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Page 4

NO QUESTIONS ASKED AS... 'SGCOKO' **BACK** AS SWAZI TV CEO

...Started work yesterday, it's for the next 3 years

Story on Page 3



I'M BACK: Eswatini Television Authority Board Chairperson Carol Ngcobo shakes hands with the re-engaged CEO, Bongani 'Sgcokosiyanca' Dlamini during a press conference held at the Sibane Hotel yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

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DOC16270

2 NATIONAL NEWS

'More ex-miner funds lying idle'

By Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

THE ministry of labour has urged ex-miners who have not received funds from their provident funds to

approach their offices.

The ministry is in the process of disbursing E91 million together with the Ex-Mine Workers Provident Fund.

Principal Secretary Thulani Mkhalihi said the ministry was working around the clock to have all unclaimed funds

that belonged to Emaswati paid. He said for that to be possible they needed the mine-workers to come forward and tell them which schemes or funds they were in.

"We hear stories of unclaimed funds that are due to Emaswati but we don't

have adequate information to approach these schemes so we urge local ex-miners to come forward with information that will help us in contacting these schemes.

Some of them are not known to us," he said.

Mkhalihi urged the ex-miners or their beneficiaries to approach labour offices in their regions with

the information.

"People don't have to travel as far as Mbabane to the labour headquarters to do this but they can just approach our regional offices. Give our officers information on their funds then we will take it from there, the objective is to make sure that all ex-miners get what is due to them," he said.

EVICT HUNTER FROM FLAT, COURT ORDERS

Stories By Sandile Nkambule
High Court

DEFIANT Private Investigator Hunter Shongwe has been ordered out of his rented house at Ezulwini.

A Deputy Sheriff with the assistance of the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) has been ordered by the High Court to eject Shongwe from the house at Ezulwini.

This comes after the owner of the house Pricilla Dlamini successfully moved an application at the High Court where she obtained an eviction order against Shongwe.

Judge Ticheme Dlamini yesterday ordered that the decision of the Ezulwini umphakatsi issued in October 2012, evicting Shongwe from Dlamini's house, is made an order of Court.

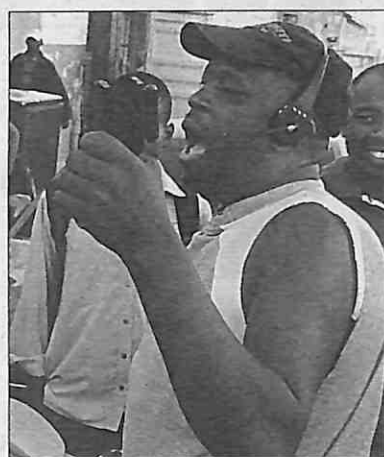
Judge Dlamini also ordered the police to assist the Deputy Sheriff for the Hhohho region in effecting the order and costs of suit are granted in favour of the applicant (Dlamini) against the first respondent (Shongwe).

The applicant had applied for an order registering a decision of the umphakatsi of Ezulwini as an order of Court in evicting Shongwe from her house.

In her application, the applicant stated that Ndlavela Mavimbela from the umphakatsi made several attempts to evict Shongwe but he would threaten him with violence stating that he would shoot him. She stated that sometime in February 2009, she entered into an oral agreement with Shongwe for rental of the house, however, Shongwe failed to pay as agreed since occupation and the reason for refusing to pay is that Shongwe demanded compensation to the amount of E100 000 after alleging that he renovated the house.

She told the court that Shongwe went to the extent of informing her that he would never vacate the house not withstanding that he was not paying the rentals despite being given the required notice to vacate the house also threatening to shoot her. In January 2011, the applicant also instructed Shongwe to vacate

... A Deputy Sheriff with the assistance of the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) has been ordered by the high court to eject Shongwe from the house at Ezulwini



WANTED OUT: Private Investigator Hunter Shongwe.

the house but he still refused and she then approached the umphakatsi in September 2012 where she reported the matter and Shongwe was summoned but he however refused to appear before the inner council.

The umphakatsi further summoned him on another day but again he refused to appear and a decision to have him evicted was taken, however the decision could not be effective because of Shongwe's belligerence as he threatened to shoot anyone coming closer to the house.

Shongwe's application against the eviction in 2012 failed as it was dismissed by both the High Court and Supreme Court. Shongwe's case was that on July 14, 2013, the decision of the umphakatsi was appealed against and is pending at Ludzidzini council under the Siswati law and custom of *kwembula ingubo Enkhosini* (appealing before King).

He had stated in his opposing affidavit that the Ludzidzini council is a court of competent jurisdiction and the matter is pending determination and finalisation before it.

He accordingly contended that the present application before court was an

abuse of court processes as he submitted that the Ludzidzini council enjoys supremacy over Ezulwini umphakatsi as he further contended that Ezulwini area is under Eswatini nation land.

"The first respondent contended therefore that any person on Eswatini nation land can only be evicted by an order of the King," Judge Dlamini said in his judgment.

Shongwe had submitted that there is no lease agreement on Eswatini nation land according to Siswati law and custom arguing that same can only be acceptable in common law which is administered by courts of general jurisdiction.

However, Judge Dlamini stated that Shongwe's submission that Ezulwini umphakatsi acted wrongfully and unlawfully in giving audience to the applicant, is without merit and therefore rejected by the court.

Judge Dlamini took judicial notice that the functions and issues that Ludzidzini council determines are primarily issues pertaining to chieftdom disputes and whether a nominee Chief qualifies for appointment as Chief and thereafter advise Royalty.

The council according to Judge Dlamini also determines and advises Royalty on issues pertaining to disputes at chieftdoms. The judge said Shongwe's issue is not one of those issues that can be brought before the Council as Shongwe is not even a subject of Ezulwini which is why he refused when he was summoned twice by the umphakatsi.

He said there is no iota of evidence to show that an appeal was made by Shongwe to the King and is pending before him.

Also there is no person according to Judge Dlamini said to be an emissary who reported and submitted the appeal to the King and no allegation that the matter is awaiting a decision by the King other than the unsubstantiated averment by Shongwe that appeal is before King.

the umphakatsi by defying summons to attend a hearing of the dispute, this conduct undermines the authority of umphakatsi, this court seriously frowns upon such because it renders the Kingdom's custom valueless yet it is part of the country's laws in terms of section 25 (2) of the Constitution," Judge Dlamini said. Judge Dlamini also said he has taken into account Shongwe's conduct of resorting to self-help by taking the law into his own hands. Serious threats

to shoot any person that attempted to enforce the decision of umphakatsi according to Judge Dlamini were made by Shongwe and this is serious indictment against the firearms board and such threats were to be reported to the police and the board.

The board according to Judge Dlamini has a duty to then hear evidence and determine the fitness of the holder of the firearms licence regarding his or her continued possession of the licence.

Woman wants E1.5million for wrongful dagga arrest

By Sandile Nkambule
High Court

A woman who was wrongfully arrested for dagga possession is now suing the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS).

She is demanding E1.5 million from national commissioner of police arguing that her arrest was marred with malice.

Through her lawyer Sifiso Maseko, Jabulile Nxumalo (plaintiff) of Hluti in the Shiselweni region told the court that despite that she told the police that she was not aware of the dagga in question since the car it was found in did not belong to her, the police went ahead and arrested her. Maseko further put it to the investing officers Sibusiso Vilane and Mandla Magongo that the manner in which they arrested Nxumalo was horrible as the police officers even celebrated after the arrest as they claimed to have found the dagga in a mansion at Nxumalo's matrimonial home.

"I put it to you officer Magongo that your action when effecting the arrest to the plaintiff was marred with malice, she even told you that the car in question belonged to a Bhembe and did not know its contents but you arrested her," Maseko said.

