homicide.

The culpable homicide matter stems from an inquest at the Randburg Magistrate's Court in 2014 that determined Duduzane's negligence in an accident that claimed the life of



Duduzane Zuma.

Phumzile Dube. On February 1, 2014, the young billionaire's reckless driving led to him crashing his Porsche 911.

Four years since Magistrate Lalita Chetty determined there was evidence of his culpability in Dube's death, the National Prosecuting Authority has finally indicated it wishes to charge him, with his first appearance set down for Thursday. Earlier this year, a summons was issued to his now former lawyer, Gary Mazaham, warning Duduzane to appear as they could not be served on the 34-year-old after he had seemingly fled to Dubai after a series of revelations on his involvement with the controversial Gupta family. *Saturday Star*

DA vows to 'clean up' Gauteng province if it wins 2019 vote

JOHANNESBURG - Democratic Alliance (DA) leader Mmusi Maimane says there will be a lot of cleaning up to do should his party win the Gauteng province during elections next year.

Speaking at the party's Gauteng provincial council meeting in Centurion on Friday, Maimane urged all premier candidates to rally behind the person who will be selected. Maimane says the state of governance in Gauteng has deteriorated and it's up to his party to fix it should it win the province.

"When we take over Gauteng, we've got a lot of work to do. We have to fight against things like Life Esidimeni where the ANC killed 140 people." The party has received nine applications of those contesting to be premier candidates, the highest the party has received in any province. Tshwane Mayor Solly Msimanga and national spokesperson Refiloe Ntsekhe being among



DA leader Mmusi Maimane.

those who have thrown their hat in the ring.

Maimane says he personally has no endeavours to become premier of any province because he has not joined politics for positions.

He says his job is to ensure that South Africans trust the DA as an alternative to the African National Congress at the ballot papers. *News24*

'SA will not expropriate traditional leaders' land'

URBAN - Government is in damage control mode after the Zulu king made threats to secede this week. The South African government on Friday said a wrong impression was created that the discussion on land expropriation included land in the hands of traditional leaders. "Government wishes to clarify categorically that when government talks about land expropriation, we are referring to the 87 per cent of the land, not the 13 per cent that is under the control of traditional leaders and black people. We wish

to emphasise that the 13 per cent of the land is not under any dispute," Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (Cogta) Minister Zweli Mkhize said. In the statement, released by Cogta, Mkhize said that government noted the "serious concerns raised by traditional leaders with respect to the report of the High-Level Panel appointed by Parliament on the Assessment of Key Legislation and the Acceleration of Fundamental Change, led by former president Kgalema Motlanthe". *eNCA*

Traditional leaders say their land is no-go area

JOHANNESBURG - Traditional leaders say taking land away from them would be taking it from its rightful owners.

The leaders made their views heard when they met with the Cabinet-appointed ministerial task team. Headed by Cooperative Governance Minister Zweli Mkhize, the team saw leaders express concerns around proposals to amend the Constitution to allow for land expropriation without compensation. "The 13 per cent of land

in traditional leaders' hands where 80 per cent of our communities are residing should not be touched when it comes to the issue of expropriation," said iNkosi Sipho Mahlangu from the Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders. "That land belongs to the people and traditional leaders." While title deeds and land tenure were also discussed, the tribal leaders were not happy about being labelled tinpot dictators. *eNCA*



YOGA WORKS

“Yoga is not a religion. It is a science, science of well-being, science of youthfulness, science of integrating body, mind and soul” **AMIT RAY**

Scene

THE YOGA ISSUE

WRITER'S NOTE:

By Nokwanda Sibandze

Yoga is quickly becoming one of the most popular workout regimes among those who are looking to gain flexibility, strength and even lose weight. The one thing that people love about yoga is that it can be done from the privacy of your home. Yoga is great for reducing stress and allowing for greater relaxation.

Writing this issue made me realize that yoga is actually one of the easiest activities that has a number of benefits for the body, my dilemma, though, was finding people who practice yoga because in Eswatini we do not really practice it.

Although we have a few people who have adopted the culture that is yoga, I believe we still have a gap. This week the issue hopes to enlighten people about yoga in general, its health and physical benefits.

We first discuss where yoga comes from and how it all began. We talk about the International Yoga Day that is held in the country once every year, a number of people might not know about it and I hope after reading this issue more people will attend the event.

SCENE also gives tips on how you can celebrate this day in the comfort of your home and without messing up your daily schedule. We continue to discuss the health benefits of yoga, which I feel is the most important feature of the whole issue. It is really amazing what yoga can do for your body.

There are different forms in which one can enjoy yoga and SCENE discusses the forms that can be suitable for different people.

On pages 4-5 we found three women who practice yoga. First, we speak to Bonisile, a yoga instructor and fitness freak in general. She shares her experiences as a yogi and a yoga instructor in general. We also speak to Thembinkosi Mvubu, who just started practising yoga and has already started reaping the fruits of the activity. We lastly speak to Ethel who said she believes yoga made her invisible. In this week's issue I hope you get motivated to live your life to the fullest and start taking care of your mind, body and spirit. Till next week, read and enjoy

INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY; YOGA FOR PEACE

Yoga is an ancient form of exercise that focuses on strength, flexibility and breathing to boost physical and mental wellbeing. The main components of yoga are postures. In the present quick-paced world, our wellbeing is dependably in question. We are devoured by the exercises we do to learn, earn a living and survive.

Be that as it may, in this issue we overlook the significance of dealing with our wellbeing. We don't get enough time to do physical activities and once in a while our day by day work empties out all the vitality out of our bodies so would prefer not to do it. Today, it has turned out to be significant to deal with our physical and psychological wellness. Furthermore, that is when yoga comes into the picture.

The practice originated in India about 5 000 years ago and has been adapted in other countries in a variety of ways. Yoga is now commonplace in leisure centres, health clubs, schools, hospitals and surgeries. Yoga is actually a gift of ancient India to the world. Yoga helps one to achieve the healthy body and peace of mind. There is no written record of who invented yoga because it was practised by yogis (yoga practitioners) long before any written account of it could have come into existence. It came as a surprise to me when someone mentioned that there was a day dedicated just for yoga all over the world. I think what was more eye-opening, than anything was, was the fact that even here in the country we actually celebrate this day. On December 11 in 2014, the United Nations General Assembly declared June 21st as the International Day of Yoga. The day has been celebrated every year for the past four years in the country. This year, the country will be celebrating this day on July 8.

The theme for the 2018 celebration was organised by the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations. Last year the yoga day theme was "Yoga For Health" and the yoga theme for 2018 is "Yoga For Peace". The theme emphasises the fact that yoga can contribute in an integrated way to achieving a balance between mind and body.

Yoga can play a vital role in the peace process among the world countries because it will work for each individual in the world.

Yoga is seen as a valid complementary practice to traditional medicine and is being recommended by doctors in India and around the world.

Before knowing about yoga day theme 2018, you have to understand your competitive examination because of the high probability of being



asked questions related to the international day of yoga current affairs and Yoga history, Modi achievement, Yoga popularity.

Yoga is more than anything else. It's a practice, it's a discipline, it is your connection with something that is eternal, you can call it consciousness, it is that part of you that is untouched by anything.

Yoga has just helped a great many individuals around the globe to upgrade and enhance their way of life by incorporating yoga into their day by day schedule. Subsequently, it is essential to influence the yoga to achieve an ever increasing number of individuals around the globe. The global yoga day is seen to spread the mindfulness about yoga to more individuals and urge them to incorporate yoga into their everyday life and receive the solid way of life comprehensive of yoga to accomplish the wellbeing and prosperity of the psyche.

How to celebrate International Yoga Day
Regardless of whether you have

never attempted yoga in your life, that doesn't imply that you shouldn't try celebrating this day, yoga has caused and keeps on helping a large number of individuals everywhere throughout the world accomplish inward peace and

enhance their physical condition, paying little mind to age or sexual orientation, so it is for all intents and purposes ensured that it would positively affect your life also. Moreover, regardless of whether you don't view yourself as an especially fit individual, don't stress! Because of its moderate, smooth motions, few individuals endure any sort of wounds rehearsing yoga, and a large number of the reflection methods, breathing activities, and certain stances are viewed as protected and valuable notwithstanding for those misery different ailments and also pregnant ladies.

Simply ensure you don't endeavour a headstand in the first occasion when you choose to try yoga out. On the off chance that you feel slanted to go to an International Yoga Day occasion, visit the website to find out dates. So, would you say you are prepared to do your body and mind some help? Exploit the shot this coming International Day show and pick up something you will have the capacity to profit by for quite a long time and years to come.

Here are some tips on how you can get started on celebrating International Yoga Day in the comfort of your own house.

1. Start your day with an easy flow

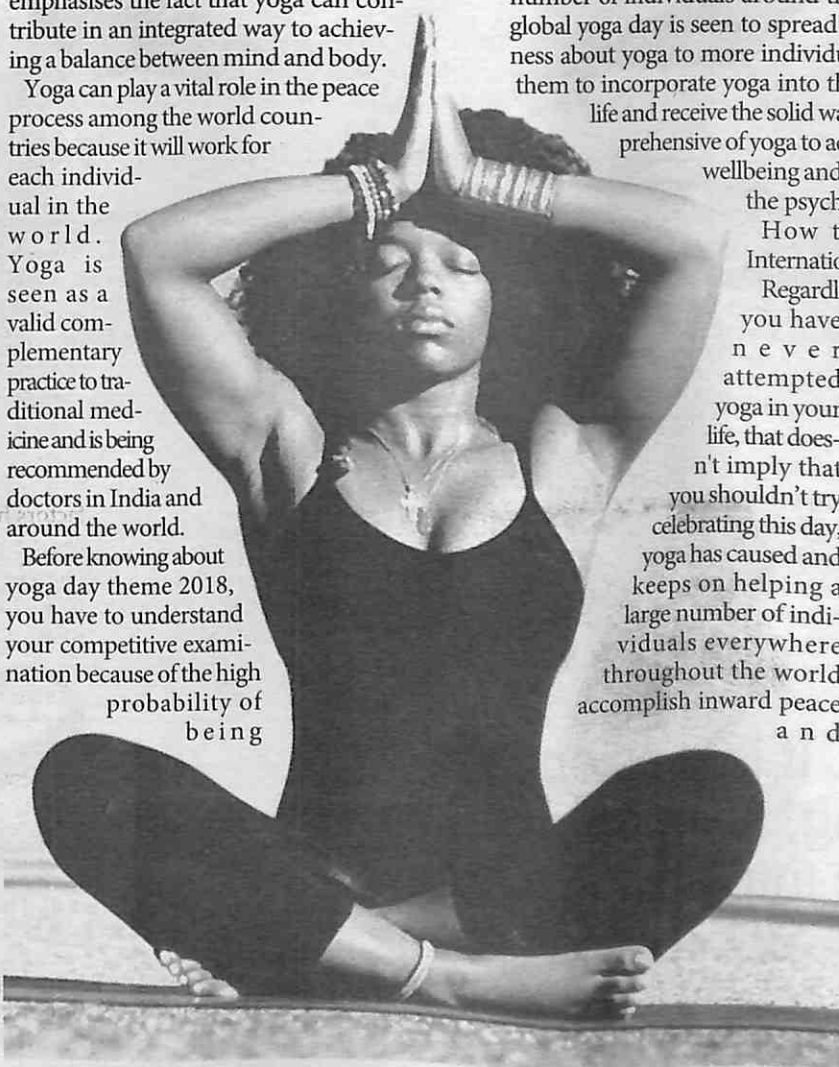
Nothing will put you in a better head space to start the day than enjoying a morning practice. It doesn't have to be long, and you don't need to change out of your pyjamas to get started.

2. Break up your day with office yoga

Most of the time, International Yoga Day falls on a weekday, which means you'll probably be spending a good amount of time at a desk. Break up your day and keep yourself cantered by doing at least one yoga pose at your desk each hour.

3. Seek out free classes

The week of International Yoga Day, lots of instructors and studios offer free classes and events. Check with your favourite local gym to find classes near you, and choose



WHAT ARE THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF YOGA?

In case you're an enthusiastic yoga professional, you've most likely seen some yoga benefits, perhaps you're sleeping better or getting less colds or simply feeling more casual and quiet.

However, in the event that you've at any point had a go at informing an amateur concerning the advantages of yoga, you may find that clarifications like "It builds the stream of prana" or "It brings vitality up your spine" fall on hard of hearing or incredulous ears.

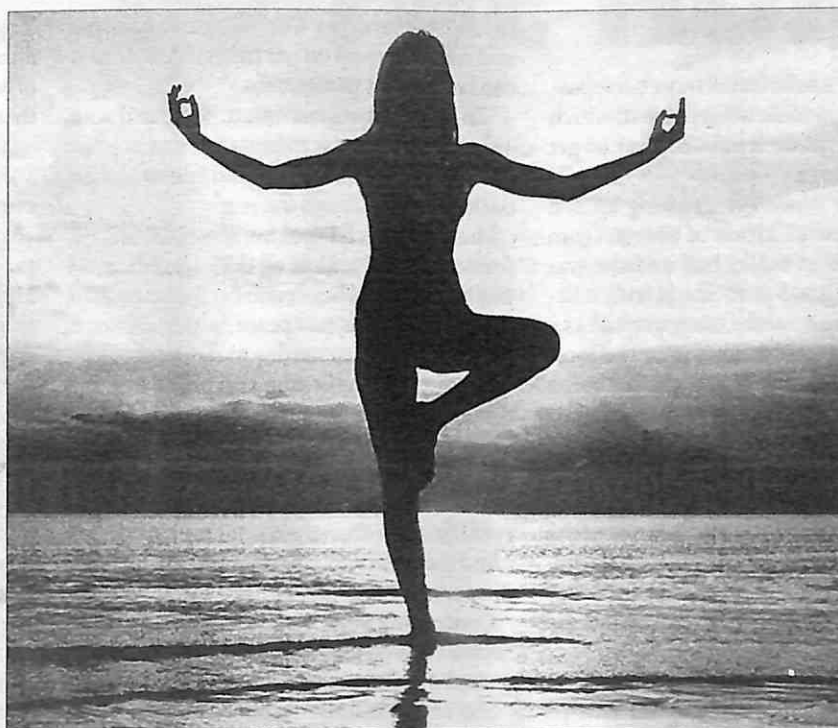
Studies of the benefits of yoga are only beginning to accumulate, and so the evidence is not overwhelming or conclusive at this point. Here are some benefits that would be easier to explain to a person who is interested in practising yoga.

High blood pressure (hypertension): Many people believe that practising yoga can help lower blood pressure by teaching breathing techniques and reducing stress. It is true that lifestyle changes, like regular physical activity and stress management, can help lower and manage blood pressure, but it doesn't do so in all cases. As for yoga, there hasn't been enough research to make firm claims.

Diabetes: There is some evidence to suggest that yoga may lower blood glucose. After just eight days of yoga in 98 men and women 20-74 years of age, fasting glucose was better than at the beginning of the study, but subjects in this study were also exposed to dietary counselling and other lifestyle interventions, and so it's difficult to know if the yoga on its own was responsible for the changes.

Carpal tunnel syndrome: Individuals with carpal tunnel syndrome who did yoga twice a week for eight weeks had less pain in their wrists than people with carpal tunnel who wore a splint. The effect may be due to improved grip strength in the yoga subjects.

Strength and flexibility: In one of the most persuasive yoga studies, men and women 18-27 years of age who participated in two yoga sessions per week for eight weeks increased the strength in their arms by 19% to 31%, and by 28% in their legs. Their ankle flexibility, shoulder ele-



vation, trunk extension, and trunk flexion increased by 13%, 155%, 188%, and 14 per cent, respectively!

Asthma: There is some evidence to show that reducing symptoms of asthma and even reduction in asthma medication are the result of regular yoga. Again, this doesn't mean that you should stop taking your asthma medication if you start practising yoga, but it does suggest that there could be some positive result, and you should ask your doctor if you have a question about it.

Independent of studies: I think it's fair to say that the majority of people who practice yoga regularly enjoy it and find it beneficial. The preliminary data from the studies reviewed seems to indicate that there is benefit from the regular practice of yoga. If your interest has been piqued and you have chronic medical problems, discuss adding yoga to your medical routine with your primary care physician.

Helps you focus: An important component of yoga is focusing on the present. Studies have

found that regular yoga practice improves coordination, reaction time, memory, and even IQ scores.

Helps you sleep deeper: who doesn't want to sleep better, stimulation is good, but too much of it taxes the nervous system. Yoga can provide relief from the hustle and bustle of modern life and will help you sleep better.

Gives your lungs room to breathe: Yogis tend to take fewer breaths of greater volume, which is both calming and more efficient.

Increases your self-esteem: Many of us suffer from chronic low self-esteem. If you handle this negatively; take drugs, overeat, work too hard, sleep around you may pay the price in poorer health physically, mentally, and spiritually. If you take a positive approach and practice yoga, you'll sense, initially in brief glimpses and later in more sustained views,

that you're worthwhile or, as yogic philosophy teaches, that you are a manifestation of the divine.



one to attend with a friend, it will make the experience more fun.

4. Add a Little Yoga to Your Home

A mandala necklace or a well-placed wall-hanging that reminds you to stay calm and find your centre is a great way to make yoga part of your lifestyle. But you don't have to lay out tons of cash to incorporate yoga here and there throughout your home.

5. Instagram your adventures

If you don't Instagram your yoga adventures, did they really happen? Of course they did. But Lonidier points out, "Yoga is big on Instagram, and there will definitely be a #internationalyogaday hashtag. Snap a picture of yourself in a posture you're currently working on and tag it."

Instagramming isn't just a good way to engage with other yogis from around the world, it's actually a good way to track your progress over time.

Different forms of Yoga

By Nokwanda Sibandze

Most people see yoga as just a way of relaxing but yoga is more than just closing your eyes and clearing your thoughts. It has a number of forms. Yoga can be broken down to a number of classifications, yoga can be practiced as a lifestyle, it can be used as an exercise and it can be used to relax. Here is a quick breakdown of how yoga can be practised.

Yoga as an exercise

Yoga does more than just burn calories and tone muscles; it is a total mind-body workout that combines strengthening and stretching poses with deep breathing and meditation or relaxation. Yoga is great exercise, it increases flexibility and promotes balance, because a gym workout focuses only on the muscle, yoga goes an extra mile by stimulating your brain and helping you relax mentally, as well.

Some people may ask, is yoga enough exercise, the answer to that would be yes, I mean workout trends come and go, but yoga is actually enduring and has over 100 forms. Not developed to be a workout, it sure has a number of benefits for the body.

Yoga is enough to keep you fit, with the exercises helping you to stay cardiorespiratory fit. This refers to your heart lungs and blood vessels. The better your cardiorespiratory fitness, the better your stamina.

As said before, yoga can help you gain muscle strength and muscle endurance. As everyone ages, we lose our flexibility and yoga one can be able to work their muscles and make tissues to be flexible.

Yoga as a lifestyle

Yoga fanatics call it the 'yogic way' that is when you not only practice yoga but it is when it has become a lifestyle. This tradition that is more than 5 000 years old has today become a popular way of life. The power of yoga lies in its simplicity, flexibility and diversity. It is not a religion as most people would think, it can be practised in harmony within any religion. The yogic philosophy and its various techniques can be followed by anyone and everyone and in any setting. This very broad scope of yoga has made it easy for people from different walks of life to follow their own selective techniques, suited to their lifestyle. This means the yogic lifestyle can be adapted and merged into any lifestyle with ease.

What is this whole lifestyle all about? Today yoga courses have sprouted all over the world teaching yoga, pranayama and meditation. A yoga fanatic would be seen doing yoga postures, breathing exercises and may even use organic food and stick to a vegetarian diet, but one has to remember that yoga is not limited to these, it is an ancient science which harmonises the body, mind and spirit.

Yoga is perfection in action, meaning that a person who practises yoga (a yogi) can do daily activities of life with efficiency and awareness, without the underlying attached or clinging which may bring sorrow. I don't know about you but that sounds amazing to me. Yoga today is seen more as a counterbalance to one's stressful and overworked lifestyle, which lacks proper exercise and relaxation. These factors have contributed to most lifestyle diseases like hypertension diabetes, back or neck pains. Even though yoga cannot be seen as a panacea for all these problems it can prevent or solve most of these problems.