Maseko further put it to the officers that so malicious were the actions of the police that despite the health condition of the plaintiff, they proceeded to book her at the Hluti police station which worsened her condition since she was fresh from undergoing an operation.

Nxumalo has cited the national commissioner as the first defen-

dant, government as the second and the attorney general as the third defendant.

According to Nxumalo, who suffers from cancer, she was operated on by a South African doctor and when she was arrested by the police she had to sleep on the floor which worsened her condition.

Nxumalo told the court that a family friend Bhekithema Bhembe came to her homestead while at Hluti driving in his car, a van with a canopy and 15 minutes after he had parked the car, a contingent of police officers followed and surrounded the car.

The police thereafter searched the car and they told her that she was under arrest for the dagga that was found in the back of the van as there was about 30kg of the illegal herb.

"I was not even aware of what Bhembe was carrying in his car and I told the police that I had nothing to do with the dagga they found since it did not belong to me but they proceeded to arrest me and put me in the back of the police car," Nxumalo said.

Nxumalo told Judge Mumei Dlamini that at the police station her efforts to convince the police that the dagga did not belong to her fell on deaf ears despite that she even refused to sign a document purporting that the dagga belonged to her, something that angered the head of the police.

After being arraigned in court, Nxumalo said she applied for bail which her lawyer moved at the High Court.

She told the court that her charges were later withdrawn after it was discovered that the dagga did not belong to her but the car owner who is a family friend.



DRESSED FOR THE COLD: A man crosses the street fully dressed in a cotton overall in a bid to fight the cold that is experienced throughout the kingdom these days. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Hunter castigated for threat to shoot people

FOR his actions of threatening to shoot inner council member Ndlavela Mavimbela and the applicant, Judge Ticheme Dlamini said these are serious threats which ought to be reported to the firearms licensing board.

Judge Dlamini also said courts frown upon Shongwe's action of defying Ezulwini umphakatsi and such undermines the authority of umphakatsi.

"I have taken into account the first respondent's conduct of disrespecting

'SGCOKO' BACK AS SWAZI TV CEO

COVER STORY

Stories by Sisho Magagula
Ezulwini

FOLLOWING weeks of public speculation, Bongani Austin Dlamini has officially bounced back as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Eswatini TV (formerly Swazi TV).

Dlamini's re-engagement as the head-honcho of the national television broadcaster was announced by the station's Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Carol Ngcobo yesterday during a press conference at Sibane hotel.

Dlamini, who is popularly known as 'Sgcokosiyancinca', was also present during the announcement of his re-engagement. Throughout the announcement, he did not say a word but remained silent next to the chairperson, as she made the declaration, while other board members and executive members listened attentively.

Ngcobo said Dlamini's re-engagement was with immediate effect and would run for a period of three years.

"It is with great pleasure for me as the Eswatini Television Authority board chairperson and the entire board of directors to announce the re-engagement of Mr Bongani Austin Dlamini as the substantive Chief Executive Officer of Eswatini Television Authority. Mr Dlamini's re-engagement is with immediate effect and shall be for a period of three years," she said. Ngcobo said Sgcoko brought a wealth of experience and knowledge in the broadcasting industry, as he was not new to the task.

"He is not new to this task and, therefore, brings with him valuable and pragmatic experience to Eswatini Television Authority. On behalf of the Eswatini

... It is with great pleasure for me as the Eswatini Television Authority board chairperson and the entire board of directors to announce the re-engagement of Mr Bongani Austin Dlamini as the substantive Chief Executive Officer of Eswatini Television Authority. Mr Dlamini's re-engagement is with immediate effect and shall be for a period of three years



INKABI ENDALA: Chairperson of the board Carol Ngcobo reads the statement during the re-engaging of the Swazi TV CEO Bongani Gcokosiyancinca Dlamini.

Television Board of Directors, management and staff, we welcome the chief executive officer and pledge our support to him and the office of the chief executive officer as he carries out the mammoth responsibilities of the office, as well as the overall mandate and vision of the authority," she said.

Since the beginning of this year, there has been speculation about who would be the next CEO following the expiry of Dlamini's employment contract last December. On March 14, then Members of Parliament (MPs) refused to approve a E10 million budget to the station and called for Dlamini's permanent removal from the station.

On this day, the lawmakers ignored the fact that Dlamini was officially out of contract and debated his matter as if he was still in office. This was during a debate of the performance report of the ministry of information, communication

and technology (ICT).

Outspoken former MP Titus Thwala was very vocal in calling for Dlamini's removal from the CEO position.

In 2016, Parliament, according to Thwala, called for an audit to be instituted at Swazi TV following that there were questionable practices that bordered around maladministration of funds at the station. The audit was undertaken and an audit firm, PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PWC) was engaged to conduct the audit, for which E2 million was paid by government.

The audit found that Dlamini was not fit to run the station and called for his removal, according to Thwala.

He wondered why the audit report was never made public by the Minister of ICT Dumisani Ndlangamandla.

During the same debate, Thwala accused the minister of abusing the name of the country's authorities to protect Dlamini.

...5-minute briefing, no questions

ESWATINI Television Authority (ETA) Chairperson Carol Ngcobo's first press briefing, where she announced Bongani 'Sgcokosiyancinca' Dlamini's return at Swazi TV, took less than five minutes.

This was Ngcobo's first media conference after being appointed chairperson of the board of directors by ICT Minister Dumisani Ndlangamandla on June 6, 2018, replacing Nozizwe Mulela, who was fired by the minister after a fall-out.

Not only was yesterday's briefing short but journalists were also not allowed to ask any questions.

Ngcobo simply read her prepared statement

before asking board members who were present to shake hands with Dlamini as a sign of welcoming him back.

Dlamini also shook hands with the few members of management who were present, before Ngcobo announced that the press conference had come to an end.

Unlike in press conferences of a similar nature, where the person being announced is given an opportunity to say a few words, 'Sgcokosiyancinca' was not given a chance to say anything.

After shaking hands with board members and a few senior managers from the TV station, he simply returned to his seat before the

chairperson announced the end of the press briefing.

Ngcobo, a lawyer by profession, took over the hot seat at a critical time when the national television station had been without a CEO for over five months.

The position became vacant after Dlamini's contract expired and he allegedly communicated that he did not want it to be renewed. However, Dlamini allegedly changed his mind and communicated that he was eager for the contract renewal and this led to a controversy, as Mulela and her board members had already completed the recruitment process and further submitted recommendations to the

minister.

This allegedly led to the breakdown of the relationship between Mulela and the minister, who eventually fired

her.

Ensuring the finalisation of the recruitment process of the CEO was Ngcobo's first big assignment.

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MTN records 328 000 in VELA

By Sisho Magagula
Mbabane

OVER 328 000 people have been fully verified and registered for Swazi MTN's VELA SIM card registration exercise.

The actual number of subscribers who have been registered is 328 290.

This represents a weekly increase of about 40 000 given that last week, 293 152 MTN SIM-cards had been fully registered.

Since the start of the VELA SIM card registration exercise, MTN has been registering about 100 000 SIM cards per month with a daily average of 9 000. However, June stands out for the largest number of subscribers who were registered which is 194 729. MTN's Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Luphondvo confirmed the figures yesterday. He said from a test phase of the SIM-card registration phase, the number of agents had increased from 17 in the first week of April to 950 foot soldiers by the first week of July.

"At the close of June, there were 947 foot soldiers and access points, where Swazi MTN customers may readily register their SIM cards. The VELA subscriber registration is supported by the Swaziland Communication Commission (SCCOM), on behalf of His Majesty's Government. It is in line with the SIM-card Registration Regulation of 2016 which compels telecommunications companies to register SIM cards by April 2019, failing which the SIM cards will have to be removed from the service provider's network," he said. Luphondvo said the VELA subscriber registration process had opened doors for young people to access temporary jobs.

"These young people are appointed to work in their own communities without having to travel to work. Besides cutting back on logistical costs which come with jobs, they have an opportunity to develop interpersonal communication and sales skills as their work involves engag-

ing MTN customers on a daily basis," he said.

This coming weekend, Swazi MTN's VELA subscriber registration team will be at Ngculwini Royal Kraal on Sunday. About 52 churches from Ngculwini are expected to participate in a mid-year service, one out of three held each year.

The chief of the area, Chief Mgebiseni is expected to grace the event together with the pastoral leadership in the community.

Luphondvo added that on Saturday, the VELA subscriber registration team will be at Dvokolwako for a roadshow.

"The road show will be held in collaboration with DSTV and Dups Direct who will provide a range of services additional to sharing information. MTN encourages the public who reside in both Dvokolwako and Ngculwini to come through for SIM-card registration. Further, customers in other communities are also encouraged to extend an invitation to the VELA SIM-card registration team where there are high-traffic events through toll-free line 923. Any queries related to subscriber registration can also be channelled to the same number. Additional to being a channel to accept invitations and respond to queries on subscriber registration, the toll-free line is used to facilitate verification of subscribers," he said. Luphondvo also urged subscribers to exercise due diligence in providing accurate information when registering for VELA.

"There are instances where certain registrations are disallowed. Often, this is due to incorrect information and in isolated cases, it is unclear pictures. MTN subscribers are encouraged to exercise due diligence in providing accurate information at registration points to reduce chances of rejected subscriptions. Swazi MTN is noting consistent decrease in the number of rejected registrations, a pointer that increasingly our valued customers now understand what is expected out of this process," he said.

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NAKED SCHOOLGIRL STABBED TO DEATH IN HER BEDROOM

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

A naked 17-year-old Form 2 pupil was found dead in her bedroom with seven stab wounds at Nkomazi.

Also found at the murder scene was an exposed weevil tablet next to a cup full of water.

The incident happened late on Monday night. The name of the deceased cannot be printed for now

● Also found at the murder scene was an exposed weevil tablet next to a cup full of water

until all her relatives are informed. Police sources pointed towards passion killing.

"The deceased was discovered lying in a pool of her own blood by her step-mother whom she lived with. The step mother was waiting for the minor to prepare herself for school but after she noticed that the minor was not waking up the concerned parent went into her bed-

room and found the deceased naked and dead," revealed sources.

She frantically called the emergency number 977 and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) raced to the scene.

"The medical personnel at the scene went on to say that the minor died due to a fatal stab wound in the chest and also the murder weapon being a sharp metal rod was found

near the deceased's body.

The deceased was transported to the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital," added the source.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the murder. He said no one has been arrested for the crime as police are investigating the shocking matter.



CONFIRMED: Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba.

WOMAN ATTACKED BEFORE HER WEDDING

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A woman of Lomhlupheko expected to get married this weekend is currently fighting for her life after she was attacked by unknown men who brutally hacked her with bushknives.

The woman was from making preparations for her wedding when she was attacked by the men believed to have

been waiting for her return.

A relative who only wanted to be identified as Tsabedze said the woman was brutally hacked with bushknives by the men who had their faces covered with what looked like balaclavas, leaving her on the ground after she collapsed.

The incident happened last Saturday. It is said that the woman had gone with her fiancé to Manzini.

They returned late in the evening, carrying groceries and other items.

Upon arrival at the bus station, the couple discovered that they would need a wheelbarrow to carry their groceries home.

The groom is said to have asked his fiancée to go and collect a wheelbarrow from the homestead which is situated not too far from the bus station.

The man was to remain behind to look after the items as it was already late in the evening. "She was halfway near the homestead when the men

suddenly emerged from nearby bushes and started hacking her with bushknives and kicking her all over the body," said the relative. The men are said to have left the wounded woman lying helplessly on the ground without stealing anything from her.

Speculation is rife that a former lover who is against the woman getting married to another man is responsible for the attack. "We suspect that someone close to her is responsible for the attack as the men did not take

anything from her after the brutal assault," said another relative.

The woman was eventually rescued by residents who raised an alarm after finding her lying unconscious on the way home.

She was rushed to Good Shepherd Hospital where she was admitted.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the incident. Mamba said police are investigating the incident.

CONSTRUCTION
An Act of Parliament, No. 14 of 2013

CONTRACTOR DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY AND ROAD WORKS TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

In view of the Mandate of the Council to provide Capacity Building within the Construction Industry and Enhancing Industry Promotion and Empowerment, a proposed 3 day Contractor Development Training Workshop is proposed, as follows:

Dates : Tuesday 24 to Thursday 26th July, 2018.
Venue : Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre, MANZINI - PAVILION HALL 2

The three (3) full day contractor development training will be on the theme Occupational Health and Safety and Road Works Traffic Management

CONTRACTOR DEVELOPMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP PLAN

Training Subject	Date	Contractors	Target Group	Proposed Time Duration
1. Occupational Health and Safety	Tuesday 24th July, 2018	building, civil, electrical and mechanical works contractors / Consultants / Individual Artisans	PM, TSO, RE, SS, TN	8:30am to 4pm
2. Road Works Traffic Management	Wednesday 25 th to Thursday 26 th July, 2018	building, civil, electrical and mechanical works contractors / Consultants / Individual Artisans	PM, TSO, RE, SS, TN	8:30am to 4pm

PM : Project Managers
RE : Resident Engineers
SS : Site Supervisors
TSO : Traffic Safety Officers
TN : Technicians

Attendance to this training workshop will strictly be by registration
For registration forms and further clarity, please visit the CIC Offices at Rhus Office Park, Mbabane or contact the CIC at 2404 9848 or request registration forms through email to nonhlanhla@cic.co.sz before 5pm closing date Thursday 19th July, 2018. Registration forms may also be downloaded from the CIC website www.cic.co.sz.

Attendance of the training workshop is free and only a refundable commitment fee of E200 per person is be paid. The refundable commitment fee will only be payable upon attendance of all the full three (3) days training.

NHLANHLA DLAMINI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DOC:18650

UBOMBO SCHOOLS TRUST

VACANCY: HEAD TEACHER -UTECH

Applications are invited from suitably, qualified & experienced candidates for appointment to the above position that has arisen at U-Tech High school. The school is situated in Big Bend, in the Lubombo district of Eswatini and is part of the Ubombo Schools Trust (UST) founded by Ubombo Sugar Limited (USL). U-Tech was formed through a tripartite alliance of Ubombo Sugar Limited, Government of Eswatini and Parents. The school currently has an enrolment of 1200 learners.

THE JOB: Entails providing professional leadership and managing the school in an efficient and effective manner in pursuit of the agreed objectives embodied in the schools vision & mission. The incumbent will be responsible amongst other things for:

- Implementing the school's strategy.
- Evaluating school performance and identify priorities for continuous improvement.
- Be accountable for deploying resources to achieve the school's objectives.
- Adhering to national education policies and other relevant standards.
- Keeping up to date on the curriculum and advising the school council and Board of Governors on educational matters.
- Preparing school budget and controlling costs as per UST management.
- Enforcing strict adherence to UST governance processes, code of ethics & code of conduct.
- Create a safe and productive learning environment for all students.
- Maintaining a healthy relationship with stakeholders.

THE APPLICANT: The candidate should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Possess a Bachelor's degree in education and a Master's degree in education
- Minimum of 10 years experience as a successful Head/deputy Head teacher
- Qualifications in Business Administration/ Human Resources & recognized professional registration will be an added advantage.
- Excellent administrative, leadership and interpersonal skills.
- Good communication & organizing skills.
- Solid knowledge of information technology.

THE REWARDS: We offer a competitive package commensurate with qualification, experience and value add.

Applications with a detailed CV, and proof of qualifications and names of two referees should be e mailed to the Board of Governors chairperson, email: thula@realnet.co.sz before 17 July 2018.