Yoga as a way to relax

Yoga is a deep relaxation practice that helps one relax the physical and emotional bodies, mostly so that healing can occur. Yoga can also work as a stress management tool, because yoga includes activities such as breathing exercises, meditation and a number of other exercises that are considered as stress relievers. Meditation can relax the body and the mind in a relatively short amount of time. Breathing exercises are one of the simplest and most effective relaxation techniques and because yoga combines all those exercises it effectively relaxes the body as well as the mind. Because of the numerous stress relievers involved in yoga it has become the most popular stress reliever in use today.

LIVING A BLISSFUL LIFE BECAUSE OF YOGA

By Nokwanda Sibandze

Bonsile has always been passionate about fitness, which made it easy for her to get into yoga.

Her whole life, growing up, she played all kinds of sports, from tennis to volley ball and she was pretty good at it. She is truly a fitness freak as she once worked as a fitness trainer in one of the local gyms and she says she loved being a trainer and that is where she picked up yoga.

"I believe in positive living and I believe in health and a holistic approach to living life. So, yoga is just one of the ways I keep fit and healthy," she said. The avid reader says when she is not working or not doing yoga, she reads her books.

She has read self help and motivational books as she feel it helps with the work that she does.

She has read the alchemist and the Secret and power of the cautious mind, just to mention a few.

She says all these books speak about positive living, a strong mind and basically positive approach

to life. She says they help her grow stronger and not to give up on her fitness lifestyle as it can be difficult to maintain.

"To ensure that your mind, body and soul are at peace, yoga is imperative, this is what started my passion for yoga and I never looked back ever since," says the yogi.

This has also changed her life as she always feels energised and fit all the time. She says this has changed her health for the better and her mind is always at peace, which makes it easier for her to make day to day decisions.

Bonsile says she is calm and positive all the time, and she finds that she approaches most situations with that energy.

"I am more aware of my surroundings and it makes it easy for me to appreciate the beauty of life, other than the discipline, it gives me, I find that I am more flexible and my muscles are perfectly toned."

Concerning yoga in the country, this yoga instructor says she feels the sport is not supported or even practised enough.

She says it is understandable because it is not our culture but she says she feels more people need to start practising this activity as Emaswati work hard and they forget to take care of their well-being.

"People do not really understand yoga; they tend to focus more on the spiritual and religious connotations than anything else. More education and enlightenment is needed."

"You wouldn't believe what people say, some say I am trying to be white, hehe I never judge them or even defend myself, but times have changed, and I think people should really look into."

She says she loves the idea of the International

Yoga Day being celebrated in the country although she have never attended it because of her busy schedule. However, she mentioned that if she would find the time between being a mother, going to church, her job and being a fitness trainer, she would attend without even thinking about it.

"I personally think if more Emaswati would practise yoga they would actually live better and happier lives, and that is just speaking from experience, or they should at least try it and see how it works out for them before they criticise the whole idea," she said.

There's several things that this woman has learned from Yoga. "I have learned that we all have the power and strength to be anything we inspire to be, so long as we have strong disciplined minds, a positive mind. I strongly believe that a positive attitude is all we need to achieve anything you ought to, and most importantly, consistency is key when doing anything."

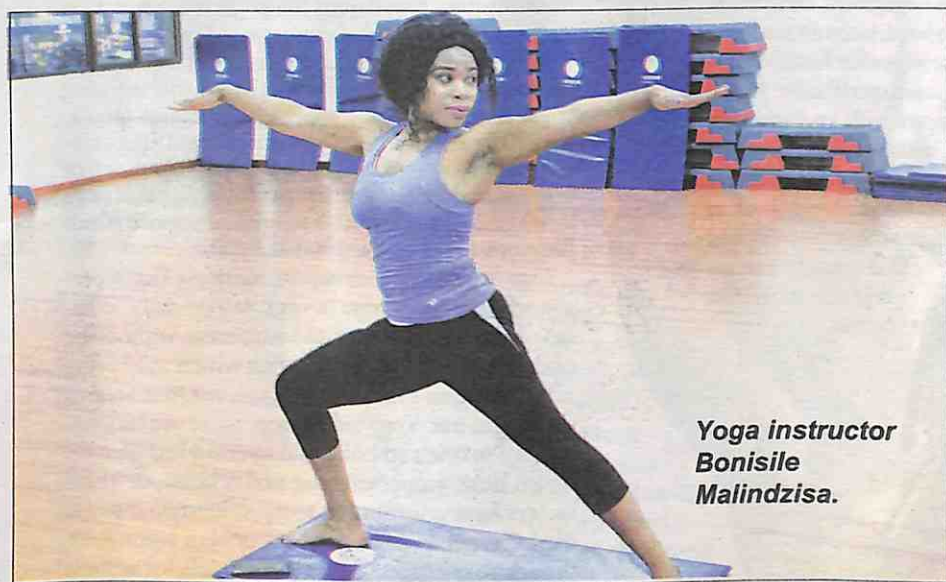
In the next five years, Bonsile says she wishes people would look up to her and she believes that it is possible.

"I wish that when people look at my life, they see the benefits of not only yoga but benefits of fitness as a whole, and I want people to look at me and be inspired to join in on the activity."

When she speaks, you can actually pick up that she loves what she does. I called her the 'yoga advocate' where she mentioned that she wishes people knew that the end result of yoga was a blissful life. "Just walk into a yoga class and you will walk out lighter and happier, feeling stronger and more positive. Trust me, it works."



Bonsile Malindzisa.



Yoga instructor
Bonsile
Malindzisa.



YOGA MADE ME INVINCIBLE

By Nokwanda Sibandze

Having started practising yoga at the beginning of June, Ethel says her life has changed.

Clearly yoga works, Ethel says she finds herself letting go of negative things in her life and only focusing on the positive.

This energetic woman says she is strong and loving, "I'm invincible," she says.

"I got interested in yoga because I realised I would be able to try different exercises, try-

ing new things in life and the different atmosphere, because I was told yoga changes your atmosphere and I wanted to experience that, so I went for it."

She says she wanted to try it, especially after she learned that it helped stretch body muscles and made breathing easy.

Ethel also mentioned that yoga has helped her become more flexible, and most importantly, she now can focus way more than she could before she started.

"I go to the gym a lot, so joining yoga was

not a difficult decision for me to make, I just had to add it to my workout schedule and when I saw the results in a short period of time, I fell in love with it and I just couldn't stop.

"The benefits are just amazing; I wish people could try and see for themselves this is not a joke."

Staying positive at all times, Ethel says she is a Christian by faith and she believes she can do all things through Christ who strengthens her. "I am glad that God gives me the strength to practice yoga because it is improving my life," she says, laughing.

Some do not understand how yoga helps you lose weight and to that question, Ethel says, "They will never know till they try it out."

"Generally people do not understand yoga and I get that because most people believe in sweating when going to the gym, yet yoga is smooth and the music is soft, the calmness that yoga has is exactly what people cannot comprehend about it, they do not see how it could benefit them if they are only doing different poses while sitting down."

While talking to this woman, I literally felt like picking up a yoga mat and freestyle this

YOGA IS A BLESSING TO THE HUMAN BODY

By Nokwanda Sibandze

Thembinkosi Mvubu just started practising yoga. She says she joined yoga because she heard about the health benefits that come with practising the sport.

"Someone told me that yoga is actually healthy and has a number of health benefits, almost similar to jogging and going to the gym. So, I decided maybe I should try it out to see for myself and ever since I have I've been seeing the results," she said.

Although she's been doing it for just a month, she clearly loves and enjoys doing yoga. She says she added yoga to her routine as she felt she needed something new and exciting to add onto it.

"Since, practising yoga, I'm now able to master the breathing technique, meditate and relax my body. Some people take yoga as some kind of belief."

She says she hasn't mastered the art and styles well and everything to do with yoga but she trusts that in a few months time she will be educated on most things. She says she will definitely attend the International Yoga Day since it will

be the first one since she started,

"Since I'm still a new in this whole thing I haven't attended the International Yoga Day, but am looking forward to attending it this year. You know when you start doing something new you study books and watch programmes about it I feel like I am like that with yoga so you better believe I will be attending yoga day," she says, laughing.

"I always think it is good to lighten people up about yoga and because it helps people relax and be less stressed.

I am saying this from a personal experience, I know I am not yet much experienced with yoga, but I have that little experience that allows me to educate people about it," She says she loves how it helps with everyday life, how yoga and meditation have helped her breathe better.

She says yoga has helped her to be more mindful, to pay attention to her body and what's going on around her. Lately, she's been noticing the difference between emotions, how they come and go, compared to things in life that are more permanent.

"I love how yoga helps you realise that what is going on in the moment is a mirror for how you are feeling at that moment. For example, if I really want to get into a pose and it is not happening, I can be aware of what's going on in my body, I can recognise it outside of class too. I can recognise that I need to calm down a little bit. I can work with that same feeling when it is hap-

pening in traffic. I can notice it and change it instead of getting overcome by things happening around me," she said.

Thembi says she thinks, collectively, people are beginning to find their own middle ground. More people are redefining health and beauty regardless of stereotypes or marketing messages.

This, according to her, the next step is to allow yoga to do its job and represent the spiritual evolution of the mind and body. As a new yogi, Thembi says she would definitely encourage people to take part in yoga. "I would suggest that they start with the most important thing happening within the body: breathing.

If you can breathe, then you have the right kind of body for yoga. I would tell them to close their eyes and enjoy a yoga practice. Don't get caught up in a temporary visual experience. Let the deeper principles of yoga flow through you. Being human is a blessing and yoga is a blessing to the human body, I believe everyone should take part in it. If I have been doing it for only a month but have the testimony that I have, it means it's worth trying out."



Thembi Mvubu.

whole yoga thing.

She makes it look so easy, yet so advantageous. She even said after her first day in a yoga class, she noticed that all the tension she had on her body was gone.

I mean, if it works that fast, I definitely want to try it.

"Even though I have been practising for a few days, I am always suggesting it to people I meet everywhere.

"I believe more people need yoga, we are at a time where we are always busy and on the road and believe it

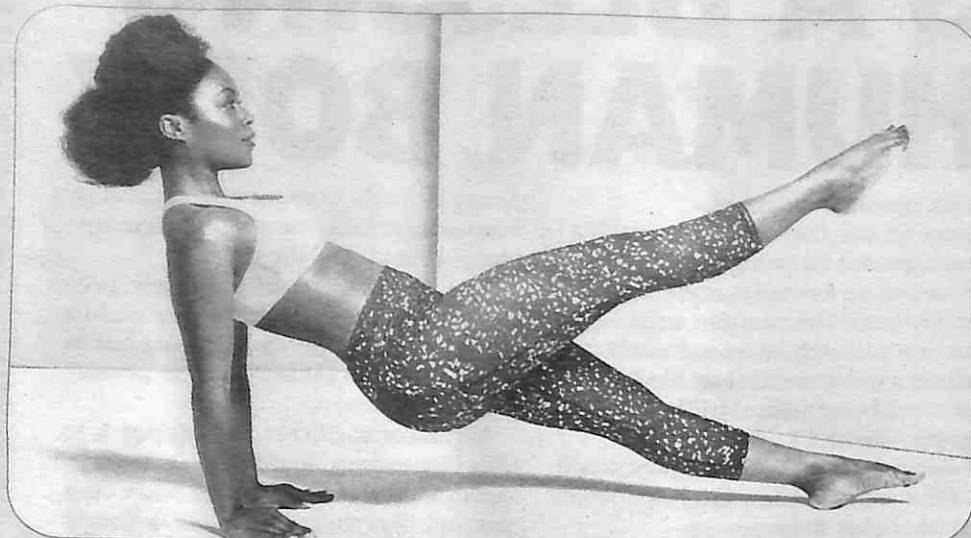
when I say 10 minutes of yoga can make my everyday life better."

Even though she loves yoga, Ethel says she can never be a yoga instructor because she is content with being a student. "I don't think being a yoga instructor is a walk in the park because there is a way of life that you need to follow in terms of the food you eat and everything that affects you as a human being, and I do not think I can handle that, it has people who were born for it just like being a teacher or any other profession."

Already motivating people to join yoga classes at a gym near them, Ethel says she would love it if people tried at least one time.

"People should just try it, even if it is after a workout so they relax and stretch their muscles or better yet for relaxation of the body, or to help them breathe better, yoga exercises have so many benefits, I could literally go on and on the whole day, hey, but I advise that people should find one thing they can benefit from yoga and take advantage of it."

CELEBRITY YOGIS



SOUTH AFRICAN YOGI CELEBRITIES

1. NOMZAMO MBATHA

Nomzamo is clearly a fitness freak and she has the legs to prove it. Although she might use the gym a lot, she also does yoga on the side. As a brand ambassador for Puma SA, she clearly loves yoga as she tweeted that her dream came true when Puma released their yoga mts.

2. PEARL THUSI

American musical recording artist Janelle Monáe Seven approved Pearl Thusi's yoga



moves on twitter, this came shortly after Pearl posted sexy images of herself online at the Yoga gym in Fourways and she asked Janelle if she was doing it right and Miss Monáe replied with a simple "Yes ma'am!"

3. KHABONINA CHUBEKA

The queen of fitness, with her obviously stunning body I know you know she does yoga, I mean everywhere she goes, she shows off her flexibility and those pictures on instagram prove she is a yogi at heart.

4. ZOE BROWN

A girl of many talents, this TV presenter, radio personality, voice-over artist and model is host of the popular early morning 'Feel Good Breakfast Show' Expresso on SABC 3. On the show, she is always on that yoga tip with any guest instructor who visits the show.

5. UNATHI NKAYI

After losing 28kg, Unathi has been obsessed with everything fitness. She is a true yogi with all the right moves on her pictures on social media, Unathi is truly in deep with this yoga lifestyle.

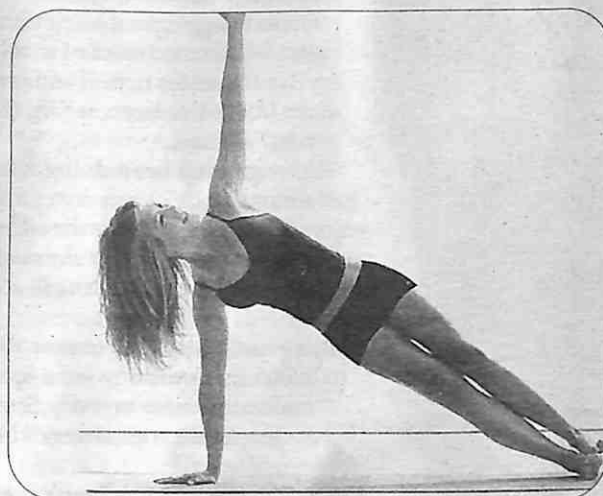
By Nokwanda Sibandze

Yoga can be seen as a trendy activity with celebrities all over the world practising and taking part in this refreshing activity.

There are a number of celebrities that enjoy this sport and honestly some people only do it because they have seen most of their favourite celebrities do the poses on their social media

pages. Always in the spotlight, celebrities are known for their rigorous fitness routines to stay in shape for the cameras. But if there's anything a celebrity knows all too well, a busy schedule and the pressure to always be "on" can take its toll. Practicing mind-body wellness is essential to maintaining balance, and the following celebrities choose yoga to support their health and happiness from the inside out.

INTERNATIONAL YOGI STARS



Adam Noah Levine is an American singer and songwriter. He is the lead singer for the pop rock band Maroon 5. As the 33-year-old singer swoops, bends and twists, clearly yoga pays off.

3. RUSSELL SIMONS

Simmons, 59, opened his yoga studio, Tantris, last year and brought his enthusiasm for the yogi way of life to the masses. Now he's expanding the brand with a premium men's line of active

wear, launching this fall. The mogul is once again turning his lifestyle into a business.

1. JENNIFER ANISTON

It is the combination of yoga and other workouts that got Jennifer Aniston in shape for her movie Wanderlust. She also turned to yoga while preparing for her upcoming wedding with Justin Theroux. Aniston claims that the practice keeps her in check and is her go-

4. KATY PERRY

Just like her former husband Russell Brand, Katy turned to meditation and yoga to help her cope with the breakup. Two months after finalising their divorce, Perry tweeted about the group meditation that she joined and how it changed her life. Celebrity or not, yoga and meditation are indeed life changing.



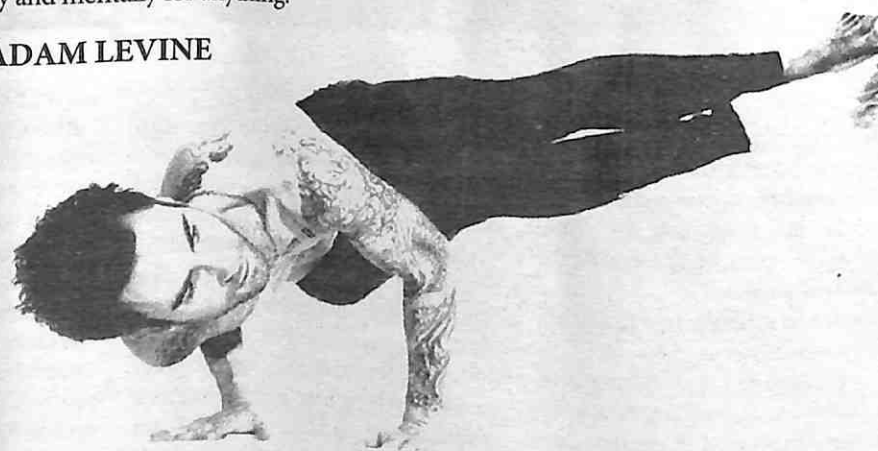
5. KALEY CUOCO

The Big Bang Theory star is a true blue yogi. Kaley once said she loved the feeling after doing yoga that sometimes she gets into back-to-back yoga classes. Her Twitter and instagram accounts can attest to that!

Whether winding down on vacation with some yoga, or making sure it's a part of their regular routine, these celebrities prove that yoga is just as much a mental and emotional practice as it is a physical one. Balance is a key component in everyone's overall wellbeing, especially if your life is as hectic and on-the-go as it is for these beautiful yogis.

to practice when she needs to prepare physically and mentally for anything.

2. ADAM LEVINE





BEAT ON BEATS WITH MDUBASA

FINESSE INTRODUCES INTIMATE HOUSE SESSIONS



The set up of the Avii Finesse looking posh before the Intimate House Session Show last Saturday, where DJ Nizhe DeSoul from Soul Candi Music and DJ ACE SA were present amongst other local DJs. (Pics: Jongile Xuba)

By: Mhlengi Magongo

The entertainment scene of Eswatini continues to rise to greater heights as Finesse introduces ultimate house sessions.

According to Finesse Bar owner Prosper, the house sessions are aimed at creating a culture to promote the skills and talent Emaswati have when it comes to house music.

The first session was held last Saturday with well known disk jockeys from the country and abroad displaying their skills on the decks. DJ Nizhe DeSoul from Soul Candi Music and DJ ACE SA were present, dishing out good jams much loved by the fans.

Speaking to DJ Nizhe DeSoul, he mentioned that there was potential in the local house music scene and that he saw a gap between the artists and media.

Being a lecturer at Soul Candi, he also mentioned that he would be willing to conduct workshops.

Local acts were also presence showcasing the talent Emaswati have.

These include Djs Tibza, Romeo and Steel who dished put the best deep tracks which were appreciated by the crowd.



Mangaliso and DJ Romeo were at Avii Finesse to enjoy the cool music.



Nizhe DeSoul from Soul Candi dishing out smooth sounds on the decks.



DJ Tibza throws up the peace sign as he kills his set.



Avii Finesse's Prosper setting things up before the event.



The waitresses at Avii Finesse took time to listen to the tunes.



Kwese TV representative was part of the festivities.



DJ Romeo and a fan having a chat before the event.

These patrons took time to pose with the waitresses for the camera with the party about to get started.



FASHION BEATS WEATHER AT HIPNOTIK PRE-PARTY

By Nokwanda Sibandze

As the saying goes fashion beats weather, guests at the hipnotik pre party proved the saying to be true as they all chose to be fashionable through the cold weather.

The pre party was held at the Sky lounge, Corporate Place on Thursdays evening and people did not disappoint.

With fur jackets, boots and

short dresses and miniskirts the ladies dressed to impress and impress they did.

On the other hand the gents kept it simple but still looking dapper. Still with their simple looks they managed to turn a few heads.

All guests definitely started hipnotik on a high when it comes to fashion. Here are some pictures from the pre party. (Pics: Shaun De- Sousa Photography)



DJ Ohpis on the decks, dishing out music to the audience.



Swazi Jive Director Sakhile Nkambule looking dapper at the launch.



Fun lovers could not miss out on a night of fun.



These ladies went for black outfits to complement each other.



Katz, Melo and Belinda could not miss out on a night of fun.



Sli and Minnie in different but complementary outfits.



Bubbles, Tots and Cuttie looking gorgeous in their boots and jacket themed outfits.



Determined to have fun, these ladies made sure they looked good for the Hipnotik pre party.



fashion definitely beats weather for Belinda as she opted for a mini skirt pairing it up with a white jersey.



Smiling for the camera these music lovers also attended the pre party.



SUNDAY OBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Both sides seek to 'clarify' as Pompeo holds second day of North Korea talks

SEOUL - US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo began a second day of talks in North Korea yesterday attempting to agree details on how to dismantle the country's nuclear programme, and both sides said they had things to "clarify" from the previous day.

After spending his first night in the North Korean capital in three visits so far this year, Pompeo left the government guest house where he spent the night to make a secure phone call to US President Donald Trump to provide an update on the talks.

Pompeo then sat down again with Kim Yong Chol, a top North Korean party official and former spy agency chief who played a key role with Pompeo in arranging the 12 June summit between Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Singapore.

Kim Yong Chol said that the two had had "very serious discussion on very important matters yesterday" and joked that as a result, Pompeo "might have not slept well last night" at the prestigious Paekhwawon, or 100 Flowers Garden, guest house. Pompeo replied: "Director Kim, I slept just fine. We did have a good set of conversations yesterday. I appreciate that and I look forward to our continued conversations today as well."

Pompeo reiterated that Trump was "committed to a brighter future for North Korea."

"So the work that we do, the path toward complete denuclearisation, building a relationship between our two countries, is vital for a brighter North Korea and the success that our two presidents demand of us," Pompeo said. Kim agreed that the work was important. "There are things that I have to clarify," he said.

"There are things that I have to clarify as well," Pompeo responded. US State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told reporters that US and North Korean officials had set up working groups to deal with "nitty gritty stuff," including verification of efforts to achieve denuclearisation, which would be headed on the US side by Sung Kim, a Korean-American who is also Ambassador to the Philippines. **AFP**

OBAMA WARNS OF 'RISE IN NATIONALISM'

MADRID - Former US president Barack Obama warned in Madrid on Friday of "a rise in nationalism" and the potential of new media to accelerate social divisions.

"We're in a difficult time, politically, socially... people feel very anxious," said Obama, who left office last year.

"Change is happening very quickly. People are wondering can I adapt to these changes? People are fearful," the former president told an audience of 2 000 people at a conference in Madrid on technological innovation and the circular economy, which minimises waste.

"We see a rise in nationalism," Obama told his audience.

"The world needs to consider how to use the new technology to improve lives and ensure that it does not accel-



Former US President Barack Obama.

erate division," he added.

"Today because of the internet, and because of the multiplicity of media what we see more and more is that we don't

agree on the same reality."

The former Democrat president highlighted in particular the US Fox News network.

"If you watch Fox News you see a different reality than if you read the New York Times, he said. "Climate change is not happening at all" in media like Fox.

Exploited

This phenomenon "has been exploited by some forces internationally", which "feed their biases". The solution, according to Obama, is to train young people "to think differently".

Obama, who was to travel on to Porto in Portugal on Friday to attend a climate change conference, has criticised his successor President Donald Trump for failing to consider scientific research on the subject.

AFP

'Don't emulate Mugabe, he's bad example for elderly'

HARARE - A Zimbabwean cleric who was aligned to the ruling ZANU-PF party has urged citizens not to emulate former president Robert Mugabe, describing him as a "bad example for the elderly".

According to the privately-owned NewsDay, the founder of Destiny of Africa Network (DANet), Obadiah Msindo, made this statement while donating food hampers while on an outreach drive that aims to benefit 5 000 senior citizens across Zimbabwe.

DANet is a religious organisation providing housing solutions to low-income earners.

"Mugabe is a very bad example for the elderly and you should not emulate him," Msindo was



Former Zimbabwe president Robert Mugabe.

quoted as saying.

Msindo blamed Mugabe's attack on President Emmerson Mnangagwa last November for his downfall.

He urged the elderly to go out

and vote on July 30, saying: "You must be given a chance to decide on a president who spearheads your interests and improves your welfare."

Msindo said he was campaigning to mobilise voters for Mnangagwa, who he described as a mature leader able to address the needs of Zimbabweans.

The ZANU-PF linked cleric is a former outspoken backer of Mugabe, once describing him as 'Black Moses'.

He pledged to gain two million votes for Mugabe in 2013 during the previous Zimbabwe's election, according to NehandaRadio.

Msindo has also been involved in quite a few controversies. In 2006, he was charged on five counts of repeatedly raping his maid, the privately-owned Standard newspaper reported.

News24

Zim leader launches WhatsApp account to reach out to youth

HARARE - Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa has reportedly launched a WhatsApp account to reach out to young people, ahead of elections in the country at the end of July.

According to the state-owned Chronicle newspaper, Mnangagwa, who until recently was a novice when it came to technology, was introduced to the instant messaging platform by a friend who recently visited him.

For one to join the president on

his latest adventure, they would be required to send a message to his Econet WhatsApp number +263 776 910 469, said the report. Mnangagwa confirmed this after the news broke on Wednesday on social media.

WhatsApp

"Yes, we now have a WhatsApp number chat platform. A friend of mine came and asked for my WhatsApp number and I told him I was not on WhatsApp."

"He also asked for my email address and I told him that I did not have

one. I said I don't need all that and he laughed. He said there was need for me to connect with the modern world and talk to people."

"He came back a few minutes later asking for my mobile phone to install the WhatsApp software. I am now on WhatsApp and I will let Mnangagwa break away from former president Robert Mugabe's hardline stanced social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter to ask Zimbabweans not to fight in the forthcoming elections."

News24

BRIEFS

Ivory Coast's Ouattara to name new govt

ABIDJAN - Ivory Coast President Alassane Ouattara plans to name a new government on Tuesday, after dissolving its predecessor because of a row within his ruling coalition, three government sources told Reuters on Friday. Two sources close to the president and one to Ouattara's RDR party also said discussions between the RDR and its coalition partner, the PDCI of former president Henri Konan Bedie, had begun on Friday in a bid to resolve their differences. **Reuters**

Car bomb explodes near presidential palace

MOGADISHU - A suicide car bomb exploded metres away from the presidential palace in Somalia's capital Mogadishu yesterday and smoke was seen rising above the scene of the explosion although it was unclear who was behind the blast, police said. "A car bomb exploded ... it is too early to know (the) casualty," Major Mohamed Hussein, a police officer, told Reuters moments after the blast. A second blast nearby occurred opposite a police building, a police source said. It was not immediately clear whether it caused any injuries. A Reuters witness saw smoke emanating from many burning vehicles at the scene around the blasts.

AFP

Woman breaks silence on PM groping allegation

OTTAWA - A former journalist broke her silence on Friday to stand by her allegation that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau groped her nearly two decades ago, when he was not politically involved. "I issue this statement reluctantly, in response to mounting media pressure to confirm that I was the reporter who was the subject of the Open Eyes editorial, published in the Creston Valley Advance in August of 2000," Rose Knight said in a statement to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). She was referring to the original Canadian report on the allegation, which said that Trudeau, who was 28 at the time and not involved in politics, had apologised to the reporter in question. **Reuters**

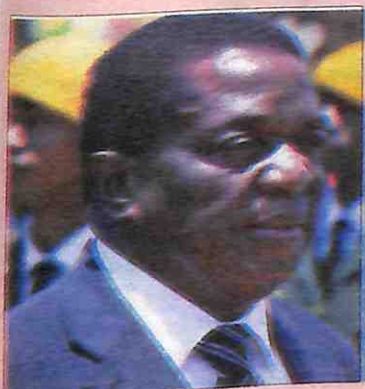
May faces Brexiteer backlash hours

LONDON - Theresa May faces angry backlash from Tory Eurosceptics after senior ministers agreed a Brexit policy that would effectively keep the UK in the EU single market for goods.

Anti-EU backbenchers refused to rule out triggering a leadership contest against the prime minister, amid anger that she had convinced the Cabinet to support a softer Brexit. It comes as May ordered her ministers to get behind the agreement, reached after a day of talks at her Chequers country retreat, or face being sacked. Several Eurosceptic members of the Cabinet reportedly criticised the proposals in private, but the prime minister made it clear they would no longer be allowed to speak out in public. **Independent**

Erdogan to name cabinet

ANKARA - Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday he would name the Cabinet he has selected tomorrow, as he renewed a promise to tackle what he called the "structural problems" of the country's economy. Moving to reinforce his authority in his first parliamentary speech since being re-elected on June 24, he said Turkey would enter a new era when he takes the presidential oath tomorrow. Erdogan emerged triumphant from his biggest electoral challenge in 15 years, giving him the sweeping executive powers he has long sought and extending his grip on the nation of 81 million until at least 2023. "As the first president of the new executive presidential system, I will announce the Cabinet at 9 pm on Monday... God willing, we will hold our first Cabinet meeting on Friday," he told deputies of his AK Party. **AFP**



Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

SUNDAY COMMENT

Judge Nkosi's U-turn a statement

There could only have been one winner, and there is now. High Court Judge, Siphon Nkosi has backed down from his stance of taking on the powers that be at the High Court, by insisting that he is seized with the bail hearing of murder suspect Sipho Shongwe. As such, Judge Nkosi had promised to go ahead with the hearing tomorrow—come what may!

But, this won't be the case any longer, well, if Friday's apology to the chief justice by the judge is anything to go by. Judge Nkosi has apologised for his action, what he has termed in his letter as a misunderstanding between him and the chief justice.

In doing so, the judge has performed an amazing about turn to what he threatened to do a week prior when he publicly stated that he would proceed with Shongwe's bail hearing; claiming that there was an injustice in the manner the suspect was being treated; threatened to spill the beans on what was happening regarding the case; and that his name was being tarnished by certain forces.

But, a week later, the Judge has apologised and promised to behave, so-to-say.

It is astonishing. Firstly, because it does not remove the doubt that was planted when the judge screamed injustice in a matter that he said he was seized with. It also does not remove the comments that he made when threatening to spill the beans.

It leaves us gasping for air; what has happened to the judge since then—has he been spoken to? Who was wrong, the judge or whatever that he thought he saw was the problem?

What does this mean to the charge of professional misconduct, that he was being accused of?

Oh, and, if Judge Nkosi believed he was right and following procedure by arguing for the case to be brought to him, as he was seized with it, what then does this mean? He was wrong?

Phew! So many questions, and yet, no answers. What remains, however, is that this incident says a lot about the administration of the criminal justice system. Whatever it is that has happened, we must underscore the importance of justice being seen to be served.

We must also be wary of a lack of independence of our justice, or judges, because we all want the confidence that the rule of law in this country is above anyone's whim.

Of course, in the same breath, we must encourage the notion of collective responsibility and subordination of judges, only to the extent that no one must do what they please. If the judge's apology achieves this, then so be it. But, if it is because it seeks to subjugate, then it is a statement of indictment on our Judiciary.

Analysis & opinion

GULLIBLE SWAZIS



BY MBONGENI MBINGO

These days the daggers are at their sharpest, and the betrayal at its peak.

It is desperate times for many; people jostling this way and that for political favour, if not just a spot in the august House. It is that time of the year when people will do just about anything, to please someone, or to be seen to be in someone's favour and corner. It is worrying times.

And if what is happening at the Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) is anything to go by, then we should be very worried—not because there is now a standing Cabinet decision stopping a move by the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA), but because there appears a greater motive than just to pinpoint any wrong. I will qualify this.

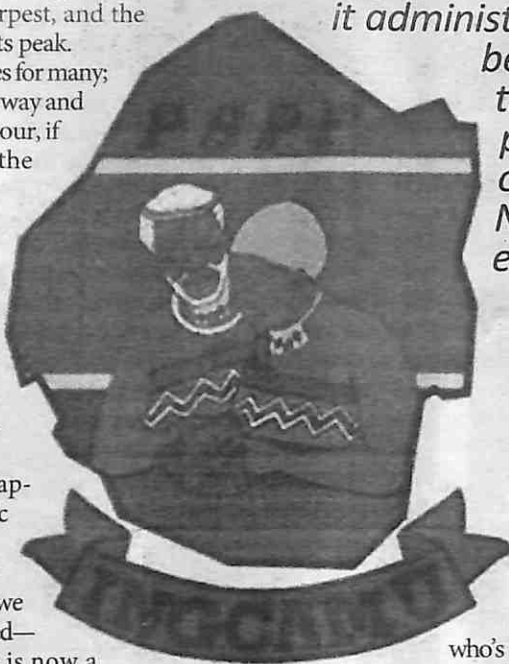
Hidden Agenda

The PSPF has been dragged into controversy by the FSRA following a failed attempt to launch an inspection into its operations; something that the PSPF believes is motivated by hidden agendas, more than a desire to bring it to book. It challenges the FSRA's motive based on the sequence of events, as laid out in its published statement a fortnight ago, in which the PSPF revealed, rather interestingly, that as a result of the failed inspection, the FSRA was demanding that it pays E3m for the SA audit firm it forced down the throat of the PSPF.

Don't ask me how they qualify that amount, if it is justified, but take note that from this, an easy E3m should be found lying around. That is telling.

This is in addition to a litany of questions that arise from the engaging of the SA audit firm, known as Prodogy, as well as the procedure or conduct by the FSRA while forcefully undertaking the inspection. It smirks of questionable behaviour on the part of FSRA that we should all be alarmed about, especially from a regulator. Admittedly, the PSPF has found itself being backed into a corner where it has to defend itself, and lay bare some of the issues it believes warrant serious introspection as to the role of the regulator. But

● While it is true that the FSRA must be allowed to perform its function, the PSPF should also be protected from bullies, and political interference, so that the workers' funds are protected. Of course in saying all of this, one is not saying that the PSPF is an angel, or that it should be allowed to misuse the funds it administers. Rather, the contrary. However, I have been encouraged by the position they took that they were not running away from the probe. What they are raising are critical issues of fair play and procedure, and regulations. No one should abuse their authority, and not even the FSRA.



who's to listen, because people are focused on the target—which is, without doubt, to destabilise the PSPF, if not those at the helm.

This has been raised by PSPF in its statement, pointing out that it views the FSRA as a body that should provide fair and objective oversight of the retirement funds industry as a whole.

The Fund then disclosed that the FSRA, unlike in this attempt to launch the inspection, has always issued a pre-inspection list detailing areas of intended inspection and whatever information and documents that they would require, 'to which the PSPF has acted in full compliance resulting in a successful inspection'.

Criminal Conduct

It then states; 'Coming to this year's inspection, the FSRA, for reasons unknown, drew up terms of reference to govern the exercise which go far beyond the scope and actions legally prescribed in their own Act. Upon considering their substance and legitimacy and from obtaining credible legal counsel, came the very basis of PSPF's objection to the terms of the inspection. The items of contention are: the intentions by FSRA to carrying out life style audits on employees of the Fund; investigating suspected fraud, corruption and money laundering; and investigating suspected acts of criminal conduct.'

This statement is loaded. In fact, it could have also added, 'the timing' of conducting this audit, something that does not sit well with me.

Why now, and why the haste, and why the demand? If, as the PSPF alleges, the FSRA did not act in the manner it has in the past, and not rushed into occupying the offices of the PSPF, using foreign auditors who were given access to the Fund's books, then we should be wary of the intensions and motive behind it. Interestingly, the company engaged by FSRA has, according to the statement by PSPF, some 'disturbing corporate practices by its members', that would otherwise have disqualified them from carrying out such an inspection.

These are very serious allegations that call to question the conduct of the FSRA, in addition to allegedly not following laid down procedure.

This is what should also concern us as the public, given that we do not want the FSRA to be a law unto itself, or that it will be used as a bulldog, set off against any perceived enemies and opponents of those who pursue other agendas.

We want the FSRA to be what it was set up to be. We want it to perform its function without fear and favour. But, it must not be used, and veer off its mandate, just because it can.

There is a big stinking rat in the manner this issue is being pursued, and for that I was in agreement with the Cabinet decision to have it withdrawn from court. I assumed that this decision meant that there was still room for further engagement, between the parties involved, and also because Cabinet would have applied its mind to the application itself by the FSRA to the extent that it was overarching.

But, I was also equally concerned when I noticed that the public sector unions had joined in the fray, demanding that Public Service Minister Owen Nxumalo withdraw the directive taken by Cabinet. I found this interesting because you would expect that unions would raise an alarm that the FSRA wants

the Fund to dish out E3m of its fund—for what!

I also would have expected the unions to challenge the authority of the FSRA, or at least be aware of what the issues on the table are before it jumps into the fray. As is, the idea that the union backs the inspection, regardless of the laid down parameters, or the cost thereof, or in effect, the notion that the Authority is being used, tells us that they do not bother with the facts.

While it is true that the FSRA must be allowed to perform its function, the PSPF should also be protected from bullies, and political interference, so that the workers funds are protected.

Of course in saying all of this, one is not saying that the PSPF is an angel, or that it should be allowed to misuse the funds it administers. Rather, the contrary. However, I have been encouraged by the position they took that they were not running away from the probe. What they are raising are critical issues of fair play and procedure, and regulations. No one should abuse their authority, and not even the FSRA.

The PSPF has also stated that it has previously allowed for an inspection, when the laid down procedure was followed. It came out clean, and the same FSRA was singing praises along Gwamile Street to its offices. It told everyone who cared to listen that the Fund was a shining example of how to manage public funds.

There is a lot to suggest, therefore, that there has been a sudden paradigm shift in the relationship between the two. If it is true that the inspection was sprung on the PSPF, then it raises more questions than answers on the part of the FSRA than the PSPF.

We should then be careful not to allow those wolves in sheepskin to achieve their selfish agendas. When we do, we will only have ourselves to blame.

VOICE OF BUSINESS



It is our view as the Voice of Business Eswatini that the sooner we look into the issues of sustainability and development, the better for all citizens and stakeholders of our beautiful Kingdom.

As we promised in the previous edition, we would like to report back to you on the findings and discussions that ensued around the subject of corruption from the FSE&CC Anti-Corruption Seminar.

In this article, we will delve into the presentation talking points and items that were brought up by the participants during the seminar. The objective we want to achieve here is to look inwards through a solemn introspection, embrace our realities, and ultimately internalise the lessons that we learnt from the seminar.

We also want to look outside in the environment to identify issues that we need to address as a collective and investigate some of the approaches that could be used in the combat of the corruption pandemic.

The fight against corruption is not going to be easy and it is not going to be won overnight. Some of the lessons are covered in the below discussions:

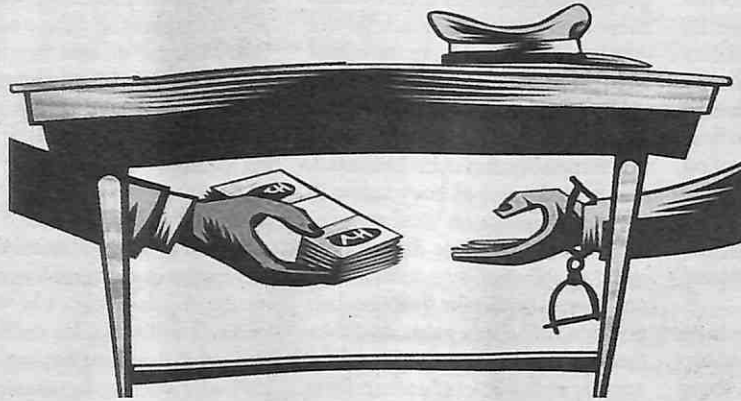
1. Everyone has a Role to Play (connect the lights to expose corruption)

The Afrobarometer survey revealed one of the insights that were shared by participants in the seminar – there is an aura of fear around exposing corruption in our communities. It was established that a shocking 82 per cent of the respondents felt that they risk retaliation if they speak out against corruption.

This minimises the inclusive nature of

CORRUPTION PERPETUATES SURVIVAL OF THE UNFITTEST

● The objective we want to achieve here is to look inwards through a solemn introspection, embrace our realities, and ultimately internalise the lessons that we learnt from the seminar.



the solution to the issue because everyone has a role to play in the alleviation of the crisis. The doers of corruption thrive on this situation at the peril of all the victims who believe that the solution is out of their control. Everyone has a role to play by either desisting from enabling corruption or exposing corruption through the use of the anti-corruption structures.