UST is an equal opportunity employer which does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender or religion.

Should you not receive a response after 30 days, please consider your application to be unsuccessful.

DOC:17784

TSC LOOKING FOR 18 HEAD TEACHERS, DEPUTIES

By Bahle Gama

THE Teaching Service Commission (TSC) is looking to fill about 18 vacant head teacher and deputy positions in some of the country's primary and high schools.

The commission is inviting teachers with the appropriate qualifications to show interest in the vacant positions.

"We would like to notify all willing applicants of the vacant head teacher and deputy head teacher positions in

the different schools in the kingdom to apply," said Mduduzi Nkambule, the TSC Executive Secretary. He stated that applicants should pick up and return their application forms to the REO offices in their regions.

Deadline for taking application forms is Friday at 4:30pm.

Head teacher Requirements

● Applicant should have worked as Deputy head teacher for three or more years.

● Bachelor's Degree Secondary Education (Leadership)

● Bachelor's Degree Educational Management

● Bachelor's Degree Primary Education

● Bachelor's Honors Degree

Deputy Head teacher Requirements

● Applicant should be a teacher who has worked for seven years or more

● Bachelor's Degree Educational Management (Leadership)

● Bachelor's Degree Secondary Education

● Bachelor's Degree Primary Education

● Bachelor's Honors Degree

	Hhohho Region	Lubombo Region	Shiselweni Region	Manzini Region
Deputy Head teacher vacancy (High school)				
		Tikhuba High School	Ezindwendweni High School	
			Esandleni High School	
			Nhlangano Central High School	
			Nkwene High School	
Deputy Head teacher vacancies (Primary schools)				
	Mphumalanga Primary School	Siphofaneni Primary School	Jerusalem Primary School	Jerusalem Primary School
	Nkhungwini Primary School	Tsambokhulu Primary	Matsanjeni Primary School	Ekuphumuleni Primary School
		Nzongomane Primary School	Evelyn Baring Primary School	
		Bhokweni Primary School	Nhlangano Central Primary	
Head teacher Vacancy (Primary School)				
				Kwaluseni Infant Primary School

Ex-MPs didn't listen to the people – Report

By Sisho Magagula
Mbabane

EMASWATI believe former members of the 10th parliament that was dissolved by His Majesty King Mswati III last month were very poor in listening to the needs of the people.

This is according to a recent study conducted by Afrobarometer, a pan-African, non-partisan research network that conducts public attitude surveys on democracy, governance, economic conditions and related issues in Africa.

Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in languages of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples.

According to its website, the Afrobarometer team in Eswatini interviewed 1 200 adult Emaswati in March 2018 and previous surveys have been conducted in 2013 and 2015.

According to the Afrobarometer report released last week, 40 per cent of Emaswati believe the former MPs were not listening to

● According to its website, the Afrobarometer team in Eswatini interviewed 1 200 adult Emaswati in March 2018 and previous surveys have been conducted in 2013 and 2015

the needs of the people while only 16 per cent said MPs listened. Thirty nine per cent said the situation was the same.

Also, only 29 per cent of Emaswati are of the view that government assists them to resolve their problems, while 49 per cent believe the situation has remained the same.

Only nine per cent believe government has improved in assisting people resolve their problems.

Forteen per cent of the citizens believe access to medical care has become much worse in the country, while 32 per cent are of the view that access to medical care has become much better. A total of 54 per cent believe the situation has remained the same as it was in 2015.

Service delivery by the Royal Eswatini Police

Service (REPS) seems to have improved, as 33 per cent think getting assistance from the police has become much better, while only 14 per cent believe the situation has become worse. About 50 per cent think the situation has remained the same. Government's effectiveness on education has also improved because 35 per cent of the people believe the situation is much better, while only 13 per cent are of the view that the situation has become worse. Fifty per cent believe the situation has remained the same.

"Interestingly, on matters of service delivery, a majority of Emaswati are of the opinion that government has done well in addressing educational needs, reducing crime and improving

basic health services. However, fewer than half of Emaswati approve of government's performance in managing the economy, keeping prices stable and creating jobs.

This data is being released as the country prepares for national elections, that will take place later this year," states the report.

According to the report, government has also performed fairly well in protecting people's rights and promoting opportunities for disabled persons. Seventy three percent believe government has performed well, while 21 per cent believe to the contrary.

Also, 54 per cent of Emaswati believe government has done well in fighting corruption, while 38 percent believe otherwise.

BELOW IS PART OF THE FINDINGS BY AFROBAROMETER ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ESWATINI

SERVICE	FAIRLY WELL/VERY WELL	FAIRLY BADLY/VERY BADLY
1. Improving basic health services	83%	15%
2. Addressing educational needs	81%	16%
3. Protecting rights, promoting opportunities for disabled	73%	23%
4. Reducing crime	73%	23%
5. Preventing or resolving violent community conflict	72%	22%
6. Promoting equal rights/opportunities for women	72%	22%
7. Preventing election violence	70%	17%
8. Providing water and sanitation services	65%	33%
9. Addressing needs of the youth	61%	34%
10. Maintaining roads and bridges	56%	42%
11. Fighting corruption	54%	38%
12. Providing reliable electricity supply	54%	41%
13. Managing the economy	47%	36%
14. Improving living standards of the poor	47%	49%
15. Ensuring enough to eat	44%	51%
16. Creating jobs	41%	55%
17. Keeping prices stable	34%	61%
18. Narrowing income gaps	29%	65%

WARM WELCOME



WELCOME ABOARD: Eswatini TV CEO Bongani Dlamini being welcomed by the board members after his re-engagement yesterday.
(Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



The Southern African Customs Union (SACU) has adopted a Vision and Mission for promoting sustainable development and deeper integration within the SACU region. To strengthen capacity in the SACU Secretariat to implement its Work Programme, the SACU Secretariat hereby invites suitably qualified and experienced citizens of SACU Member States to submit their applications for the position of Deputy Executive Secretary.

TENDER NO: SACU / 009 / 2019 / 0 DEVELOPMENT OF SACU EXTRANET SITE

The SACU Secretariat wishes to appoint a suitably qualified, experienced and reputable Information Communications Technology (ICT) Company to develop and implement a SharePoint based Extranet System for the SACU Secretariat.

The detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) document can be obtained online at www.sacu.int CR directly from the SACU Secretariat Offices at Erf: 8531 Corner of Lazarett and Feld Street, Windhoek, Namibia.

For Commercial enquiries, please contact:

Mr. Hermanus L. Esterhuizen

Procurement Officer

Tel: +264 61 295 8000/37

Fax: +264 61 245 611

E-mail: Leon.Esterhuizen@sacu.int

For Technical Enquiries, please contact:

Mr. Refiloe Motjolepane

ICT Manager

Tel: (+264) 61 295 8000/41

Fax: (+264) 61 245 611

Email: Refiloe.Motjolepane@sacu.int

Closing Date & Time: 17h00 (Namibian time) on **Friday, 27 July 2018.**

The SACU Secretariat reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal that fails to meet its requirements and will not, in any case, be responsible or liable for any costs associated with the preparation and submission of any proposal. Kindly note that only short-listed bidders will be contacted. Please note that this tender requires two offers, a technical and a financial offer, submitted in separate envelopes as stipulated in the ToR document.

MHLONGO'S CONTRACT STAND-OFF: COUNCILLORS WALK OUT OF MEETING

By Sisho Magagula
Mbabane

THE contractual issue between Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Mbabane Municipal Council took a sensational turn yesterday when members of the ad hoc committee established to consider it walked out of a scheduled meeting.

The meeting was scheduled to take place yesterday afternoon at the council chambers.

The three-member ad hoc committee was established by council to consider the issue of Mhlongo's contract, which is expected to expire at the end of this month.

Mhlongo's contract is fast becoming a controversial issue as he seeks its

renewal, yet council is apprehensive about doing so.

Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiyinkhosi Mabuza is on record as having given a directive to council to work on the issue of the CEO's contract or else he would renew it for a period of five more years.

The ad hoc committee was established in light of the minister's instruction.

This newspaper has reliably been informed that the ad hoc committee met last week Thursday, but the meeting was adjourned and postponed to yesterday afternoon. This was after the committee members received a strong-worded letter, allegedly from the CEO's office, informing them that whatever resolution it would take, Mhlongo would not abide by it. However, the veracity

of these allegations has not yet been ascertained. According to insiders, the ad hoc committee did not take kindly to the letter from the CEO's office. They responded and informed him that they would not be attending to the issue of his contract.

"The committee informed Mhlongo to, from thereon, liaise with the minister regarding his contract as they had no intention of entertaining it further following his letter to them," disclosed a source.

The reliable insider said the ad hoc committee re-convened yesterday and, to their shock, they were served with an already prepared contract of employment between Mhlongo and Council, which they were ordered to endorse.

"The members were very shocked by

this kind of ambush. For starters, they were surprised to find that the contract had already been prepared by a source unknown to them.

"Secondly, they were taken aback by the order to endorse an employment contract which they had no say in its drafting.

Lastly, they were shocked by the presence of lawyers during the meeting, who are the ones believed to have drafted the contract," disclosed the source.

It was then that the ad hoc committee members decided to walk-out of the meeting.

When council's Public Information Officer Lucky Tsabedze was contacted last night, he declined to comment.

He said the issue was beyond his jurisdiction and referred questions to Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule.



CONTRACT STAND-OFF:
Mbabane City Council CEO
Gideon Mhlongo.

"As you might already be aware, I do not comment on such issues. In fact, I am not privy to such information.

"Please consult the Mayor on this issue," he said in a recorded conversation last night. Mayor Nkambule's mobile phone was switched-off when he was contacted last night.

Parents reject female principal at Sibovu Primary

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlanguano

PARENTS of Sibovu (Nazarene) Primary School are said to have done the unthinkable when they rejected a female principal posted

to the school on the basis that they preferred a male principal.

The school is situated near Mahlalini in the outskirts of Nhlanguano under Shiselweni II Inkhundla. The new principal, who had been brought to the school by the ministry of education and training's officials a few days ago, was to replace a retired

one, Rebecca Khumalo.

Khumalo retired last December and for all this time there has been only an acting principal in this position. It is said for six months, a senior teacher identified as Lucky Gama, was the one calling the shots as acting principal, while Khumalo's replacement was still being sought.

Gama, it is claimed, was first 'authorised' to act in the position for three months but he found himself staying in the hot seat for six months, as the new principal had still not been sent to the school.

It is, however, said just recently parents were up in arms when the ministry of education's officials arrived in the company of the said new female principal, who they had come to introduce.

Delegation

Parents are said to have wondered as to how the principal could be brought to the school without their knowledge and it was then that they advised the delegation from the ministry that they would not accept the principal.

Other claims are that the parents acted in this fashion not because they were against the candidate, but because they were worried as to why Gama was not given the job as he had acted in this position for all this time.

"Parents felt that it's not fair to have someone acting for all this time only to bring someone else. They decided to revolt and took a firm stand that they wanted Gama to be given the job as within the six month period he was acting, he proved that he possessed the qualities needed from an administrator," said one source.

Other claims are that the parents were also against seeing a female principal brought to the school, as they felt a male principal was now needed as the teachers were not performing well, thus they needed a male principal to restore in order.

"The parents are concerned with the disastrous performance of the school, which even the for-

mer principal did little to improve over the years.

"Is this reason that some of the parents feel there should be change and instead of a female principal, there should be a male one," said one of the parents.

Another source said with the school under a mission, the authorities were the ones who at times recommended to the employer (Teaching Service Commission) if there was the need for a candidate they felt would be suitable for the post.

It's said with the process of interviews also undertaken, claims are that Gama, who was acting, did not form part of the applicants shortlisted for the job and this was allegedly because he lacked certain qualifications needed for the post.

Meetings

It is said in some of the meetings, Gama did hint that he was just acting as he was aware that a suitable candidate was still to be sent to the school.

"Some of the parents still need to be enlightened and educated about things needed before someone is appointed to head the school.

"In this case, the way parents have acted is like they are not aware that by making Gama act for all this time it did not mean he was to be given the job. Another thing is that he did not apply for it, which also made him not to have a chance even if he qualified for the position," one source said.

It is said there have been several meetings in the school, where the issue of the principal was discussed without any fruitful outcome, with the last one on Monday. Meanwhile, Shiselweni Regional Education Officer (REO) Thabile Nxumalo has confirmed that officials who had accompanied a new principal for introduction at Sibovu Nazarene Primary encountered problems and had to return with the said principal. Nxumalo said as a result the school remained without a principal. She did not want to elaborate on the problems that the officials encountered, but she stated that this matter was now to be handled by the Teaching Service Commission (TSC).

DANGEROUS:
These two gentlemen were seen taking turns to take selfies on top of the Nkoyoyo overhead bridge recently. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



WaterAid

Expression of Interest

The Nazarene Compassionate Ministries - Swaziland (NCM-SD) hereby invites expression of interest from suitable qualified Contractors for the construction of reticulated water systems for the **Lubombo Sustainable Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (LSRWSSP)**. Contractors will be tasked to construct water systems infrastructure in 9 communities within Dvokodvweni and Hlane Constituencies in the year of 2018 to 2020.

Applications

Interested Contractors are requested to forward the following:

- Letter of interest
- Company Profile with traceable references
- Trading license
- Certificate of incorporation
- Tax clearance
- Labor Compliance Certificate

Interested Contractors should submit their documents to the Nazarene Compassionate Ministries - Swaziland offices and pay E300.00 which is non-refundable. All Documents related to the scope of work should be collected between 0830hrs and 1600hrs between Monday to Thursday (09 July 2018 to 12 July 2018) and between 0800hrs and 1300hrs on Friday (13 July 2018). For Further information regarding this tender, please contact Mr. Sabelo Dlamini, the NCM-SD WASH Manager on the following contact details:

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries - Swaziland
Nazarene Mission Station, Manzini
Dr. Hynd Road, Ligusha Street
Email: michaelsabelo@gmail.com; info@ncmsd.org.sz
Contact: 7605 4624/25052778



MANZINI NEWS

Read The Swazi Observer every Wednesday and get exciting news about Manzini...Interact with the Author on pro@mzcitycouncil.sz or 2505 2481 or 7802 3889



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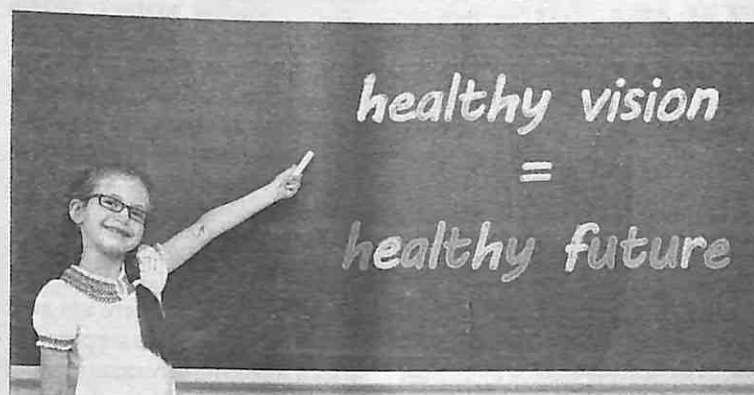
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IT'S A NEW ERA: BRAND NEW VISION FOR THE CITY OF MANZINI!