2. Educate Society About Corruption

It has been established that in an environment where corruption has evolved and has been deeply engraved into the lifestyles and culture of society, it becomes difficult to demarcate the red flags.

The systems in this situation become

contaminated to an extent where "corrupt" and "not corrupt" becomes a hazy grey area. Like any other societal ill, the starting point is education around the subject in order to create awareness about the issue, its impact, and then – what mechanisms should be put in place to alleviate it. The Afrobarometer Round 7 survey in Eswatini had some insights which are consistent with the need for society to be educated about corruption. Out of the respondents interviewed, only 51 per cent believed that corruption has somewhat increased between 2015 and 2018.

A combination of respondents who believed that corruption levels stayed the same, decreased, and those who do not know of the status made up

a total of 49 per cent.

This is stark evidence that there is a deficiency in the knowledge system of society to identify, expose, and prevent corruption because the reports that analyse the incidence of corruption reveal an upward trend on the ground.

There has been a lack of activity in the redress of the pandemic, which would be in the form of cases being concluded and individuals being prosecuted for corruption.

Therefore, it is conclusive that the rising trend of corruption is occurring and going unnoticed by society. We are then suffering the consequences of it without even knowing that we are the victims of it.

Education on the subject could help for society (all stakeholders) to appreciate that they are the losers in the presence of corruption.

3. Strengthen Anti-Corruption Mechanisms

The state of the anti-corruption structures is another issue that needs attention as the credibility, thereof, also determines whether citizens would have the confidence in them to an extent that they would actually consider to use them.

If the confidence levels in the struc-

tures are low, they would simply be a formality. The corruption alleviation structures also play the critical role of providing protection for the individuals and institutions who utilise them. Protection of users should ideally go to then level where the users of the system feel motivated to use it because they feel it is to their benefit.

4. Anti-Corruption Efforts Should be Connected with Human Rights

Corruption was cited as an impediment to doing business, a major contributor to a weakened economy, skewed opportunities, compromised law enforcement processes, loss of development funds, poor and costly social services, and a host of other challenges. The lack of amends to corruption is tantamount to an infringement of basic human rights as it leads to the "survival of the unfittest". A closer look at the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) shows that corruption is directly in conflict with such goals.

5. Pay now or Pay Later

As a way of closing in the seminar, another notable quote by the presenters was that in the end, the perpetrator of corruption will pay for the consequences.

The advice given to those who practice corruption was that they have to pay now and desist from the practice, or they would have to pay later in many ways such as prosecution or/and losses caused by being used to a lifestyle of greed whose revenue would be unsustainable in the long run. Lives are lost through corruption when improperly built structures fail, below-standard goods are procured and the perpetrators have to face the brunt of the law.



By Lisa Mongelli

My experience is that the Universe always wants to provide the absolute best for us. In other words not only what we need, but what we want.

I know in my case I have had a hard time allowing the Universe to do its work. I constantly have to remind myself I must not put terms and conditions on the way the universe wants to provide for me.

Creation always knows the shortest, fastest best possible way to get us what we want. Yet we struggle with our capacity to trust a source we cannot see, because this requires faith.

In other words, our lack of faith constrains the creative flow and restricts the Universe from providing for us.

The core issue most of us face is lack of faith. We find it extremely difficult to let go and let God. If we can't see it, touch it or taste it we pretty much don't believe it. The existence of God for many is some

existential old fashioned idea better left for their grandmother. The bulk of humanity today is worshipping a small device called a cellphone, and yet they want to understand why life seems so unlucky and so wrong.

If the greater part of society would spend 1/10 of the time they spend on their cellphones in prayer, meditation and positive reflection, we would have a Happier Healthier more Productive planet.

The cellphone rings, you get internet, YouTube and 1001 channels. Do you know how it works? No! Most of you have no idea how it works.

I have a cellphone I have no clue how it works but I do know this; it is powered by a source I cannot see. It is powered by an electromagnetic field I can neither see

nor touch, and guess what without that unseen force, the cellphone you can barely let leave your hand is just a piece of lifeless metal.

My question to you now is if you can believe in your cellphone why oh why can't you believe in the unseen power of Creation? That is a very good question is it not? We live in a world of instant gratification where the patience to wait for anything no matter how important is almost non-existent.

Is creation working too slowly for you? With manifestation there is often a time delay the Universe when allowed to weave its magic for you creates your best possible outcome provided you have the faith to trust and the patience to wait.

To open your mind and release the constraints of scepticism isn't

always easy but by allowing the universe to provide for you in its way the divine connects you to the unlimited power of manifestation. My experience is the where, why and wherefore has to do with the rhythm of creation.

The willingness to receive with an open hand and an open heart expedites your desires. Acceptance and gratitude no matter how creation presents you with what you want is the most important. Remember your way may not be the Creator's way.

Luck has everything to do with flow and allowing yourself to receive the blessings divinely intended for you. God's blessings are not exclusively reserved for the lucky. If you are in an unlucky or difficult phase of your life Divine guidance is always available. If you look around assistance abounds

what are you attracting support or are you stewing in your problems. Moving past a problematic phase in life is never easy but the honest truth is if you attracted the problem to you, you can certainly attract the assistance to help you find a way out of it. The big question is are you creating a pathway for better things to happen in your life, or are you stuck in a negative mindset repeating patterns that placed you in that "Unlucky" situation in the first place?

What is The Allowing to quote Ester Hicks? The Allowing happens when we can get out of our own way and allow the benevolent power of Creation to give us our hearts desire.

The Universal Truth is we are never separate from Source. We were created by an adoring God whose devotion to his creation is unconditional and everlasting.

Allow the Good Lord to anoint your life with Happiness and bestow upon you man kinds birthright of Abundance. Embrace the gift of true wealth intended for you; it is yours to claim on every level of your life. The promise of a new today is ever present we only need believe in the possibilities it brings and claim them.

God Bless you enjoy your Sunday.

ARE YOU ALLOWING BUNDANCE?



By Comfort Mabuza

A PEOPLE'S DRIVEN GOVERNANCE SYSTEM URGENTLY NEEDED

The unfortunate public mudslinging and finger pointing currently obtaining at the capital city, Mbabane Council is concerning. Local urban government has rules for engagement, and hopefully a code of conduct to regulate the operations. To be treated to such a theatrical spectacle bordering on character assassinations has serious implications legally. Without taking any side, the gains if any to what otherwise looked like a well-run urban municipality, are fast disappearing. The naming and shaming clandestine politics will eventually be costly in the long run. Citizens of Mbabane do not deserve such poor leadership. Instead of ensuring that the municipality is well administered and delivering accordingly, Council's internal fights are spiralling all over the media and social networks. Such boardroom politics unnecessarily exposed to members of the public through advertorials is so immature. Can the real leader show up and help stop this madness? This insanity of the highest order will definitely have casualties, mark my words. Instead of concentrating on more pressing urban development issues, we are seeing such horrendous leadership traits. Let be told, this is cheap politicking and the power playing tactics. It's like witnessing boys involved in street fights and dragging themselves in the mud, honestly. Then you have false Messiahs who appear concerned joining the fray and scoring political points and recognition. Some appearing as concerned are actually highly skilled opportunists claiming to be better paying ratepayers than the rest of us. *Kunfwanata loku!!*

POWER POLITICAL GAMES

Politics is certainly not for the fainthearted, but highly principled individuals who should adopt the principles of fair play and engagement. It is about being truthful to one's mandate as well as delivery of said promises made to the electorate. I sit here watching our Eswatini political story unfolds,

and I ask myself probing questions, are the politicians ever aware of the power behind the political games, and that people's wellbeing and lives are at stake here? Politics are by nature founded on one's power and influence wrongly or rightly in flexing their muscles and manipulating the very people they serve. It is no longer about a poor hot-headed lot entering to become rich and famous while manipulating the poor lot and desperate citizens.

It should not be about seeking employment for failed leadership and individuals without anything to do. It is about positive influence taking this country's development forward to a desired secured future for its citizens. It should be founded on service delivery where the electorate give mandate to servant leadership. Of course, some are well-skilled in abusing the people to vote for them, and no sooner are they elevated than they then desert them only to return after five years seeking their vote again. Some need to be chased away from their communities for abusing people by making false promises. Such clowns need to be put on the spotlight and told to stop abusing people and playing mere political games.

POWER TO RECALL

The mandate politicians seek during electioneering campaigns to hold political office must be put on the spotlight and scrutiny. The masses must ENSURE these people are called periodically to account for the promises they make and further questioned for deserting the electorate only to return when they seek another mandate. While it should be stated that the foundational framework that politics should be about

positive influence on the country governance, electorates must become more aware that 'too much power corrupts absolutely.' Hence the urgent need of ensuring that politicians are subjected to close scrutiny, where checks and balances are at play. These people must be called upon to account, and even the noises they make in the august House or local government, must be people driven pursuing a noble goal. We cannot keep on allowing politicians to abuse their position for selfish gains and take the people for a ride. Stronger mechanisms aimed at evaluating their performance should be put in place.

It is time we ensure there are mechanisms and power to recall non-performing politicians. I think waiting for five years for non-performing

'False Messiahs' its time they account and be answerable to the masses.

lot is not good enough. Where are mechanisms based on performance management aimed to call these lot to account? At the end of the day, it is about service delivery and pursuing an agenda given by the masses that is focussed to meeting their expectation and addressing imbalances in their contexts.

We certainly know people who after being elected into political office, they left their very constituencies forgetting the very people who gave them the mandate. Surely, there is need to have a clause to 'recall' such lot. People must be empowered to know their constitutional right and power they have at their disposal, to keep on questioning civil leadership. Every political governance system must be people driven giving people more power to influence their decisions. There should be free political activism within communities where politicians are put on their toes on promissory mandates. We

are sick and tired of being taken for a ride by clever leadership who then take us for granted. These so called 'False Messiahs,' it's time they account and be answerable to the masses. It's time people are empowered to have power to recall non-performing leaders.

REVIEW PROCESS

In most developed democracies, there are mid-term review mechanisms. We should not be waiting for their full term for such failed leadership. Imagine having a political leader who hardly raises motions in the august House, let alone getting involved with issues affecting the people he represents. Some hardly raise a voice during sessions, let alone participating even on sub-committees on issues affecting the welfare of the people. Of course there are tensions that some of these political misfits hardly understand their roles. There must be developed community based review mechanisms on an ongoing basis. Whether by default or design, somehow the present system is not strong in ensuring that reviews periodically in-between elections are conducted. One sits here wondering why would the electorate be handcuffed and held powerless to get rid of non-performing leadership? Stronger democratic systems are clear about the people-centred power.

They ensure that leaders are more answerable to the masses. It is time that stronger review mechanisms are developed honestly. Political office should not be for life, as some are acting as if they are chiefs born to lead forever. Sadly, some overstay their welcome.

NO POLITICAL SYSTEM IS PERFECT

Democratic systems all over are not perfect, but they keep evolving

where there are identified weaknesses they are then improved. They are still the best though when it comes to giving people the power to choose their leadership. At the heart of each democratic dispensation, people must feel empowered to elect and choose people of their choice without undue dictatorial tendencies. There must be guarantees for a people centred power to drive a popular agenda. Also, such systems must be open enough where playgrounds are levelled for free political activism. While prospective leadership are based on performance in some, it is still the powers placed on the executives who then have a final say on who should lead. The heartbeat of a democratic order must be that which level playing grounds by ensuring people participate freely. One still holds the view that any ideal system must be evolving and remains sensitive to what obtains on the ground. We can't have a system that oppresses vibrancy and the calling for transparent mechanisms to appoint and elevate people to demanding leadership positions. We should forever ensure that identified short comings and gaps are amended accordingly. Well, it should be about power given to the people and in them they should delegate to the elected to lead on their behalf. While we struggle in the notion whether the Tinkhundla government system is perfect, it has to reconsider why people are elevated merely only through individual merit.

Accountable systems with checks and balances are needed. Never forget that working democracies have evolved over time, hence the guarantee that they give the power to the people. We must then draw from such working systems that ensures a people driven democratic system and accountability.

Evang. Wilton Mamba



After the fall in Eden, men strayed from his original nature, which was perfection in the image of the Father; and not even the Law of Moses could reverse man's corrupt and sinful nature.

While man was headlong in his sins, God sent Jesus, the Son of God, to die on the cross for the forgiveness of man's sins. Early in His earthly ministry, Jesus gave the roadmap of His journey in the world in the Lord's Prayer. In this the second instalment of a series of articles that began last week, we analyse the rest of the Lord's Prayer as we unravel the most important, yet equally underrated prayer in the Bible.

Matthew 6:12

"Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors." (NIV)

When Jesus taught His disciples to pray and say 'Forgive us our debts,' He was pro-

THE BLUE PRINT: SAVED BY THE BLOOD

● The blood that flowed from the cross was presented to God in heaven as an atonement for the forgiveness of man's sins in order to restore those who would receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour into the original image of God.

claiming the way of the cross, where the blood of the Lamb would be shed for the atonement of the sins of the world. Without the shedding of the blood of Jesus, there is no forgiveness.

The blood that flowed from the cross was presented to God in heav-

en as an atonement for the forgiveness of man's sins in order to restore those who would receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour into the original image of God.

"But when Christ appeared as a High Priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater

and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption." (Romans 9:11-12). The writer of

Hebrews goes on to make the case that... 'if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience

Wilton Mamba is now an Evangelist and founder of David Goliath Spiritual Solutions, a sanctuary that provides spiritual solutions to practical problems, counselling and life coaching, cutting-edge Bible study and spiritual exercises through works of faith.

If you have been blessed by reading this article, or seek clarification on some of the issues raised here, contact Evang. Wilton Mamba on 7677 9312 or 7977 0952 or 2404 5284.

You can send an email to mambawilton.multimedia@gmail.com. Better still join our faith-building sessions every Wednesday from 5-6pm and Saturdays at 11am - 1pm at Multimedia, Corner Somhlolo Road and Mhlilibi Street in Mbabane opposite ICAP.



JOY
NDWANDWE'S
LEADERSHIP
ZONE

HISTORIC DAY ESWATINI #SWAZIPRIDE

In my memoirs, June 30th 2018 will go down as a historic day in the Kingdom of Eswatini, and we thank His Majesty King Mswati III for allowing the #Swazipride peaceful march. This proved His Majesty's commitment to Vision 2022, popularised as the first world, which requires embracing diversity in religion, race, colour and sexual orientation.

The Swazi Pride march elevated this kingdom's profile within the international map, from conservative to progressive country embracing LGBTI community, who are rightful citizens and friends of this country. Thus, bringing into the fore, how the country is utilising the transition from Swaziland, to Eswatini, to transcend beyond myopic thinking by embracing diversity. In Swaziland the Swazi Pride march would not have occurred, as the myopic would rather keep LGBTI community in obscurity whilst also calling them abusive and vulgar names. Thus transcending into Eswatini saw the march occur, even though allowed on back streets, Dzeliwe Street and not Gwamile Street. The reason given was protection of marchers, evidently there are many closet men and women still experiencing self-hatred, so they would have maltreated the marchers. Possibly, the country allowed this march but still wishes to keep the LGBTI issues behind the scenes, hence, the back streets. Irrespective of these underlying issues and challenges, I congratulate the Rock of Hope for organising this historic event, Melusi Simelane, is a leader I would happily be his campaign manager if he stood for elections 2018.

Sexuality vs Sex or Sexual Preference

As an integral part of my spiritual journey, I have learnt to appreciate how souls are our authentic identity; therefore, whatever engraved within the soul is destiny, mission and calling. This realisation made me appreciate the role of soul mates and

members of the soul matrix that become critical towards destiny, mission and calling. The LGBTI community, I have learnt to appreciate and understand how they are following their destiny. This is not to suggest that LGBTI community are un-infiltrated with greed, materialism and corruption like the heterosexual community. Therefore, there will be those within the LGBTI community that are being opportunistic, thus, having same sex or making sexual preference choices driven my opportunistic behaviour. This is a real concern globally; however, this must not be an excuse for denying the rights of LGBTI communities, as responsible soulful citizens of the universe. Opportunistic behaviour must not derail the heterosexual community from embracing the diversity of souls; it is part of being responsible citizens of the universe.

Soulful relationships occurs within soul mates or members of the soul matrix, this can occur within same sex relationships, manifesting in LGBTI communities. Thus authenticating their intimacy as being rooted within sexuality as opposed to sex or sexual preferences.

Sexuality emanates from the soul, not driven by lust, greed, materialism and corruption. The souls within LGBTI communities that cannot experience heterosexual intimacy, as the sexuality engraved within their souls yearns for same sex intimacy. Evidently, as a soul prophet, I would never

expect members of the LGBTI community to fake heterosexual intimacy; this sex would violate their souls. Soulful relationships is what we are all on earth to experience, even though the dominate paradigm is sex and sexual preferences evoking lust, greed, materialism and corruption.

My revelations as soul prophet, is dominate sex and sexual preferences are violating souls, hence, am a proponent for soulful relationships. I participated at Prince of Wales, to affirm the LGBTI community for their boldness required for allowing soulful intimacy.

A critical and major breakthrough feared by humanity, as allowing the soul to be dominate paradigm, requires allowing high levels of vulnerable faith.

This community is, therefore, teaching the world, on the profoundness of their souls, and why would I wish for their being locked in the closet. Just because humanity is so complacent in the dominate paradigm of sex and sexual preferences that manifest lust, greed, materialism and corruption.

However, I do have reservations on how LGBTI communities are infiltrated by lust, greed, materialism and corruption such as prostitution and intergenerational sex.

Living in the Omnipresence

I support the LGBTI community for living in God's Omnipresence; hence, I joined their historic day. Living in God's Omnipresence has become my source of passion, am

considering opening a temple for believers in Omnipresence. As the dominate paradigm is living in the presence of living human beings, thus, spending precious time on earth pleasing people. Such that there are many members of the LGBTI community, locked up in the closet as they are pleasing earthly beings. They are married and clandestinely experiencing same sex behind closed doors, shameful living indicating lack of belief in the Omnipresence. Hence, the Swazi Pride march was an excellent platform for those who are living in the Omnipresence. As God knows all their deeds, and therefore, whom do earthly beings think, they are judging the LGBTI community, when God already knows their deeds.

My support to the LGBTI community emanates from their living in truth with God the Father, as they know He knows all their deeds.

Thus, I support them as my faith teaches me to believe in the Omnipresence, for God will hold me accountable on judgement day. Therefore, we earthly mortals will also face judgement day, on deeds even when they remain unseen by others. Deeds believed are locked in the closet will be replayed to them in the presence of God. Moreover, this lack of belief in God's Omnipresence will played at an hour when God is control, we have opportunities to know God whilst on earth.

Nevertheless, as earthly beings we play games with each other, hiding behind a banana leaf like monkeys. Yet God's Omnipresence

has the front row seat in our theatrics as we perform the 'perfect' earthly script that is the dominate paradigm. The theatrics we perform in church, within family, community and nation are nothing but earthly deeds that cannot escape God's Omnipresence.

Conclusion

In conclusion, supporting Swazi Pride march was also in honour of friends and family that have paid the prize of being victimised and discriminated. Some passed on before living this day when the country is affirming its commitment to human rights and the first world. One person that bonded with me towards the end of her life is Thuli Rudd, I devoted time helping her reconcile her soul with her life journey. Subsequent to her demise, I handed over all the papers she had given me to her mother, but not the electronic version of the manuscript. As I do not wish to be caught up in any discussions on whether the manuscript is my interpretation of what Thuli told or my version of Thuli's truth. Moreover, God made a profound revelation on how He had brought Thuli Rudd to me for closure, and not the rest of her family.

Therefore, taking up the responsibilities beyond what God had called me to do would have resulted in my burn out, as I am not a superwoman.

Person: cannot afford a burn out when completing my UNISA PhD, writing two international volumes of the King Sobhuza II legacy book and founding the upcoming academy for indigenous knowledge. Hence, I withdrew my involvement on the Thuli Rudd manuscript, even though I believed it had numerous lessons for members of the LGTI community. Finally, as an indigenous prophet, I believing in God's Omnipresence, thus embracing souls, as all soul are from God.

from dead works to serve the living God?" (Romans 9:13-14) (NASB).