...new vision focuses on innovation and creation of economic opportunities whilst new mission emphasizes quality municipal services, good governance and partnerships



Like living organisms, organisations evolve. They do this by measuring their successes, learning from experienced pitfalls and changing their business strategies to suit customer and business needs. Likewise, the Municipal Council of Manzini has gone back to the drawing board and developed a brand new strategy for the vibrant City of Manzini.

This follows the lapse of the previous strategic plan which has been guiding the organisation between 2013 and early 2018. Worth noting is that the new strategy sets a new 5-year vision for the city of Manzini. The city has

moved from the old vision "to be a vibrant African city that consistently provides efficient, relevant and sustainable services to all stakeholders" to one that puts more emphasis on finding innovative solutions to service delivery as well as creation of economic opportunities for stakeholders. Precisely, the new vision, which sets the city's strategic direction for the next five years, reads "A vibrant African city that innovatively provides quality service and economic opportunities to its stakeholders".

Well, the importance of innovation in any organization cannot be overemphasized. Organisations that innovate continually create new and

more efficient ways of delivering service for the achievement of improved customer satisfaction. Likewise, in an environment that is marred by slow economic growth and an acute need for job creation, the need for creation of economic opportunities is there for all to see. All of this means one thing; the Municipal Council of Manzini is on the right path to transforming the city to first world status.

The new strategy also brings with it a new mission statement for the local government. A mission statement is a summary of the aims or objectives of an organization. The Municipal Council of Manzini's new mission statement is "to provide quality municipal services that add value to all our customers through good governance and partnering with stakeholders".

It emphasizes on ensuring that the services that Council provides are of the highest quality and do add value. The mission statement also states that Council aims to ensure good governance prevails within the organization and that partnerships of various forms and magnitude are formed with stakeholders for the achievement of a common goal. Again, this signals an exciting new era

...NEW ORGANISATIONAL CHARACTER

The new strategy for the Municipal Council of Manzini also sets out a set of values for the organization. Organisational values determine the desired institutional character that should prevail within a given period of time.

They describe the core ethics or principles that an organization

Innovation	"We are an organization that is committed to have innovative ways in order to develop new solutions that meet customer needs and expectations"
Accountability	"We are an accountable organization that ensures optimal service delivery to the satisfaction of our stakeholders/interested parties"
Integrity	"We are committed to honesty and scrupulous adherence to the highest professional, moral and ethical standards"
Inclusion	"We value the full participation of staff, communities and individuals and embrace all forms of diversity"

has set out to abide by. Organisational values inspire employees' best output and guide their professional behaviour. In essence, values determine the culture of an organization. The following are the values that the Municipal Council of Manzini has set out to live by in the next five years;

in the city of Manzini. All Manzini News can say is that, "watch this space as all these good things unfold within the next five years".

To effectively deliver on the new strategy, Council has identified a number of strategic focus areas which

will provide guidance as the local government delivers on its new mandate. The strategic pillars are an integrated institutional development and growth, sustainable finance and funding, integrated health and social services as well as integrated physical and economic development.

...MANZINI COUNCIL FORGES PARTNERSHIP WITH URBAN COMMUNITY POLICE

The Municipal Council of Manzini is in a process to forge a partnership with community police that are based within the urban boundary. This is inspired by an observation that some Municipal wards

used to have community police but have since been less active.

It also forms part of Council's "Better neighbourhoods" programme. Council believes that community police, when

working hand in hand with the Royal Eswatini Police, do an excellent job regarding the prevention of and fight against crime.

By all means, she does not wish for the presence of community

police to diminish in the residential areas within the city. Council last Thursday gathered about 25 community police from different townships in the city (Zakhele, Extension 6, Moneni, Murray Camp, Sikhunyana and Ngwane Park)

at the Zakhele Community Hall and trained them about the rules of the city; as well as the role they can play towards ensuring the city is free from crime and other illegal activities such as dumping waste on vacant plots, burning of waste on residences, stray animals, keeping of cattle in the city and the big issue of noise in the neighborhoods. The Royal Eswatini Police was also present to train the community police on acceptable policing mechanisms.

The community police were also given the platform to state what would make their work easier. At the end of the meeting, Council presented the community police with handcuffs, whistles and reflector vests. The next step will be to draw a work plan on how the community police, Royal Eswatini Police and Council are going to collaborate going forward. The following pictures were taken during the training session...



ALL SMILES Manzini Council Acting Corporate Services Director Sizwe Dlamini flanked by one of the community police officers and Manzini Deputy Station Commander



EXTENSION 6 A SAFE HAVEN Extension 6 and Madonsa community police representative Victoria Nxumalo also received the donation



CITY RULES AND OFFENCES Manzini Council Senior Security Officer Tengetile Nkambule facilitating during the training session



NGWANE PARK TO BE SAFE Ngwane Park community police Mogadi Dlamini also received the donation on behalf of his team



LET'S PREVENT CRIME Manzini Crime Prevention Officer Mphumi Thwala teaching about best crime prevention practices



TOWARDS SAFE COMMUNITIES The community police posing for a group photo with officials from the Council and Royal Eswatini Police

8 NATIONAL NEWS

SANU ORDERS YEAR THREE CLASS TO REWRITE EXAM

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

THE Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU) has ordered a whole class to re-write a course after students were accused of malpractice during their examinations.

The students, doing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Midwifery (BSNM) year-three, learnt with shock after they were served with a memo informing them that they would have to sit again for the examination.

The students were just fresh from receiving their results from the institution and celebrating their success on Monday when they received the disturbing news.

The memo, which came from the registrar's office was titled, "Rewriting of NUR 306 BSNM Level 3." It states that students are kindly advised that the external examiner noted an anomaly in the students' responses for NUR 306 final examination paper, which indicated academic malpractice.

It was said as such the BSNM 3 students will have to rewrite the NUR 306 paper. The date of when the students are supposed to rewrite the exam has not been set yet, but students were informed that they would be notified about the date in due course.

SANU Registrar Stanley Ngcwane confirmed that indeed the university had served students with a memo,



SIT AGAIN: Some of SANU's BSNM Year 3 students leaving the High Court, where they had attended a case of their student leaders who were suspended after leading a protest recently. (courtesy pic).

informing them that they will have to sit again for the exams.

Ngcwane said this was not a decision by the University's Senate but it came from an independent party, an external examiner, who saw it fit that the students must take the examination again. This decision has not gone

down well with the students, who stated that they intended to oppose the decision to rewrite the paper. The students are accusing the lecturer of being lazy by giving them an examination paper that was written in 2015. SANU Students Representative Council Secretary General Tiger Nxumalo said

they were indeed in a dilemma as third year students pertaining to their end of year academic results. He said out of all the five courses they took this semester, one came out to be incomplete, following suspicions that there was some kind of malpractice during the examination.

"We, as the Nursing Year Three class find this preposterous because all we did was to study all the past papers for NUR 306, thus it is not our fault that the lecturer in question was lazy to set a fresh and fair paper," one of the concerned students stated.

Nxumalo chipped in and said in actual fact, the lecturer had been repeating plenty of questions from past papers for more than 10 academic years.

"As for the one we recently wrote, it was mainly a repetition of a final examination in April 2015," Nxumalo pointed out.

He added that such was a norm for any other indolent lecturer in the institutions of higher learning of the country. Nxumalo said worst of all as students they felt very much saddened

about this lecturer because since 2015, while they were in Year 1 she had never lectured anything.

He said the only thing she normally did was to offer them a course outline with schedules for tests, and that's all. Nxumalo decried the exorbitant funds that they were made to pay at

the university, while some lecturers were failing to teach.

"We are not prepared to rewrite this course anytime soon as we find this decision to be unfair. Besides, the date is still to be set, yet we are already running out of time since the university shall be opening soon in mid-August.

There are still some students who are supposed to sit for a supplementary exam in about a week from now," Nxumalo stated.