Apostle Paul demonstrates more graphically how the blood of Jesus accomplished our forgiveness in Ephesians 1:7-8, "In Him we have redemption (that is, our deliverance and salvation) through His blood, (which paid the penalty for our sin and resulted in) the forgiveness and complete pardon of our sin, in accordance with the riches of His grace which he lavished on us." (AMP)

On the eve of His crucifixion, Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, as He took His disciples a step further towards the fulfilment of the promise in the Lord's Prayer. In Matthew 26:26, it is written thus: While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take it; this is My body."

And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins." (NASB)

Apostle Paul introduces the disci-

ples to the symbolical invocation, so to speak, of the blood of Jesus in 1 Corinthians 11:23: For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night on which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way, He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." This is why it is important for all believers to partake in the Lord's Supper as an endorsement of their signature on the dotted line of the new covenant, especially after being born of water and the Spirit (read John 3).

The use of bread and cup (wine) was the fulfilment of Jesus controversial statement, where He said in John 6:53-55, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves."

He who eats my flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise Him up on the last day. For My flesh

is true food, and My blood is true drink." (NASB).

As I explained last week, 'flesh' refers to bread in this context, while bread in the Lord's Prayer refers to Jesus; similarly 'drink' refers to the blood of Jesus.

Jesus crucifixion immediately accomplished the forgiveness of those sins between man and God; more specifically the sins related to the first five commandments summed up in Matthew 22:37-38 by the Lord Jesus as the first and great commandment: "You shall love the Lord Your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Through this one act on the cross, Jesus fulfilled the first part of the forgiveness prayer in the Lord's prayer.

The last part: "...as we also have forgiven our debtors", while also very much an act of grace, is the pivot that allows one to claim the full benefit of Jesus' act of forgiveness on the cross.

This prayer relates to the last five commandments in Exodus 20, summed up by Jesus in Matthew 22:39, as He answers the questions posed to Him by the Pharisees:

"The second is like it, 'you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'" In verse 40 Jesus adds that the whole Law of Moses and the writings of the Prophets lay on these two commandments.

I hope the reader now appreciates how Jesus commands us to pray for the fulfilment of the act of forgiveness by which we are able to relate with both fellow man and God in our everyday life.

Matthew 6:13

"And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (For Yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen)." (NASB)

The reader would have found it interesting that Jesus went on to add, in what comes across as an afterthought; "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."

But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." (Matthew 6:14). By no means is this an afterthought. This very last line speaks to verse 13, where Jesus commands us to pray that God does not lead us into temptation, but instead deliver us from evil.

In essence, Jesus is saying the punishment for failing to forgive our fellow men opens us up to temptation, disease and evil attack.

We learn when Jesus encounters the paralytic who was brought through the roof of a house where Jesus was ministering healing that the 'forgiveness' of sins translates to the healing of bodily ailments and deliverance from evil. Mark 2:5: And Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?" Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves, said to them, "Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven'; or to say, 'Get up and pick up your pallet and walk? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins' - He said to the paralytic, I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home."

Introduction

A Swaziland implements the cooperatives program in collaboration with the ministry of commerce, industry and trade, under the cooperatives department who provide the technical assistance on how to set up the cooperatives. The ministry has played a very critical role in terms of educating the school children on cooperatives and how to manage it, including their funds. As the programme has shown great success, JA has gone a step further in terms of ensuring that the funds that have been saved by the children are invested where they can accumulate interest and Lubane has played a big role in this. At least 4 200 children have been registered under Lubane Savings and Credit Cooperative where their funds are deposited on a weekly or monthly basis. This has been a very huge milestone for Junior Achievement.

This week, I took time to visit the leading school in the cooperatives programme which is Dvokolwako High School, a school that has saved over E20 000 in four months. Each learner has a minimum saving of E5 per week. This basically entails that a learner is required to at least save a minimum of E1 per day. It is, therefore, an affordable amount that most members in the cooperative are able to comply with and even go beyond the stipulated amount. The cooperatives members were able to also stipulate a guiding principle which entails that "any member of the cooperative that will not save for four weeks will be forced to pay a penalty of E2 the next time the member presents their savings".

Muzi uvukile Mnisi, a teacher at Dvokolwako High School, who also facilitates the programme, explained that it has become an easy process to get the Form Two learners to be fully engaged in the programme as they have fully understood the initiative and have taken it to heart. "Every now and then, I become instrumental in motivating and encouraging the learners to keep up the good work, as this will benefit them in future," he said.

He further mentioned that the school administration played a crucial role in addressing parents in a meeting about the cooperatives programme. This made the parents more interested in their children saving money for themselves to the extent that some parents call to check if his/her child is really saving on a weekly basis. The pupils are also running a lot of businesses which also contribute to their constant savings and the whole school is allowed to join, which makes the number of members increase as well

as the money they save. As a school we are very excited that the children's savings are accumulating

interest through Lubane, which is a very good motivation for them as they do the weekly savings".

The opportunity to speak to some of the pupils on how this programme has transformed their lives

and enhanced their understanding of money was very eye-opening and was able to present some very interesting testimonials.

Mzwandile Msibi was identified as the highest saver in the cooperatives with over E600 saved. "I get my pocket money on a daily basis. I have had to learn to put aside money that I can be in a position to save each day.

I have to admit that I realised that discipline is very hard when there are all these temptations to buy when you have money saved up. I, therefore, decided to make my mother a custodian of my daily savings and only take my money when we have collections at school. She has been faithful to give all my savings as per my daily submission to her," he said.

Lindelwa Skonela was identified as the most faithful saver within the cooperative. She has been able to save money in all the 13 collections that the cooperative has had.



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JA PARTNERS WITH LUBANE SAVINGS, CREDIT COOPERATIVE

...to invest savings from the schools' cooperatives



MIND THAT ERROR



People who categorise themselves under such are highly confused and their intention is to confuse others."

Can you spot the faulty diction in that sentence? You should, if you know what the word, "alphabet," means. One popular dictionary defines it as "a set of letters or symbols in a fixed order used for writing a language." Given the meaning of the word, "alphabet," you can see that it is the wrong word to have been chosen by the writer to express his idea in that sentence.

Why is the choice of alphabet wrong, you ask? Ha, because it is impossible to include the alphabet in any abbreviation, especially the ones the writer had referred to in the story, these being: LGBT, LGBTI, LGBTOI, and LGBTQIP. The English alphabet, the last time I checked, is made of 26 letters, and the longest abbreviation we have here has just eight letters. Can you now see why "alphabet" is a faulty diction?

That, however, is just the first part of the question. The second part is judging whether the lexical misappropriation is one of ABUSE,

ESTIMATING FAULTY DICTION

CONFUSION, or MISUSE of words – the tri-factor we abbreviate as ACM. If you ask me, I will put this error of faulty diction down to the middle member of the tri-factor, to wit, CONFUSION.

The writer has confused "alphabet" with "letter." It is like mistaking a team for one player, or a forest for one tree. The sentence should be revised to read: "The fact that the LETTER is included as an abbreviation for Queer shows that even the people who categorise themselves under such A GROUP are highly confused and their intention is to confuse others."

The fourth paragraph of the same news story reads, thus: "The letter speculates that Emaswati will not tolerate the destruction of morality and acceptance of sodomy and they should also be aware that there is no such thing as 'gay rights.'" "Speculates?" Is "speculate" the correct word that we can use

about a letter making the claim that a group of people is destroying the culture of Swaziland?

Well, certainly not! Two other words may be more appropriate. They are "assert" and "asseverate." We may choose the latter for purposes of elegance and emphasis. So we may revise the sentence, thus: "The letter ASSEVERATES that Emaswati will not tolerate the destruction of morality and acceptance of morality and acceptance of sodomy and they should also be aware that there is no such thing as 'gay rights.'" Now for the harder part of the question: Do you judge this faulty error to be that of lexical abuse, confusion, or misuse? Your guess is as good as mine, but if you say it is that of MISUSE, I will second the motion with no qualms!

"Corruption, bane of public procurement" was the title of the first editorial in the Times of Swaziland, January 30, 2018. Its opening sentence read, thus: "Public procurement is one

of government's activities most vulnerable to corruption."

The word at fault here is "vulnerable." I cannot say for sure that this is an abuse, confusion, or misuse of words.

However, if we were forced to choose among the three, I would say: MISUSE. Instead of "vulnerable," we should say, "susceptible." Whereas "vulnerable" means, "weak and easily hurt emotionally or physically," "susceptible" means, "very likely to be influenced, harmed, or affected by something. According, the sentence should be revised, thus: "Public procurement is one of government's activities most SUSCEPTIBLE to corruption."

PLAYING NICELY WITH EACH OTHER is the title of an article in the LifeStyle Magazine, Sunday Times, June 17, 2018. Paragraph 12 of the piece reads, thus: "The real issues around racism are institutional and SYSTEMATIC but

She explains that this programme has really assisted her know how to budget. "My parents give me pocket money on a monthly basis. They also want me to get accustomed to handling my own finances. I am able to set aside my weekly savings from my pocket money and I now have E500 in my savings through the cooperative. I have also ventured into a small business of selling sweets and I am able to save my proceeds through the cooperative. I am so grateful that I am now accustomed to saving money instead of chowing all my money," she said. **Philani Vilakati**, who is part of the programme states that he saves at least E20 every week and now he has E320. "Being part of the cooperatives programme has helped me to become a disciplined person in as far as money is concerned. I no longer have the mentality that I should consume every cent I get. I ensure that in whatever I am able to receive, I have to be disciplined enough to extract savings from it. I am planning to save the money till I reach university so that I can be an independent man," he said.

Precious Ngwenya, who is also part of the programme mentioned that she saves E10 almost every week. "Firstly, I'd like to thank Junior Achievement for introducing this programme to my school. I have now saved E160 through the cooperative.

This programme has made me responsible with money to the extent that I am now able to recognise business opportunities. My outlook in life when it comes to money has shifted from self to considering other people.

My current business is able to assist me buy bread for my family every day, which is something that we were not able to do previously," she said. **Conclusion:** As JA Swaziland continues to roll out the financial literacy programme, the priority remains ensuring that young people fully understand what money is and how it can work for them.

The sooner they are able to grasp that concept; the sooner they will recognise that wealth accumulation relies on how one is able to use money. In order to create an economically stable Kingdom of Eswatini, it become a necessity to expose young people to financial literacy education and practices.

I tell you what, I am far more comfortable in a whole lot more spaces than I was ever was before."

Not to make you wrack your brain too much, we have highlighted the word that the writer has wrongly chosen to use in that sentence: **SYSTEMATIC**. To what can we attribute this lexical misappropriation: abuse, confusion, or misuse?

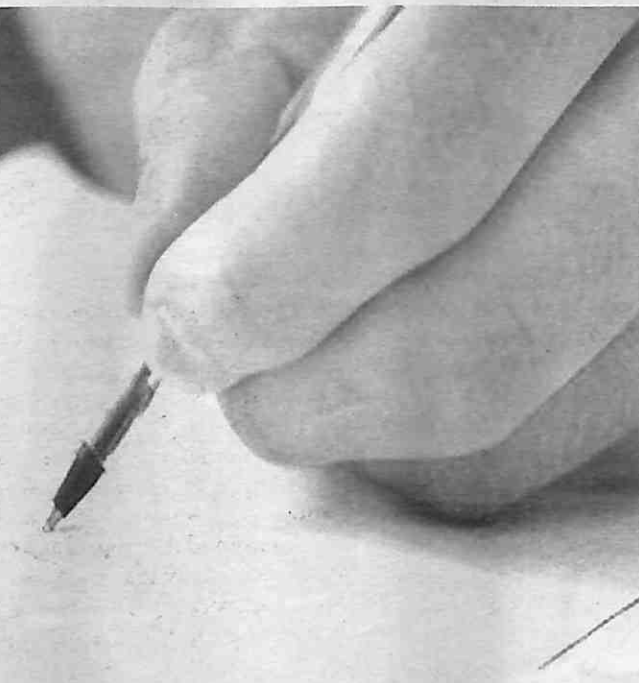
I would say: Confusion. The word, "system," is quite familiar, and so is the adjective that comes from it, "systematic." The problem is: "System" is noun with many meanings. It may refer to a way of doing things or to an entity, something that includes many other parts that can be considered as things by themselves.

The adjective "systematic" pertains to a way of doing things, not to an entity. Find the correct word in the revised sentence that follows: "The real issues around racism are institutional and **SYSTEMIC**; but I tell you what: I am far more comfortable in a whole lot more spaces than I ever was before."

Methinks it is rather easy to confuse the two words: **SYSTEMIC** and

SYSTEMATIC. Whether you concur or not, I do not know! **50 YEARS OF UHURU YET FREEDOM STILL ELUSIVE (1)** is the title of an opinion piece in the Times of Swaziland, January 15, 2018. This is

its opening sentence – quite a long one: "This the year of our Lord 2018 is a milestone in the history of this the Kingdom of eSwatini and the Swazi nation at large in more ways than one, as it is half a century since



TOURISM & TRAVEL

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WHY ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS SHOULD EMBRACE THE STA GRADING EXERCISE



Member of the Grading Committee, STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini.



STA Product Development Officer Siphosiphile Simelane makes his presentation.

However, with the advent of the digital world, many travel sites have developed their own ratings, which is based mainly on user opinion as opposed to regulations adherence. Online star ratings are not as straightforward unfortunately, by and large because ratings vary between travel sites which base much of their information on the customer feedback that is submitted to them. Unfortunately, this can make consistency an issue.

While, now that grading in Eswatini will be voluntary, there may be some few industry players who may still be contemplating whether the exercise will be of any benefit or not. Paying attention to one's star-rating (or indeed just having one in the first place) can impact the business for the better. As already stated; guests are drawn to concise and, what seems to be, truthful information. Furthermore, the stars

could very well be the first thing prospective customers see; hence they play a major role in helping guests choose between one's venue and others in the same area.

It is important to realise that each and every star that represents any accommodation facility means something and can affect that establishment's revenue. It is critical, therefore, that industry players take absolute pride in their establishments, as well as the time to get rated. It could prove all the difference to the overall success of their hospitality business.

Explaining the grading procedure to industry players, the STA revealed that soon after applying for grading, an assessor will call the establishment to set an appointment. The assessor will then visit the facility, and assessment will be done in strict adherence to the grading guidelines, which are readily

available for download from www.thekingdomofeswatini.com. The assessor will then compile a report, which will be then submitted to a grading committee. The committee will study the report, and either query or accept it. Having satisfied itself, the committee will either recommend re-assessment (in the event of queried reports) or award a star rating (in the event of an accepted report). It is essential to note that while grading is voluntary, only registered accommodation facilities can apply to be graded. Registration of accommodation facilities is compulsory, and is done by the Ministry of tourism and environmental affairs, while grading is voluntary and will be done by the Eswatini Tourism Authority (STA). For further information, industry players may call the product development office on 2404 9675 or 2404 1089.

independence from the British in 1968 and, similarly, the 50th birthday anniversary of the Sovereign, His Majesty King Mswati III – ably termed 50/50 anniversary."

Unless my sense of phonetics is terribly awry, I cannot say that the faulty diction in the foregoing sentence is a malapropism, because the word, "ably," does not sound the same to me as "aptly." But this is the correct word that should have chosen for use in that sentence. The phrase should be revised, accordingly: "APTLY termed 50/50 anniversary." "Apt" means, "suitable or appropriate in the circumstances."

If you ask me to estimate the kind of mistake, I would say that choosing to use "ably" instead of "aptly" in that sentence is a faulty diction of misuse. But what do you say: Is it that of abuse, or of confusion?

Oh, lest we forget, there is yet that kind of faulty diction which we cannot say is an abuse, a confusion, or a misuse of words. It is that which is a **MISPRINT** of words, and it is known simply as a **TYPO**.

"Well said Your Majesty!" is the title

of the first editorial in the Times of Swaziland, June 22, 2018.

The second sentence of the first paragraph of the editorial reads, thus: "He would not have put it any better as he stated that those who committee such acts were bringing a curse to themselves."

I am sure you caught the wrong word in that sentence: It is the noun, "committee," of course! My guess is that the printing machine, for whatever reason, added "tee" to the word, "commit," and gave us "committee." Certainly, the word needed here is a verb, not a noun.

Unfortunately, we cannot hold the printing machine accountable for the error. Machines give us what we put in them or what ask them to do. In computer lingo, this is called, **GIGO**: Garbage In, Garbage Out. It is the mind behind the printing machine that made the error of "commit" coming out as "committee," not the machine. If we, human beings, do not mind the error, the machine would not mind it for us. Machines have no mind – no mind of their own!



WRITER'S NOTE...

Good day readers, and a very warm welcome once again to your favourite youth section in the land, ASPIRE, whereby we ASPIRE to INSPIRE young people to be the best version of whatever they ASPIRE to be.

This week, we have an interesting cover star for you and he goes by the name of AKA. Yes, we had a sit-down with the Supermega to talk issues about the music industry do's and don'ts, 'Touch My Blood' and of course his advice to young up-and-coming musicians.

I have to say this was one interesting conversation with one of the continent's leading stars, and to hear him proudly state that passion pays only when you are ready to fully live through it and give it your all was motivating and definitely INSPIRING.

In his words, Mega said, "I am my music. I live, breath and eat my music. You have got to give it your all, otherwise you will gain nothing," he said.

Later on during his performance at Hipnotik, AKA gave a big shout-out to Nasty C and further urged the audience to buy Nasty's album titled 'Strings and Bling', which had dropped just hours earlier.

"A very big shout-out to Nasty C. I will never hate on the youth or downplay their talent. The youth are the future and Nasty reminds me a lot of myself, so please give your support to the young king and make sure that you buy that new album." Anyways, before I give away the whole interview, ladies and gentleman, enjoy the Supermega INSPIRATION on the next page.

On the following page, Andile takes us through United States doctor, Dr Ford's visit to Kobe Ramokgadi High school, where she gave a motivating talk to the students. Dr Ford has been in the country this past week as she looks to impart her knowledge to young girls and INSPIRE them into dreaming without considering gender.

On the same page, we also have more pictures from last week's Nex Generation show. This was the third edition of the platform used to showcase the youth's talents and skills in the entertainment industry.

One the last page, we have our regular column titled the 'Heart's Intentions', brought to you by Mukelo Tembe, who is affectionately known as 'Mookies'. In today's read, 'Mookies' discusses a subject which she deems as the main reasoning behind even having the column in the first place. On the same page, Nokwanda informs us of the face-lift that Spur at The Gables will get.

For comments and feedback, let's continue with the conversation at sbusisodlaminitheg@gmail.com or @penediction on Instagram.

Till we meet again next week, enjoy your read and have a blessed week

Sbudathepenaddict

Aspire

A Youth Section On Youth Issues By The Youth

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July 8, 2018

SUPERMEGA



MAIN INTERVIEW



AKA's fans smiling from ear to ear after getting their 'Touch My Blood' albums autographed. This was during AKA's CD signing ceremony at the Corporate Place on Friday. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)

SUPERMEGA AT THE EPITOME WITH 'TOUCH MY BLOOD'

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

There are interviews that just get you unsettled before you even start, or meet the interviewee, especially when you have to meet with Kiernan Forbes and discuss amongst a range of topics his latest album.

It brings about plenty emotions and your mind is flooded with questions from the on-set, but one thing for sure the anxiousness comes with excitement. AKA is known for being opinionated which is why he easily expresses this in his music, but at the same time he has been perceived as arrogant by those who cannot take his outright truthfulness and strong opinions on certain topics.

So when the day finally came for us to do the interview, the first noticeable thing for me was the power or rather the influence AKA has on this generation. A good 20 minutes before he even set foot at the Corporate Place, local femcees and hard-core AKA fans Originelle and Milkie were leading the audience as they chanted 'Supermega!'

Some were already enquiring on



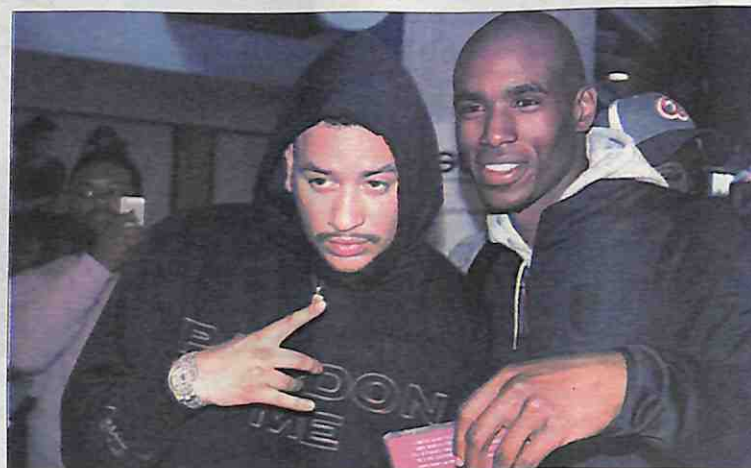
the availability of the 'Touch My Blood' merchandise whilst some rushed to buy the physical 'Touch My Blood' copies in order to get the opportunity of an autograph and even a picture.