The secretary general said not only that but as a class they also felt that the university did not take them seriously because they never summoned them as students for an investigation so as to hear their side of the story before they could pass their judgement that they should rewrite the paper.



VACANCY

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS MANAGER

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the position of Industrial Relations Manager in our Human Resources department.

MAIN PURPOSE

Provide expert advice and consultative services to management and staff on labour issues; implement and manage industrial relations policies and procedures.

REQUIREMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor of Arts (Law)/Degree in Labour Law or equivalent
- Minimum 5 years of relevant work experience in a similar environment, including at least 3 years practical experience in IR management in a highly unionised environment
- Good writing, presentation, communication, analytical, decision making and interpersonal skills
- Ability to function efficiently and effectively in a dynamic and pressurized environment
- Experience in conflict management, negotiation and dispute resolution

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The incumbent will be responsible for the following:

- Formulation of and ensure adherence to all employee relations policies and procedures; ensure that they are in line with relevant legislation
- Liaising with labour regulators, legal advisor, social partner representatives and CMAC
- Labour, management and stakeholder relationships
- Facilitating and provision of professional advice on grievances, conflicts and disciplinary hearings
- Facilitation of union/management meetings
- Negotiation of and adherence to agreements

REMUNERATION PACKAGE

The position comes with a competitive salary and other benefits associated with the level of the position and experience.

APPLICATIONS

Please submit your applications with an up to date detailed resume and certified copies of academic qualifications to:

The Human Resources Manager
Swaziland Water Services Corporation
PO Box 20, Mbabane

Email: humanresources@swsc.co.sz

Closing date for applications: 18th July 2018

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted

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Tel: 2416 9000, Fax: 2416 3616

Visit: www.swsc.co.sz

Farmers punch holes in inputs subsidy programme

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

FARMERS have punched holes in the new subsidy programme introduced by the ministry of agriculture.

The input subsidy will this year be disbursed by the National Maize Corporation (NMC), which will be working on behalf of the ministry of agriculture.

The NMC is said to have introduced a rather sophisticated way of paying to the farmers, which, in the opinion of the farmers, is rather difficult than the one used last year.

One farmer who resides in the Siphocosini constituency said he was not happy with the way things were to be done this time around. Getting farm input subsidies would be very difficult because people would be required to go to towns and cities to get the subsidies like the maize seeds and fertilisers. With NMC at the helm, people were instructed to go to their constituency centres (etinkhundleni) or RDAs where they would fork a minimum of E3 000 for the subsidies.

They would then get cards which they would produce at any Swazi-Bank branch in the country, with an intention to deposit that money into the NMC account at the bank. The card would also include money for tractor hire, which would be in the minimum of E250 per hour.

After going to the SwaziBank, the

farmers would then wait for a call from NMC, directing him or her to fetch input subsidies at any hardware outlet in the country. In terms of the tractor hiring process, the farmers would only be given a tractor service only after they have paid. No farmer would be allowed to pay a tractor driver on the spot, as payments would be made via RDAs/Tinkhundla centres and SwaziBank.

The tractors are to be monitored by officers from NMC as they plough for farmers in the fields.

The Siphocosini farmer, who did not give his name, said what saddened him was the fact that they had to go to far places like cities or towns to get the input subsidies.

Last year, even though there were problems, they would get their subsidies from either Tinkhundla or imiphakatsi. But this time, imiphakatsi were completely phased out and farmers had to find out how they got their own input subsidies from the hardware outlets. He wondered what happened to the decentralisation policy, which was talked about now and again. Farmers were told that the cards would be available at RDAs or Tinkhundla centres from Monday. However, the farmer said he did not find anyone to give that service at the Motshane RDA, where he was to be serviced. The payment process would end on September 30 this year. If someone pays after that date, he/she would be serviced in the following year.

TERRORISM COPS **RAID** ASIAN BUSINESSMAN'S PREMISES

● Asian was arrested for forging King's signature

● 5 employees were taken for questioning, asked to divulge names of top police officers connected to Hussain

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Matsapha



RAIDED: Malhi Furniture Shop located at Sigodvweni where over 10 police officers from the Counter Terrorism and Organised Crime Unit raided on Friday taking five employees in for questioning.

EMPLOYEES of Dilawar Hussain, the Asian who was arrested late last year by the Counter Terrorism and Organised Crime Unit for allegedly forging the signature of His Majesty the King, are now living in fear after they were terrorised by over 10 police officers from the unit.

Information gathered from the employees, who are still traumatised by last Friday's events, is that at about 4pm a group of over 10 officers who were armed to the teeth, carrying guns and in plain clothes, stormed the business premises of Hussain travelling in Quantum vehicles.

The police raided Malhi Furniture Shop, which is one of the busiest furniture shops in Matsapha, owned by Hussain.

An employee who was found at the shop said the officers did not even show them a search warrant or any form of identification to show that

they were police officers but simply stormed the place harassing everyone.

The officers, are said to have asked the employee, who is in charge, as to how many offices the place had, to which they were informed that there

was only one storeroom and the furniture shop.

The officers are said to have told the employees to open the storeroom. The five employees were then led by the officers to the said storeroom, where

the police started ransacking the place, searching for something which the employees did not know what it was.

The employee, who is the supervisor of the place, said when she tried to ask for a search warrant, she was

told to shut up as police were doing their work.

The employee said it took the officers about 10 minutes searching the place until they found a certain letter, written by Hussain's son. It is said the officers read the letter and then informed one of the employees to read the same letter. It is said the officers then ordered everyone who was inside the furniture shop out, including customers.

The supervisor said she was ordered to close the shop and they were led to Hussain's place, where the officers continued with their search, turning everything upside down. She said the search at Hussain's place took about three hours.

Later at around 8pm, the employees were then led to Sigodvweni Police Station, where the interrogation continued. The employees said they were asked if they knew any police officers, including top officers, who were friends with Hussain.

The employees said they were also asked to tell the police if there were any top Asian businesspeople who had connections with Hussain.

This action has not gone down well with the employees who said it was a common occurrence for the police to now come to the place anytime to conduct investigations.

They said sometimes the officers did not talk to anyone as they simply got in the place and would start taking pictures.

After the incident the employees said they went to visit their boss, who is languishing in prison and told him about the whole ordeal.

Police investigations affecting arrested Asian's business

INVESTIGATIONS being carried out by the police seem to be affecting Hussain's business, the supervisor has said.

She said since the police raided the place, the number of customers frequenting the shop had declined drastically.

She said, for example, last Friday customers were left dumbfounded after they saw the employees being taken in for questioning, which led to the store being closed.

The supervisor said some customers were now afraid to make deposits for their furniture as they feared that the business may close anytime.

She said the furniture shop used to be a huge shop, which

occupied two huge spaces but they had to close one after Hussain's arrest.

Charges

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba, when asked about the raid at the businessman's Furniture shop, confirmed that indeed police went to the place as part of their investigations in an ongoing case. Worth noting is that Hussain has been languishing in prison after he was arrested together with three business persons of Asian origin.

They were arrested on charges of allegedly forging the signature of the King. Hussain was arrested together with Mohamed

Faruq Yaqoob, her husband Goga Mohamed Faruq Yaqoob and Fiyyaz Ahmad.

They were arrested by the Counter Terrorism and Organised Crime Unit after allegedly misrepresenting false documents to the Swaziland Citizenship Board.

Hussain's bail application was opposed even after he informed the High Court that he obtained a Swazi international passport in 2015, through the assistance of a female official at the home affairs ministry.

Among the officers who raided Hussain's place, it is said there were officers who were present when Hussain was first taken in for questioning.