And when the moment finally came, you could see it meant a lot to the fans, in-fact AKA proved himself to be the opposite of what he is usually claimed to be. He gladly gave a hug to every fan and made time for small talk before going on with selfies with

the camera clicking from every possible angle and direction.

Drained

He looks tired, drained to be specific, and it's clear that the constant travelling and performance take their toll on the man and his team, and when I saw Master A Flat (AKA's pianist), he simply confirmed it, stating politely; 'We are 'hella' tired bro. We just got here and we still have a performance later on, but as you know with our team, it's all about the fans



and we can only be grateful to have so many of them coming through for the signing.'

Now, the first question I wanted to ask the Mega was the transition or rather re-invention of himself

as an artist. AKA is not the fierce hard-bars metaphorical rapper he was on his first project or the dancer he was one 'Levels'.

"It's very important for one to stay relevant and that cannot come without constant re-invention and just growth. I can never stay in the same place, because I have goals that I have to accomplish. I'm always challenging myself to tap into new avenues because I am my own biggest critique. That's what separates great artists from ordinary ones," he said.

With 'Touch My Blood', AKA and his team have preserved the sound of old school jams that give his sound a distinguished SA feel and he says it's important for young artists to note

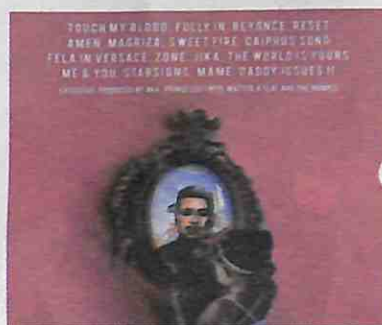
this.

"A lot of artists make the mistake of sounding like other artists and that doesn't create a fan-base for you. You have to

sound distinct and create your own sound if you want to be great. And do things on your own, which will help you grow towards being the best artist you can possibly become."

On a departing note, I asked the Mega to give advice to young aspiring musicians.

"To young people who ASPIRE to be musicians, work extra hard and be passionate. Love what you do and let it take control of you. My music is my life, and that's why it becomes so easy for me to express myself and just lay all my heart out. 'Touch My Blood' has everything for my fans, from dance feel to emotional; it's got a song for everyone," he concludes.



ECSTATIC FANS



MORE FROM NEX GENERATION

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

Last week Saturday marked the third edition of the Nex Generation Initiative, a platform to expose the youth's talent spearheaded by Swazi Boy.

The day saw performances from the likes of Zoe Genesis, Qibho, Bakitsi Ginindza, Jayden Z and Smack N Turn and King Terry, who all brought fire to the stage, much to the applause and delight of the audience. The youth turned out in style, dressed in the latest fashion wear and celebrating their talents with 'clean' fun as alcohol is strictly forbidden in the show. ASPIRE brings you more pictures from the event.



Headlining act of the third edition of the Nex Generation show King Terry performs with one of his bandmates. The show was held at the Swaziland Theatre Club last week Saturday. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)



Nex Generation hosts Feefee the Unicorn and Miss Thuthu.



A section of the crowd enjoying the music.



Zoe Genesis and Originelle on stage.



Tsutsa Gonzales and Samatha Rudd enjoying the proceedings.

DR FORD INSPIRES YOUNG GIRLS

BY ANDILE DLAMINI

Girls from Kobe-Ramokgadi Academy were this past week given motivation to reach for the stars and achieve all their wildest dreams through a talk by guest speaker was Dr Knatokie Ford.

Dr Ford is the founder and CEO of Fly Sci Enterprise, a national advocate for STEM inclusion. Dr Ford works with a number of leading organisations, including YouTube, Amy Poehler's Smart Girls and the Association of National Advertisers, where she serves as the STEM & Entertainment Engagement Advisor for the #SeeHer initiative.

Dr Ford is in the country in a bid to inspire young girls to venture into the world of science, regardless of what the perceptions that many people have when it pertains to young girls and science.

One of the girls from the school recently went to a STEM initiative



Doctor Ford addressing Kobe Ramokgadi Academy pupils.

in Namibia and told her colleagues about her experience and how she never thought she would be eligible for the trip.

"I only had a few hours to write four essays and submit them and

when I got the email I didn't believe my eyes," said the young Chuki Dlamini.

Hard

The doctor went on to tell the girls about how hard it was to be a black



Pupils listening attentively to Dr Ford.

woman pursuing the sciences. She said she had to quit Harvard because she felt that she was not good enough for an Ivy League university.

"I quit the first time at Harvard because the pressures of the university just got to me and I thought I wasn't good enough. The second time around after deciding to go

back to Harvard was even harder for me, because I had to even work harder and prove to myself before anybody else that I could do it," says the accomplished doctor.

The girls seemed moved by her story and were eager to ask her questions and take pictures with her after the seminar.

THE HEART'S INTENTIONS

DESTINED FOR GREATNESS

● You will never understand the power in yourself if you are standing still

WITH MUKELO TEMBE

Do you know what's sad though; the fact that we live in a world where hurt people hurt other people! Just so they can feel good about themselves.

It's sad that we live amongst people who make other people the reason they go down on their knees and talk to God. It's sad that being savage and reckless is considered the best of 'morals'.

It's sad that we live in a world where everybody wants to be known for things that don't add value at all. It's a pity that we've started seeing things at face value and no longer go through all the layers of discovery and emotions of our lives.

It's a shame for the next generation. I don't think our children will be able to know and understand how it's like to just be care-free and have the best childhood. It's a shame that we don't allow ourselves to process heartbreak, stress, to react in whatever way in order to get through and get it out of the system, to process growth - you know the life of a sponge is that it lets water pass through, the way it releases it is how we are supposed to release the obstacles in life. I personally cannot imagine a life without genuine love and peace. Imagine love, a pow-



erful force, the only greatest feeling in life to ever exist and to be felt by the same person you are in that connection with, towards you, imagines mutual thoughts, feelings and satisfactions with or for each other. Imagine depriving yourself a lifetime of this over something that won't matter in the next two minutes of your life.

Ceiling

Imagine yourself sitting and doing nothing with your life and expecting change, imagine, then, doing something with your life but when it's all said and done, and you're alone, with

no one watching and you are not happy with yourself, your tears roll down your eyes every night, while you stare at the ceiling? Look at yourself looking at others and what they are doing and how it's working out for them, look at yourself not loving yourself as much as you love pleasing others, but would you look at yourself losing your being, your soul, your purpose.

Pleasing and pleading with strangers. Look at yourself complaining and comparing, yet you know very well (the length of your five fingers will

never be the same) Do you know that you will never understand the power of water if the water is standing still. (You will never understand the power in yourself if you are standing still).

A little girl was raised to not waste. Taught the value of money and not the amount of it and to make a little go a long way. Told to give more and take less. Never been someone who is patient to be honest but life has made her realise the importance of being so. So many things she didn't have years ago she remembers praying for them that time, she has them

now. There's no doubt in her mind that anything that she's asked for will be granted to her with time. Without having to compromise her principles and values (even a lion, an animal, that wasn't taught anything, will never eat grass). It will not compromise its values, a wild life with class.)

You see the thing about life is you will not overcome fear if you don't confront it. You will only be strong if you walk through the fires with your bare feet, you will have to run, fall countless times, and you need to learn until you get it right. You need shake up until you are unshakable. Fall until you don't break. You need to lift your head up and let your voice be heard. You need to allow people to love you. Just as much as you need a to allow some to leave you. You won't know how it's like to love if you never love. You won't know how it's like to be loved if you've never been loved. You can't win if you've never lost. You can't survive if you've never been through a difficult situation. And you will not spread your wings and fly if you are still holding onto something that is beneath you. Little girl didn't know how strong she was until she realised what she's been through. Little girl didn't know she was the most fearless and bravest. Little girl is not so little anymore, little girl is a big girl, destined for big things. You are destined for greatness.

SPUR GABLES TO GET FACELIFT

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

Already in its eight year, Sheba's Rock Gables is to undergo renovations to ensure better service delivery to their customers. The restaurant was opened back in December 2010 and for the first time its doors will be closed for 12 days.

But worry less as Sibebe Rock Spur, found at the Corporate Place, Mbabane and the newly opened Mdzimba Rock Spur in Manzini, City Centre Plaza, will be opened for business. The restaurant is embarking on these renovations as per their requirements by the head office. At least every six to eight years, a Spur restaurant is expected to revamp their outlet in line with Spur's new spec look.

If you serve delicious food to your customers day after day but are still unable to reap the expected benefits, it's time you reconsidered your restaurant renovation. Even if your restaurant has been doing good business, sometimes it's necessary to give it the right facelift to keep up with the ever-evolving landscape of exciting, shiny and bright new openings.

After the renovations, Sheba's Rock



Spur will host up to 370 guests as opposed to the 320 it caters for now. According to Spur Sibebe Rock Manager Bheki Kunene, the revamp will also present a new menu for all Spur stores.

"The number one reason for Sheba's Rock Spur renovation, besides Spur head office requirement is, there is cutthroat competition in the restaurant space today. To stand out, you

don't need to set up your vision and functional speciality, but also ensure that your restaurant's ambience matches these two perspectives to your brand," said Kunene.

The renovations are also going to bring new and exciting play rooms for children. The existing play canon for children will also get a facelift, an additional room and quality and high-



A family enjoying themselves at the Spur Gables.

priced equipment from the well-known modular play outlets.

The play canon equipment's taller than the Gables Spur building includes; play house modular, gaming machines, super slides, lego table and many more surprises for the parents and the children. "If you plan to host a child's birthday party after the 20th of July, 2018, Sheba's Rock Spur will be the place to be for that party. The play area provides child's presents, balloons, face

paint available and many more engaging activities and for your child's next birthday booking, visit a Spur near you for more information."

Kunene said though making the right impression was important in every industry, it is more so in the restaurant industry where customers paid only for two things: toothsome food and exquisite ambience, and that is what they were aiming to achieve as a restaurant loved by the whole nation.

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Coutinho ready for World Cup backlash

MOSCOW - Brazil star Philippe Coutinho said he was ready for the backlash after the surprise World Cup quarter-final loss to Belgium.

A Fernandinho own goal and Kevin De Bruyne's fine strike helped Belgium to a 2-1 win in Kazan, where substitute Renato Augusto's second-half header gave Tite's men hope.

However, they were unable to find an equaliser despite a frantic finish, the favourites bowing out in the last eight.

"We wanted to go all the way to the final but we've given our best shot. Everyone gave everything," the Barcelona playmaker told SporTV.

"I'm sure will be beaten up by criticism from all sides. Life goes on, that's football. You win and you lose.

"We're sad because we wanted to win badly, like all Brazil. Unfortunately, we couldn't."

The 2018 World Cup may have been the last for several Brazil players, with nine of their 23-man squad in their 30s.

Defender Miranda, 33, was unwilling to confirm his international future, unsure whether it was his last appearance at the showpiece tournament.

"It's hard to talk about it because all players here are part of a generation," he said.

"I won't say goodbye, but I also won't confirm that I'll be there for the next World Cup."

Goal



'BITTER' BRAZIL BOSS TITE KEEPS QUIET ON FUTURE

MOSCOW - Brazil coach Tite left questions hanging over his future but refused to point the finger as the five-time champions crashed out of the World Cup after a 2-1 quarter-final defeat to Belgium.

Four years after the drama of Neymar's injury and a humiliating 7-1 semi-final defeat to Germany on home soil, Brazil were forced back to the drawing board as they followed neighbours Argentina, Uruguay and Colombia in exiting the tournament earlier than hoped. Brazil had been undefeated in their last 15 games under Tite, a streak in which a resurgent Selecao had conceded only three

goals.

Their World Cup hopes were turned upside down in 31 first-half minutes when Fernandinho's 13th minute own goal put Belgium ahead before a superb strike from Kevin De Bruyne left Brazil, and Neymar, staring at a spectacular defeat. Tite admitted it was a "bitter" defeat, but he brushed aside suggestions he could resign.

"I'm not going to talk about the future, I'm not thinking about the future," said the 56-year-old.

"I will do a general assessment of the match and our campaign, but I won't be making any comments on individuals.

"This is not very human. And

we also have to look at the global context. "We played a match in which we had lots of possession, a lot of opportunities, but in terms of effectiveness... Belgium managed to turn their opportunities into goals. "They weren't superior to us on the pitch, but more efficient. That's certain." Neymar, who appeared in great form when scoring once and setting up another in a 2-0 last 16 win over Mexico, failed to spark on the night despite testing Belgium keeper Thibaut Courtois at the death. The Paris Saint-Germain star, left in tears at the final whistle, refused to talk to waiting media. Real Madrid defender Marcelo, who was a threat

to Belgium throughout, thanks to his marauding runs down the left flank, summed up feelings when he said: "It was a horrible night." Tite could only concur.

"It's a heavy, bitter feeling. This was very hard for us to swallow," he said. "I'm not going to say we were unlucky. Belgium have top quality players like De Bruyne, (Romelu) Lukaku, (Eden) Hazard and even (Vincent) Kompany and Courtois. "They're top players."

As Brazil's dream of a record-extending sixth World Cup ended, Roberto Martinez's Belgium ended a 32-year wait to reach the final four of the tournament.

AFP

Lukaku shows he is capable of more

MOSCOW - Belgium's Romelu Lukaku moved closer to his desire to be considered more of an all-round footballer with an assist that set up Kevin De Bruyne for the decisive goal in Friday's World Cup quarterfinal win over Brazil.

The powerfully built striker showed a quick turn of pace as he moved out of defence after Belgium won possession from a corner, crossing the halfway line and driving upfield before feeding De Bruyne, who then advanced a few metres before striking a superb shot into the corner.

It ensured Belgium a 2-0 half-time lead and although Brazil pulled one back after the interval, proved the difference at the Kazan Arena, propelling Belgium to the last four of the World Cup for only the second time.

"Everyone thinks Romelu Lukaku is just about goals, goals, goals," said the Manchester United player, "but I want to be seen as an all-

rounder. Providing assists is also important, and this year I have provided more than ever.

"Of course, I want to score but, at the same time, I try to work as hard as I can for the team. I don't have to prove myself any more (as a goal-scorer). Everyone knows I can score with every chance provided to me in the box, but the individual doesn't count here."

For De Bruyne, the euphoria that followed Friday's win needs some tempering with nothing achieved yet by Belgium's "golden generation".

"In football it's all about the winning of titles and it is when I've won trophies that I have had my greatest memories in the game.

Scoring against Brazil is not the best moment of my career.

"We haven't won the World Cup. For that we still need to win two more matches," De Bruyne added. It starts with the semifinal against France in St Petersburg on Tuesday and if Belgium, who previously got to the 1986 semi-finals, win that, the final in Moscow next Sunday.

GOAL



Maturing France must stifle Lukaku and Hazard, says Varane

ST PETERSBURG - A day after scoring his first goal of the World Cup, France defender Raphael Varane has turned his thoughts to how his team can stifle Belgium's potent attack when the sides meet in Tuesday's semi-final in St Petersburg.

Varane, who headed home Antoine Griezmann's free kick to open the scoring for France in their 2-0 quarter-final victory over Uruguay on Friday, said he was pleased at how France's relatively young team was maturing as they progressed.

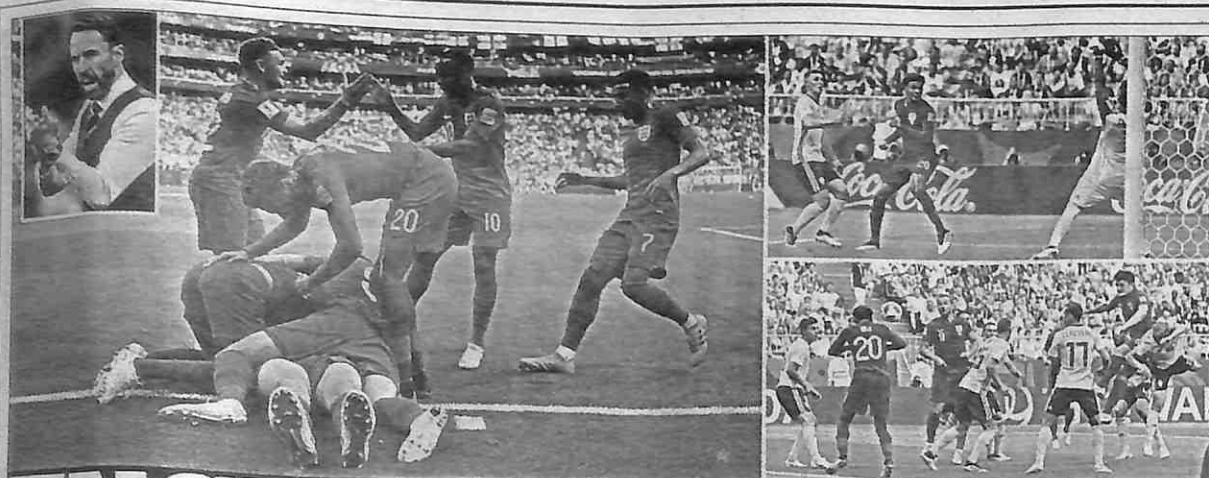
"I'm happy to have been decisive (by scoring). It's a great pleasure," the Real Madrid centre back told reporters yesterday. "We were faced with a physical challenge yesterday and we dealt with it.

"Experience counts in these big competitions and it helps to avoid small mistakes. We have a relatively young team, but we've shown maturity and have been growing since the tournament started.

"We're solid defensively and have been able to adapt to our opponents. We can also vary our game, which it is a massive strength." Belgium showed plenty of attacking flair in their 2-1 win over Brazil in the other quarter-final and Varane singled out forward Romelu Lukaku and playmaker Eden Hazard as two of the players the French would have to be wary of. "It's a World Cup semi-final... there are no favourites," he added. "We'll have to outdo ourselves and give our best, take each match as it comes, and see how far we can go. "Belgium are young, but they are maturing. We know it will be a tough match.... Romelu Lukaku's physicality can trouble any defence. We can't leave him any space because he's a quality player. "As for Eden, I've already played against him when he was at Lille. He has great qualities and is a good dribbler. We can't give him any space either, so it is going to take a collective effort."

Goal





ENGLAND MARCH ON

SAMARA - England have booked their place in the semi-finals of the World Cup after bettering Sweden in Samara and coming out on top with a 2-0 victory.

The Three Lions took first blood in the fixture courtesy of Harry Maguire, rising highest on the half, hour mark to meet an Ashley Young corner and send the ball crashing into the back of the net.

After surviving an early scare early in the second half, England soon had their second, with Dele Alli heading home Jesse Lingard's first-time, curling cross.

Harry Maguire and Dele Alli scored headers as England booked their place in a first World Cup semi-final since 1990.

The Three Lions will face either Croatia or hosts on Wednesday.

Russia England dominated after making a slow start, Maguire scoring from Ashley Young's left-wing corner after half an hour to put Gareth Southgate's

side on track. Jordan Pickford made tremendous saves to deny Marcus Berg and Viktor Claesson either side of Alli doubling England's lead, the midfielder nodding in Jesse Lingard's centre.

Although the World Cup's top scorer Harry Kane was muted, England held Sweden at bay to follow up their penalty success against Colombia with a more comfortable victory.

Sweden had advanced from three of their four previous World Cup quarter-finals but could not find a way to beat Pickford as the Three Lions marched on to the semis.

Claesson hammered the game's first shot over the crossbar in the 12th minute as a cagey start saw both sides play loose passes due to early nerves.

Raheem Sterling then set up Golden Boot leader Kane, who slotted wide, with England - playing in their first World Cup quarter-final since 2006 - starting

to find their feet.

And they took the lead in the 30th minute with their eighth set-piece goal of the tournament.

Young's outswinging corner found Maguire to power home his first international goal, goalkeeper Robin Olsen and Ola Toivonen on the line unable to stop the defender's downward header.

The offside flag spared Sterling's blushes when Kieran Trippier's long-range pass sent him clear to miss and the forward soon wasted another chance from Jordan Henderson's lofted throughball.

Olsen did well initially with a strong hand to deny Sterling, who dallied with the rebound and allowed Andreas Granqvist to make a vital block.

Pickford was called into action for the first time shortly after the restart, diving to his left to palm away a header from Berg, who climbed above Young at the back post. *Daily Mail*

Nadal, Del Potro, Raonic reach fourth round

LONDON - Two-time champion Rafael Nadal reached the Wimbledon last 16 yesterday and made sure of keeping the world NO. 1 ranking at the same time.

The second seed comfortably defeated Australian teenager Alex De Minaur 6-1, 6-2, 6-4. Nadal, the 11-time French Open champion and bidding for an 18th career major, will face either Italy's Fabio Fognini or Jiri Vesely of the Czech Republic for a place in the quarterfinals.

Fifth seed Juan Martin del Potro overcame service troubles and Benoit Paire's fine serve-and-volley game to beat the Frenchman 6-4 7-6(4) 6-3 on Court Two and reach the Wimbledon fourth round for the fourth time yesterday. The big Argentine world number four, who has yet to drop a set, looked on for a routine win before meeting sterner resistance in the second set from Paire, who delighted the crowd with his drop shots and a break of serve to go 4-2 up. Del Potro, a semi-finalist in 2013, immediately broke back after a slip by Paire and fears he might have hurt his heavily bandaged knee, but the Frenchman resumed and saw the set through to the tiebreak, but lost it 7-4. The 47th-ranked Paire, who reached the fourth round last year and won his only previous meeting with Del Potro in Rome in 2013, then had a rant at the umpire after a successful challenge to an out call.

"What are you doing, it was right on the line," he shouted evidently unimpressed with the umpire's calls. Del Potro, looking for a second Grand Slam title after the US Open in 2009, marched into a 3-0 lead in the deciding set only to allow Paire back to 3-3 with a broken service game that included three double faults. *AFP*

'Nothing left in the tank over 1500m'

JOHANNESBURG - Go hard or die trying. That was pretty much Caster Semenya's approach in Thursday night's metric mile at the Lausanne Diamond League meeting where she finished in sixth place.

Semenya still managed to post the second fastest 1500m time of her career, crossing the line in 4:00.44. Covering the first three laps in Lausanne at a suicidal pace, Semenya's wheels came off with 200 metres to go. "The last 200m I just had nothing left, I thought I would be able to change the last gear but it wasn't there and it wasn't meant to be," Semenya said.

"There was just no movement, there was no power from 200m. I ran a good race but at 200m I couldn't lift the legs."

Semenya decided to stay with a flying Gudaf Tsegay of Ethiopia, who desperately tried to shake the South African. "I've never chased someone like that in my whole life but I

knew we are going to chase Tsegay," she said. "Of course you need to run your own race and at the end of the day you need to try your best but it just wasn't meant to be." With her tank running on empty, the world's best two-lap racer had to watch as the rest of the pack moved past her. American Shelby Houlihan produced a ruthless kick, winning the race clocking the second fastest time in the world this year of 3:57.34.

She was followed by Great Britain's Laura Muir in second place with 3:58.18 and Sifan Hassan of The Netherlands in third place posting 3:58.39. Semenya was left perplexed about how she had let the race slip from her grasp, with coach Samuel Sepeng looking to find answers in the post-mortem.

"It is about planning, we will have to go back to the drawing board and see what happened today," Sepeng said. *AFP*



Anderson predicts next African star '10-20 years away'

LONDON - Kevin Anderson believes it could take "10-20" years before Africa produces another Grand Slam contender such as himself.

The big South African, ranked at eight in the world, reached the Wimbledon last 16 on Friday for the fourth time. He has already struck a blow for the continent by becoming the first South African man in 33 years to reach a Grand Slam final when he finished runner-up to Rafael Nadal at the US Open last year.

However, the cupboard is bare otherwise. He is the only South African man in the top 200. The leading Egyptian is 27-year-old Mohammed Safwat ranked at 175, while Morocco's

top man is Lamine Ouahab at 629.

That is particularly heartbreaking for the proud North African nation which in the 1990s boasted the likes of Younes El Aynaoui, who reached 14 in the world, Hicham Arazi, a former No. 22, and Karim Alami who peaked at 25.

Alami even defeated the great Pete Sampras in his prime.

"I have been at the top of South African tennis for pretty much a decade now," said Anderson.

"I have always said my biggest hope is that players, especially junior players in South Africa, watch me on TV or wherever, I'm a sort of source of inspiration for them to pick up the game of tennis, to pursue it." *AFP*

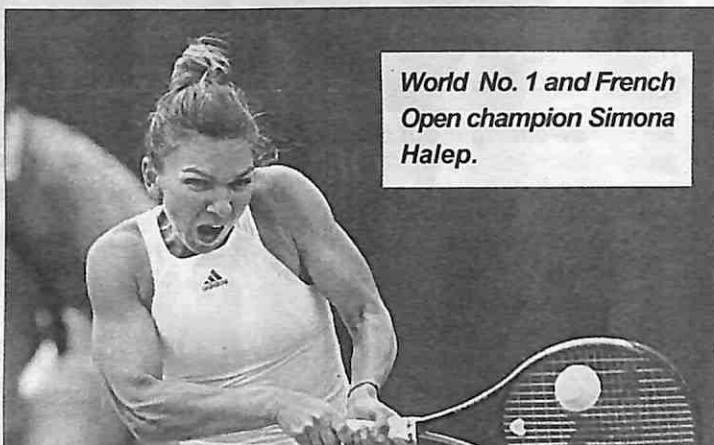
World No. 1 Simon Halep knocked out of Wimbledon

LONDON - World No. 1 and French Open champion Simona Halep was knocked out of Wimbledon yesterday, losing to Taiwan's Hsieh Su-Wei 3-6, 6-4, 7-5 in the third round.

Hsieh, the world NO. 48, battled back from 2-5 down in the final set and halted Halep who served for the match at 5-3 in the decider.

It will be Hsieh's first appearance in the last 16 of a Slam where she will face Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia for a place in the quarterfinals.

"It's my first win against a world number one," said 26-year-old Hsieh. "It's amazing. I was 2-5 down in the final set but the crowd pushed me to fight." *AFP*



World No. 1 and French Open champion Simona Halep.

Hamilton pips Sebastian Vettel to land record sixth British Grand Prix pole position

LONDON - Lewis Hamilton is perfectly placed to win a record sixth British Grand Prix after snatching a dramatic pole position at Silverstone.

Hamilton and title rival Sebastian Vettel traded blows during a topsy-turvy qualifying session, but the Briton took his fourth consecutive pole and sixth in total at his home race with his final lap.

Hamilton's 1:25.892 was a new lap record at Silverstone and edged out Vettel by less than a tenth of a second.

Vettel - who leads Hamilton by a single point in the championship after nine races - will start alongside his fellow four-time world champion on the front row with Ferrari team-mate Kimi Raikkonen in third and Valtteri Bottas fourth. The Red Bulls of Max Verstappen and Daniel Ricciardo will line up on the third row. "I gave it everything I could,"

said a breathless Hamilton. "It was so close between these Ferraris, the Ferraris just pulled something out when it got to Q3 and I was just praying I could do it for you guys [the fans]."

Vettel said: "I was very happy with the last lap but we seemed to lose a lot of time on the straights. I'm happy with second and it gives us a good chance for tomorrow."

Vettel had treatment on a neck strain before qualifying, but showed no ill effects as he drew first blood.

The German's 1:26.585 was more than two tenths better than Hamilton's opening salvo.

Hamilton responded with a 1:26.256 in the second session to edge Vettel out by a tenth.

Hamilton became the first man to dip below the 86-second mark at the start of the final session, but Vettel eclipsed his effort by just six one-hundredths of a second moments later. *Daily Mail*

WINILE MNISI CLAIMS JM BUSHA LADIES TITLE

STORIES BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

ATHLETICS – Seasoned Royal Eswatini Police's (REP) athlete Winile Mnisi won the 21.54km race in the ladies category.

Mnisi clocked 1:30:56 to come out tops, albeit out-rightly stating that she was not impressed with her performance.

"I wasn't impressed at all with my performance today. My time is horrible and I didn't even enjoy the race because I hadn't properly trained for

it. If you don't prepare very well, then you won't enjoy the race. It will seem like a burden and you will only drag yourself until you reach the finish line," she said.

Mnisi then attributed her success to experience. "To be honest with you, I only won because of experience today.

Otherwise, my performance wasn't impressive at all and it was due to the fact that I didn't train well for the race and it showed," he said.

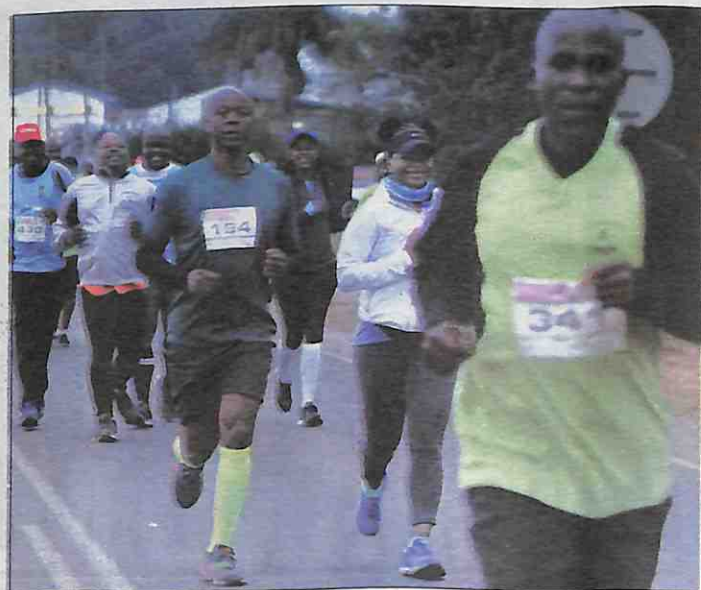
Mnisi was followed by Velaphi Sibandze and Nomvula Ntjalintjali, who clocked

1:32:54 and 1:33:54, respectively.

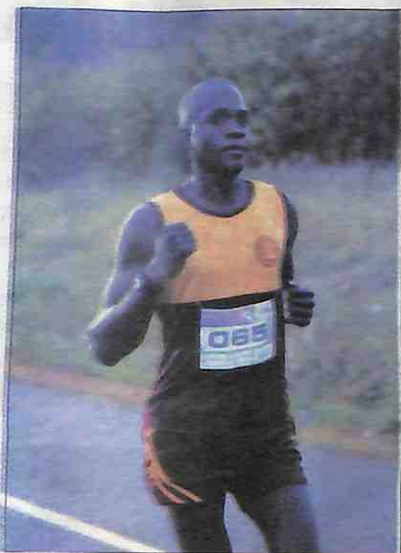
Meanwhile, UEDF's young shining star Khanyisile Hlatjwako continued to excel as he came out tops in the 5.4km category, clocking an inspiring 24:27 minutes. When interviewed, the 16-year-old described the race as easy.

"Today was a walk in the park. I didn't struggle at all.

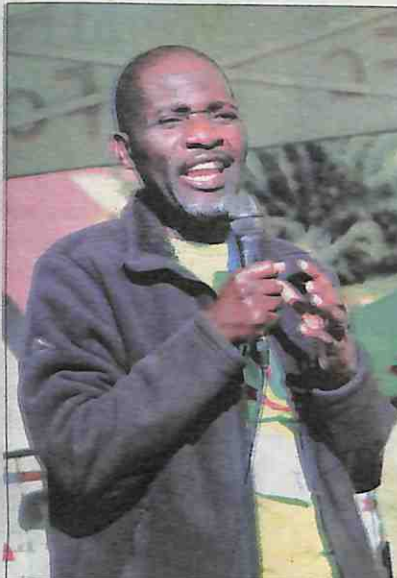
I was just on the road doing what I love, and the competition wasn't as tough so I felt like I was just going through a routine training drill. I really enjoyed myself," she said.



Athletes from all walks of life in the kingdom and beyond enjoying the inaugural JM Busha race which was held at Malkerns yesterday.



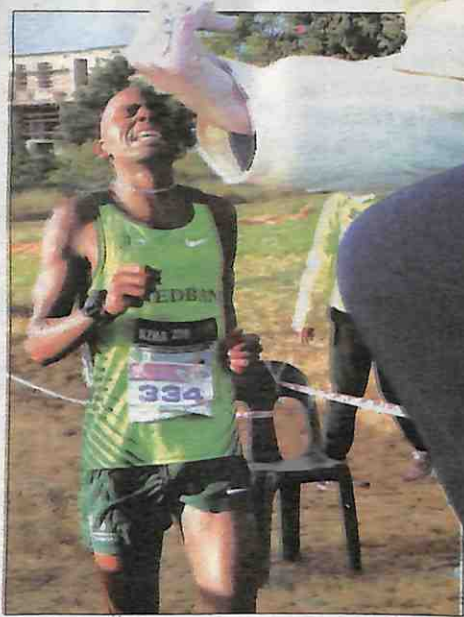
Mnisi sweating it out on the race.



JM Busha CEO Joseph Busha delivering his speech.



REP's Winile Mnisi crosses the finish line.



Second-placed South African based athlete Bonginkhosi Mavuso.



Winner of the male category Melusi Sihlongonyane crosses the finish line.

...Minister Cruiser, sponsor impressed

ATHLETICS – Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala and sponsors of the JM Busha race expressed contentment with the inaugural edition.

The minister, who participated in the 5.4km of the race held at Malkerns yesterday, lauded the sponsor for the initiative as well as the organisers.

"Firstly, let me thank the sponsor for coming through to support sports. In our era, sports do not only just play a role as a vehicle of peace and unity, but it can now be a career and this becomes possible with the help of more people who think

like Busha. He is also interested in other sports as well and that can only be of benefit to us as people of Eswatini," he said.

Meanwhile, the sponsor Joseph Busha of JM Busha Investments Group, said he was pleased with the first edition.

"Well, it's been great to see the race come to fruition like it has. I'm glad that people came out in numbers and can only hope that we will get better as we continue," he said. Golden Foot President Tokky Hou, who was the organiser, was also all smiles after the race.

"Everything went so well and we are very happy. Since this was the inaugural edition, we can only hope to get better during the coming years," she said briefly.

Golden Foot President Tokky Hou warms up before leading the aerobics session.



Golden Foot members having fun during the race.

SA'S DECLAN SIDNEY WINS 2018 NGWENYA MTB

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

CYCLING – South African cyclist Declan Sidey beat over 30 cyclists to claim his first victory in the Ngwenya Mountain Bike 75km challenge held yesterday morning.

The 23-year-old Cape Town born cyclist showed character and determination to snatch the crown after finishing as a runner-up to last year's winner Maxx Knox, who did not take part in the event this year.

The lanky rider clocked a time of 03:18:48 hours to become champion of the annual race sponsored by Ngwenya Glass.

Interviewed after crossing the finish line, Sidey said he was excited to win the MTB competition.

"I am delighted to be the winner after finishing as a runner-up last year. I improved drastically this year. I think my stamina helped me a lot as the route was very challenging but I soldiered on until the end. I am coming back next year to defend my crown and also because this competition is about charity," he said. Meanwhile runner-up also from South Africa Heine Engelbrecht, said he was happy to finish second,



2018 Ngwenya national MTB champion Declan Sidey chatting with his friend during the race held yesterday at Ngwenya. (Pics: Sibusiso Masilela)

especially after encountering an accident in the opening stage of the race.

"I think this is an achievement for me after having a minor accident in the first 5km of the race. I lost focus for a while but managed to pick up and continue with the race," he said.

MTN Khemani and national team star Muzi Shabangu clocked 03:43:05 hours to also become the first Liswati to cross the finish line. He finished

fourth overall after Samantha Sanders from South Africa, who also became the first lady to cross the finish line.

Shabangu said he was content with his performance but stated that he still needed to work hard in improving his mountain biking skills.

"The race was very competitive and I need to work extra hard in the MTB. I am, however, confident that I will do better next year," he said.

The provisional Results

70km	
1. Declan Sidey	03:18:48
2. Heine Engelbrecht	03:26:24
3. Muzi Shabangu	03:43:05
4. William Kelly	03:48:37
5. Ayanda Dlamini	03:54:17

Ladies

1. Samantha Sanders	03:30:22
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42km

Males	
1. Sihle Dlamini	02:05:17
2. Similo Nyoni	02:09:09
3. Qiniso Dlamini	02:16:13
4. Nkosingiphile Masilela	02:16:40
5. Lungelo Dlamini	02:17:28

Females

1. Johlene Faul	02:39:57
2. Lucinde Bride	02:48:04
3. Wendy Reed	02:48:04
4. Iris Varty	02:51:37
5. Cordelia Henwood	03:18:08

20km

1. Richard Dame	01:04:08
2. Mthokozisi Bhembe	01:07:34
3. Tiaan Kies	01:09:05
4. Mfanisibili Dlamini	01:10:53
5. Bonginkhosi Maziya	01:14:51

Women

1. Tanya Beardsley	01:12:13
2. Kyla Hamer	01:19:40
3. Norael Schiller	01:25:23
4. Alison Evans	01:27:54
5. Lyla Berman	01:28:22

7km

Men

1. Uviwe Vilakati	00:29:24
2. Romeo Jele	00:29:25
3. Lethani Ndzandzaba	00:30:21
4. Come Venter	00:32:27
5. Rhys Becker	00:32:59

Women

1. Eryn Webb	00:31:35
2. Renske Verwey	00:34:39
3. Morgan Becker	00:35:35
4. Phumelele Nkonyane	00:38:42
5. Sierra Du Point	00:39:12



Para-cyclists being assisted by Cheshire Homes officials during their race.

Para-cyclists impress at Ngwenya MTB

CYCLING – The 2018 Ngwenya Mountain Bike challenge did not attract international cyclists but it is also unveiled para-cyclists.

About 10 para-cyclists from Cheshire Home joined the over 400 cyclists that were part of the race and they competed in the 50m race. The cyclists amazed the crowd with their talents as they raced to the finish line with the help of the organisation's staffers led by Chairman of the Board Themba Dlamini. Interviewed after the race, Dlamini thanked Ngwenya Glass for supporting the organisation over the past three years.

"We are grateful to Ngwenya Glass for their continued support to our organisation. We are also humbled to be part of this event where our

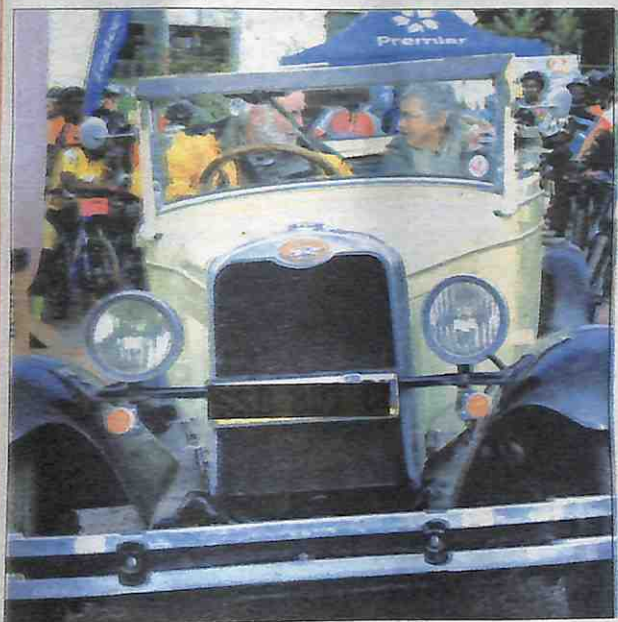
members displayed their sporting skills. We also commend the Cycling Association of Swaziland for organising such a good cycling environment in the country," he said.

Meanwhile, Ngwenya Glass Director Garry Hauter said they were happy with the attendance recorded on the day.

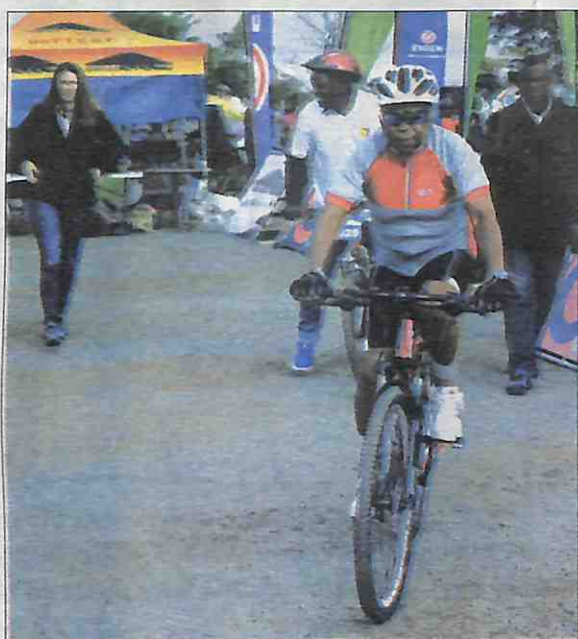
"We are happy and excited to see such a huge number of cyclists attending the race as well as those from Cheshire Homes. We are still going to determine the proceeds from the race which will then be donated to Cheshire Homes.

We would also like to thank government and the Cycling Association of Swaziland (CAS) for supporting the event," he said.

The race was also graced by the Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini.



Ngwenya Glass property founders leading cyclists before the start of the 2018 Mountain Bike challenge race.



Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini was among the participants.

Local Brazilian fan gracious in defeat after World Cup exit

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – Locally based Brazilian fan Pedro Frowan was a happy man despite watching his national team crash out of the 2018 FIFA World Cup to Belgium after a 2-1 defeat on Friday night.

Frowan said he was impressed with his country's performance when interviewed during the MultiChoice Swaziland activation held at Mountain Inn Hotel.

"I am happy with the manner in which my country played the match even though we didn't advance to the semi-finals.

The boys played very well and I believe that we still have a bright future in football as a country. I am also humbled to be part of the activation with other football supporters and I am looking forward to be part of another activation before the end of the ongoing FIFA World Cup," he said.

There were only two winners of the Multi Choice predict the score winners in Dixon Kunene and Muzi Ntshalintshali.

The winners both thanked Multi Choice for introducing the football activations. Meanwhile, Multi Choice Swaziland Public Relations Officer (PRO) Dumsile Masuku said they were happy with the attendance on the night.

"We are quite pleased with the attendance of the spectators tonight and we are still going to host three activations before the end of the World Cup," she said.



Multichoice Swaziland Public Relations Officer Dumsile Masuku poses with FIFA World Cup predict the score winners Muzi Ntshalintshali and Dixon Kunene. This was during soccer activation held at the Mountain Inn Hotel on Friday night. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Local Brazilian supporter Pedro Frowan posing with Masuku after the prize presentation.

FIFA WORLD CUP
RUSSIA 2018

WITH LULU

I see a France vs England World Cup final. Belgium will not be an easy opponent for France, especially with a fellow Frenchman Thierry Henry on their technical team.

Henry knows France's style of play and I am certain also he will want to silence any critics and just prove the Belgians where his loyalties lie, so I am saying he will push his team but I don't see them winning against a well structured France team.

I will be honest, at some point I was sensing a Croatia vs Belgium final but the way France and England have been playing with so much determination, you can see they are in it to win it.

These stages are so intense though you even forget to see chests, legs and muscles. It's just full on soccer but the thing is for a lot of football like their dear fans say, England isn't playing enough football. Their passing game, no *tsamayas* or *shibobos* it's so plain and boring.

You would expect the home of football dish out the best performances but England only gets the results, otherwise there is nothing to write home. Over and above all of that, I am beginning to believe Englishmen are not hot, their physique isn't compelling, it's just plain like their style of play. Even Kane as tall as he is, he doesn't have that thing that you right a story about. I even saw a picture of him wearing a tracksuit and he looked so funny.

With that said, ladies and gentlemen if you must make a bet right now, make it in favour of France and the finalist will be England.



ITS MATSAPHA GOVT VS MANGWANENI IN SRIC SCARA THINDWA FINALS

STORIES BY
SIBUSISO DLAMINIMatsapha Government... (3)6
Hlutse..... (0)0

SOCCER – Defending champions of the SRIC Scara Thindwa Under-13 tournament, Matsapha Government, edged closer to defending their title after claiming an emphatic 6-0 victory against Hlutse.

This was during a semi-final encounter played at the Manzini Club on Friday. They will now take on Mangwaneni in the finals to be played next week at a venue still to be confirmed.

The Sibusiso Fakudze-led charges were dominant from the on-set with Royal Leopard development star

Sentelweyinkhosi Dube dominating at the belly of the park, and linking up well with fellow Royal Leopard teammate Sibahle Gadlela to break the deadlock 10 minutes into the encounter.

He then turned to scorer in the 25th minute, with a fine finish following a million-dollar pass from Vamokuhle Dube on the right-flank.

The lanky Sentelweyinkhosi then added the third in the 38th minute, capitalising on a defensive error from their opponents, which saw the match go into break with Government lead-

ing 3-0.

After the recess, Government came back stronger and Vamokuhle opened his account with a beautiful free-kick to make it 4-0 in favour of the blue and white ensemble. Matsapha were not done as Vamokuhle claimed his brace three minutes later, finishing off with a beautiful curler to beat the troubled Sanele Dlamini who was manning the poles for Hlutse.

Captain Sentelweyinkhosi Dube then claimed his hat-trick and the team's sixth to march into the finals against Mangwaneni who beat Nhlengano Central 2-1 on penalties to book their spot in the final showpiece.



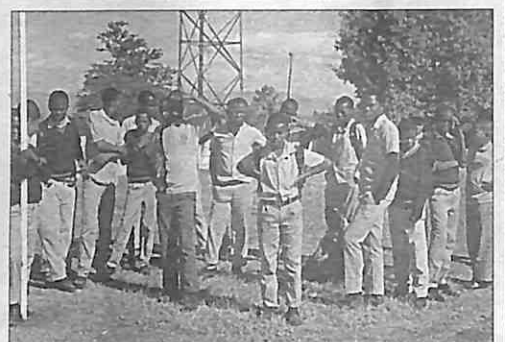
Matsapha Government Primary pupils celebrating their emphatic 6-0 win against Hlutse. This was during the semi-finals of the SRIC Scara Thindwa tournament played at the Manzini Club on Friday. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)



Sihlangu mentor Anthony Mdluli was also officiating during the games.



Matsapha Government hat-trick hero Sentelweyinkhosi Dube tries to negotiate his way past two Hlutse players.



Hlutse Primary pupils looked disappointed after the match.

...Captain is over-age - Hlutse coach

SOCCER – Hlutse Primary coach Mangaliso Mdluli has cried foul over the use of over-age players in the tournament, making special reference to Matsapha Government Primary hat-trick hero Sentelweyinkhosi Dube.

The player, who was a marvel to watch during the match, dribbling and passing with unmatched accuracy and precision, deservedly grabbed three goals in the match.

Mdluli said he had watched Sentelweyinkhosi play the tournament for the past three years and was shocked as to how he had not gone over the Under-13 mark.

"That player is simply over-age. There's no two way about it. It's clear that he wasn't playing with his peers because he was simply way better than them. I have watched him for the past three consecutive years and I don't understand how in the world he can still be an Under-13 player," he said. Meanwhile, his Matsapha Government counterpart Sibusiso Fakudze disputed the claims, stating that it was a pity that the opponents would downplay the boy's talent with such diminishing comments.

"It is really disappointing that schools will come with such ludicrous comments, all because they are trying to make an excuse as to why they cannot match us. They cannot match us because our players train and play competitive matches on a regular basis so obviously, they will be head and shoulders above their peers in terms of technique and even fitness," he said.

REP STILL UNBEATEN IN SBS NETBALL LEAGUE

STORIES BY JONGILE XUBA

NETBALL – The Royal Eswatini Police netball team continue to dominate the Swaziland Building Society (SBS) Elite Netball League.

REP went into yesterday's clash against Manzini Ladies on the back of a 10 game unbeaten streak which had seen them sit at the top spot of the SBS Elite League since the return from the break. REP played another strong match as they beat Manzini Ladies 89-27, making it 11 wins on the trot. In a clash of the forces, Correctional were up against UEDF, with Correctional winning 75-24 proving to be too much for the army side.

National Netball Association of Swaziland Management Committee Chairperson Charles

SBS ELITE NETBALL RESULTS:

REP	89
Manzini Ladies	27
Correctional	75
UEDF	24

Magagula said they were happy with the way that the league was going. "The league is well under way and we are happy with the way teams are playing and the quality of netball being played. We hope that all the league games will be over later this month as we look to get ready for upcoming international events," said Magagula.

Tournaments the chairperson was referring to are the COSAFA Games for the U-17 national netball team in Windhoek, Namibia, later this month and the World Qualifiers in Zambia during August for the senior national team.

Table Tennis AGM postponed

TABLE TENNIS – The Swaziland National Table Tennis Association (SNTTA) was forced to postpone their Annual General Meeting (AGM) after the members failed to form a quorum.

The meeting was scheduled for the OlympAfrica Centre in Lobamba yesterday. The postponement of the AGM also meant an extended stay for the current executive committee in office as the elections could not be conducted. SNTTA Vice President Percy Zulu said it was decided that an organising committee that would look into the running of the association be formed. "We couldn't carry on with the meeting as few members showed up today (yesterday)."

We have, however, set up an organising committee that will be responsible for promoting table tennis in the country as well as coordinate tournaments." Zulu then appealed to the corporate world to consider assisting the association in its efforts to create awareness on the sport. "Creating awareness on the sport would attract more locals to come and join it," he said.

WANDERERS POWER STRUGGLE DEEPENS!

STORIES BY SIBONGISENI ZONDI

SOCCER - The power struggle at Manzini Wanderers has taken yet another turn with the club's Council of Elders appointing a new Management Committee without the consent of the current embattled Board of Directors.

Confusion has engulfed Wanderers ever since the club's powerful supporters backed South African businessman Mehluhi Nhlengethwa to take over the side last month. However, the current board of directors at the club, led by Sandile 'Chief' Dlamini have refused to step down, insisting that Nhlengethwa should come on board and work with them. Reverend Percy Mngomezulu and Peter Mathaba are the two other Directors.

Nhlengethwa eventually released a statement ending all interest in joining the 'Weslians.' However, the club's Council of Elders, together with the powerful National Supporters Committee (NSC) have now taken matters into their own hands, setting up an interim management structure at the club which does not feature the three embattled directors.

The council, together with the



NSC, have written to the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) informing the organisation of the changes at the club.

"This serves to inform you that Manzini Wanderers will from the above mentioned date be represented by these people as governors: 'Bhanyaza' (Bongani) Mdluli, Bheki Magongo and Themba Tsabedze," reads part of the letter dated July 2.

The letter is signed by Chairman of the Council of Elders Sipho Ntshalintshali and NSC Chairman Lucky 'Majaivane' Dlamini. Governors represent clubs at the

PLS. It is understood that the PLS has requested the club to get one of the current directors to sign the letter for the changes to be officially recognised.

However, the directors have refused to back these changes and in a message sent to this publication yesterday, 'Chief' Dlamini said only the Board had power to effect changes at Wanderers.

"At Manzini Wanderers, the only organ that has authority to effect any changes is the Board of Directors

and no other structure has a legal stand to make any decisions. All decisions pertaining to Manzini Wanderers have to be sanctioned by the Board," Dlamini wrote.

Reached for comment on the issue, Wanderers CEO Pat Mahlalela said he was in a meeting and would be for the better part of the afternoon.

Wanderers players boycotted training for three days last week in a bid to force the current Directors as well as coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophle out of the club.

It is also worth noting that Mdluli represents Wanderers in the case involving striker Kola Aledon where the 'Weslians' and rivals Mbabane Swallows have to appear before the

Eswatini Football Association Players' Status Committee regarding the player's ownership.

New Wanderers Governors

Bongani 'Bhanyaza' Mdluli
Bheki Magongo
Themba Tsabedze



Chicco Kunene is new Wanderers manager

SOCCER - Former XI Men coach Chicco Kunene is the new Manager of Manzini Wanderers.

Kunene, who also has a club in the Lubombo Super League by the name of CK Survivors, has been named as part of an interim management structure at the 'Weslians' sanctioned by the club's Council of Elders and National Supporters Committee (NSC). The Elders have already informed the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) of the proposed changes in a letter dated July 2, 2018. In the proposed structure, CEO Pat Mahlalela keeps his position as does Technical Director Jerry 'Mbazo' Gamedze. Contacted on the latest developments yesterday, Kunene said he would comment once a few details had been ironed out. "Yes, they have informed me but that is all I can say for now. I think I will be able to say more probably in a week's time because there are still a few things that need to be sorted out," Kunene said.

It is understood that this new structure has been designed to allow a smooth transition of power from the current Board of Directors to South African businessman Mehluhi Nhlengethwa. However, when contacted yesterday, Secretary to the Wanderers Board Sandile 'Chief' Dlamini said only them (Directors) could make changes at the club.

"At Manzini Wanderers, the only organ that has authority to effect any changes is the Board of Directors and no other structure has a legal stand to make any decisions. All decisions pertaining to Manzini Wanderers have to be sanctioned by the Board," Dlamini wrote in a message sent to this publication.

Wanderers Interim Management Committee:

Pat Mahlalela:	CEO
Erick Vilakati:	Treasurer
Chicco Kunene:	Manager
Mandla Dlamini:	Caretaker/ Kit Manager
Sabelo Mbuyisa:	Team doctor
Jerry 'Mbazo' Gamedze:	Technical Director
Sicelo Simelane:	Logistics Manager
Ndumiso Khumalo:	Marketing Manager
Matha Ngcamphalala:	Chief Security

'Birds' have a month to sort out Kola issue

BY SIBONGISENI ZONDI

SOCCER - Mbabane Swallows have about a month's time to sort out the issue of striker Kola Aledon and successfully register him for the 2018 CAF Champions League group stages.

Swallows are desperately trying to register the Nigerian striker whom they have a three-month contract with specifically for the Champions League. However, the player has not obtained his clearance certificate from Manzini Wanderers, the side he turned out for last season. Wanderers claim that Aledon has a contract with them and is thus their player.

The matter has now been taken to the Eswatini Football Association (EFA) Players' Status Committee where it will be discussed today after its postponement last week Thursday. Even though Aledon has begun training with Swallows, it now seems certain that he will not feature for the 'Birds' in their third Champions League group stage match against Etoile Du Sahel next Tuesday.

Swallows will now hope to finalise the issue before August 10, which is the second registration deadline for clubs playing in CAF interclubs competitions.

"A player who is qualified to play in the CAF Champions League must: (a) Possess a licence in his club issued by its national association and registered in his federation on the 15th January of the year of the competi-

tion at the latest for the first period of registration and on 10th August of the year of the competition, at the latest for the second period of registration," reads part of the Champions League rules and regulations.

In a letter dated June 27, Swallows General Manager Sandile 'Beyond 2000' Zwane wrote to the EFA, reporting Wanderers to the football mother body for refusing to hand them Aledon's clearance.

"We are, however, experiencing difficulties in registering the player with us and for the CAF Champions League because his former club (Manzini Wanderers) is refusing to hand us the requisite player's clearance certificate.

We, therefore, request the Football Association's assistance in the matter so that we can duly register the player in readiness for our match against Club Etoile Du Sahel on Tuesday July 17," reads part of the letter which this publication is in possession of.

After the Sahel home match on July 17, Swallows will then travel to Tunisia to face Sahel on July 27. The 'Birds' will then take on Zesco United on August 18 before completing their group campaign with a clash against Primeiro De Agosto on August 28.

Swallows will now be hoping that incidents like Thursday's, which saw the Player's Status Committee fail to form a quorum and ultimately result in the postponement of the case, will not happen again.

'Bull' star off to Malta

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - Mbabane Highlanders star Thabiso Mokenkoane will tomorrow leave the country for Malta where he has been invited for a one week assessment by an unnamed Premier League side.

The South African born player has been granted permission by the capital city side to go and try his luck at the tiny European state.

A source close to the matter asserted that the logistics of the player's trip were now at an advanced stage.

"He has already received an invitation letter from Malta and has also finalised travelling logistics for the trip. He will be flying out to Malta from Johannesburg on Monday morning and talks between Highlanders and his suitors will begin after the assessment," the source said.

Highlanders Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini also

Melusi Sihlongonyane wins inaugural JM Busha race

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

ATLETICS - Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force (USDF) athlete Melusi Sihlongonyane continues to dominate long-distance races in the country as he yesterday claimed the title of the inaugural JM Busha race.

The athlete clocked an impressive 1:8:27 hours to win the 21.5km race which was held at Malkerns.

Sihlongonyane, who was claiming his third title of the year after the 'WafaWafa' race and the 'Tough One' Marathon, was closely followed by Nedbank's Bonginkhosi Mavuso and Royal Eswatini Police's (REP) Mduduzi Hlatjwayo, who clocked 1:08:48 and 1:09:38 to come second and third, respectively, in the tightly contested race. For his achievement, Sihlongonyane won himself E4 000 whilst Mavuso and Hlatjwayo cashed in E3 000 and E1 500, respectively. Interviewed after the event, the down-to-earth Sihlongonyane described the route as tough but enjoyable, stating that his success was due to his running

experience in Botswana.

"The route was wonderful. Challenging as it was, it was very enjoyable, especially when you consider the fact that my competitors were coming in strong as well. The race was great and the route just reminded me of lessons I learnt in Botswana. Applying my knowledge and experience from the flat routes in Botswana made this easy for me because I simply applied those here and I came out tops," he said.

Sihlongonyane further thanked his technical team and teammates for their support. He explained that he now aims to better his speed.

"This is a new exciting tournament and to win it is humbling and honouring to be a part of it. I could not have done it without support from my team, though, so I can never forget their influence and help in getting these results. The one aspect of my game that I'm looking to perfecting is my speed. The issue of maintaining speed is very important and I need to make sure that I master it," he concluded.

confirmed the news when sought for comment on Friday. "It is true that the player will be going to Malta after being granted permission by the directors and we wish him the best of luck during the assessment," he said.

The former AmaTuks player joined Highlanders mid-last season and netted over 10 league goals for the coach Mlungisi 'Professor' Ngubane-led side during the previous campaign.

Highlanders will next weekend leave the country for Durban where they will play three South African sides Maritzburg United, Richard Bay FC and Royal Eagles in pre-season preparatory games.



Winner of the inaugural JM Busha race Melusi Sihlongonyane crosses the finish line. This was during the race held at Malkerns.

The race was graced by Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala alongside JM Busha Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Joseph Busha.



RESULTS | FIFA WORLD CUP

YESTERDAY

Russia	2 - 2	Croatia
(Croatia won 4-3 on penalties)		
Sweden	0 - 2	England

FIXTURES

SEMI-FINAL

20:00	France	vs	Belgium
20:00	Croatia	vs	England

Under-17 National Friendly

Botswana	1 - 1	Eswatini
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Sunday Observer SPORTING

JULY 8, 2018



WESLIANS' NEW DILEMMA

... Elders, NSC go against directors, appoint
'Bhanyaza' Moluli and two others in new
Board of Governors structure
... Chicco appointed new Wanderers manager



CROATIA **EDGE** RUSSIA ON PENALTIES, FACE ENGLAND

SOCHI - Croatia will face England in the semi-finals of the 2018 World Cup after they defeated hosts Russia 4-3 on penalties yesterday evening.

The match started at a high tempo, with Russia not giving the Croats space and time to play in the middle of the park.

Ivan Rakitic had a chance to open the scoring for the Croats in the 15th minute with a free-kick on the edge of the box but his strike sailed over the crossbar.

Denis Cheryshev broke the deadlock for Stanislav Cherchesov's men on the half-hour mark with a sensational strike from outside the box.

Andrej Kramaric replied for the Croats five minutes before halftime

with a power header inside the box following a delicate cross from Mario Mandzukic.

Both sides were probing for the second goal in the closing minutes of the first stanza, but they went into the dressing room deadlocked at 1-1. After a lively start to the second half, Ivan Perisic should have sent Croatia ahead on the hour-mark but his low strike from the edge of the box crashed against the post.

Russia increased their tempo 20 minutes before time, combining well in their passing rhythm but the Croats kept their shape at the back.

Neither side could find a winning goal in the closing stages of the second half, forcing the clash into extra,

which both nations had experienced in the previous round.

Domagoj Vida made it 2-1 for Croatia 10 minutes into the second stanza with a fine header that sailed into the bottom corner. Cheryshev's troops were pressurising the Croats looking for the equaliser but the Vatreni managed to go into the break of extra time leading 2-1.

The hosts sent the clash into a shoot-out as Mario Fernandes equalised for Russia five minutes before time by heading home a cross from Alan Dzagoev. However, it was the Croats who held their nerve in the shoot-out to triumph 4-3 and will now face England on Wednesday.

AFP