ON THE ROCKS



THE WRITING IS ON THE WALL: A "Soccer Babes" fan decided to leave his/her mark on the rocks near the Sibebe Rock in Pine Valley. (Pic: Mduzuzi Mngomezulu)

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LEITES MOTORS MECHANIC LOSES REVIEW AGAINST DISMISSAL

...He was challenging Industrial Court's judgment which confirmed his dismissal

By Sandile Nkambule
High Court

AN employee of Leites Motors has lost his application for review of an Industrial Court decision that confirmed his dismissal from work.

Simeon Simelane had filed an application at the High Court, where he was seeking an order that the judgment of the Industrial Court sitting with nominated members, delivered on December 9, 2016 be reviewed and set aside.

The application was opposed by the respondent (Leites) and Simelane had filed the application in terms of section 19(5) of the Industrial Relations Act.

When handing down judgement, Principal Judge Qinisile Mabuza agreed with the industrial court that in view of the circumstances that the court cannot condone the applicant's behaviour towards his boss, Louw.

She also said this type of behaviour would result in chaos in the workplace if respect and obedience were not enforced as these tenets formed the cornerstone of the employer-employee relationship.

Simelane was dismissed from work after being charged with the offence

of gross insubordination (insolence), in that in February 2012 and on various dates, he unlawfully and intentionally disrespected, threatened or ill-treated and or refused to obey lawful instructions from his superiors Dave De Villiers and Louw.

This, he did, by impudently and rudely talking to De Villiers and ordering him to get out of his (Simelane) workshop and further deliberately refusing to heed to his instruction to report to his office. By so doing, he contravened section 36(b) of the Employment Act.

He did not accept the dismissal and approached the Conciliation Mediation and Arbitration Commission (CMAC), where a certificate of unresolved dispute was issued before approaching the Industrial Court.

Judge Mabuza, in her judgment, stated that the applicant was employed as assistant mechanic and remained in continuous employment until he was dismissed by the respondent on May 10, 2012.

The Industrial Court heard oral evidence and legal arguments and issued its judgment partly in favour of the applicant and partly in favour of the respondent and it found that applicant was not guilty on the first charge, but guilty to the second charge of mis-



JUDGEMENT: Principal Judge Qinisile Mabuza.

conduct towards his senior managers.

The Industrial Court held that the applicant was substantially fair, which forms the subject of the review application. The applicant's contention was that the judgment of the Industrial Court was arrived at arbitrarily or *mala fide* or as a result of a fixed principle in order to achieve an ulterior motive or that the court misconceived its function.

Judge Mabuza observed that from the judgment of the Industrial Court, the applicant's statement of claim was,

amongst others, that the dismissal was substantively unfair because he was dismissed for allegedly refusing to go to the manager's office, yet he did not refuse but requested to go there with a witness as the manager had allegedly verbally abused him.

He also stated in his statement that the dismissal was procedurally unfair because he was denied legal representation on appeal, yet this was allowed during the disciplinary hearing.

Judge Mabuza agreed with the judge of the Industrial Court, that there was

no altercation between the applicant and Louw wondering why the applicant failed to respond to Louw's instruction immediately.

The principal Judge further agreed with the learned judge that the applicant was not justified in not complying with Louw's instruction and insisting on having to come with a witness.

"It is clear that the applicant wanted to comply with the instruction on his own terms, I further agree with the learned judge that, that Court (Industrial) including this court cannot condone the applicant's behaviour towards Louw and that this type of behaviour would result in chaos in the work place if respect and obedience were not enforced," Judge Mabuza said.

Judge Mabuza said the application for review was not frivolous, furthermore the financial scales were tilted in favour of the respondent, as a result in her order for costs, she did not follow the principle that costs follow the event.

Consequently, Judge Mabuza ordered that the judgment and award of the industrial court were hereby confirmed and the application for review in respect of the second charge was hereby refused and dismissed, each party was ordered to pay its own costs.



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KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT FARMS

Silulu Royal Holdings is mandated to promote the development of under-utilized government farms in the Kingdom of Eswatini, with the goals of improving food security and enhancing economic activity in the Kingdom. Eswatini provides a wide range of climatic conditions, with correspondingly diverse agricultural possibilities.

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Responses should be submitted via email by 15 August 2018. Following evaluation, qualifying parties will be requested to submit project proposals.



SC+PASS PROJECT OPERATIONS MANAGER

Through the TSP Program, Baylor-Swaziland and Baylor-Malawi are implementing the Supply Chain and Pharmaceutical Assistance for Sustainable Systems (SC+PASS) Project in eSwatini. SC+PASS seeks to improve the delivery and consistent use of HIV, TB and other reproductive health commodities and essential pharmaceutical services to achieve desired HIV, TB and SRH health outcomes.

Reporting to the Project Director, the Project Operations Manager (POM) is responsible for efficient oversight of the day-to-day running of the administrative functions and supports the finance and human resource functions of the program. The POM coordinates all procurement, logistics, and assets and stores management. The POM also assists in human resource management. Additionally, the POM supports prudent management of finances and report writing and ensures all programmatic and administrative activities are in line with USAID rules and regulations.

Responsibilities Summary

- Ensure the maintenance of accurate, complete and timely financial records of designated projects
- Manage the project Support Team and oversee the accurate and timely production of various types of financial information that lead on to the development and production of monthly management reports.
- As part of the Management Team, assist in advising and formulating of policies and procedures
- Ensure the implementation of designated projects are in compliance to donors' requirements and policies of the government of eSwatini and global standard.
- Establishes policies regarding to cash handling, cash movements, cash disbursements, and foreign currency holding and ensuring that they are adhered to.
- Prepare budgetary performance reports and submit to TSP and/or donors in coordination with the Project Director and that these are complied with.
- Reviews all the prepared donor and TSP financial reports and ensure the approval of such reports by Project Director before submission

Experience and Qualifications Summary

- Accounting qualification and post-qualification experience.
- Successful track record of managing operations and financial and management accounting.
- Experience of managing staff and associated employment issues.
- Previous experience in the financial and administrative operations of a NGO.
- Excellent planner and strategic thinker.
- Ability to deliver timely results despite obstacles and limited resources.
- A strong grasp of all relevant legislation and of how it applies to the role.

Link to full Job Description: <https://www.hivsharespace.net/opportunity/scpass-project-operations-manager>

Contact Information: Please send all applications by July 27, 2018 to Cebile Masinga cmasinga@baylor-swaziland.org.sz

Note: Preference will be given to applicants that are citizens of, and/or currently residing in eSwatini.

WORKS EMPLOYEE WINS ROUND ONE IN E800 000 LAWSUIT

Stories by Sandile Nkambule
High Court

A civil servant under the ministry of public works and transport, who tearfully related how the ministry allegedly fraudulently issued a memo to the effect that his wife had died yet she was alive, has won round one of the lawsuit where he is demanding E800 000 from government as compensation.

High Court Judge Nkosinathi Maseko has ordered that the defendants (Principal Secretary) and the Attorney General are granted leave to file a special plea of the prescription in terms of Section 5(a) of the Act. The defendants had filed a notice of leave to file special plea to the effect that the cause of action arose in April 2011 and that the proceedings were instituted in January 2014 outside

...High Court orders that PS in the ministry of public works, AG file special plea of prescription, trial to be heard before close of current session

the 24 months prescribed under section 2(1) (c) of the Litigation proceedings against government.

However, represented by lawyer Martin 'Internash' Dlamini, the plaintiff (denies that the matter had prescribed in any way in that he had demanded for in August 12 2011 and immediately after the claim fell sick and was confined to wheelchair and was only able to continue court process in November 2014.

In terms of the law, the plaintiff stated that any prescription would have also

been interrupted by the acknowledgment by the defendant on facts of the claim in particular the fraud conduct against plaintiff.

Judge Maseko stated that legal proceedings against the government of Eswatini are regulated by the Litigation of Legal Proceedings against Government Act no 21 of 1972 which was enacted to prescribe litigation of time in connection with the institution of legal proceedings against government.

"The defendants are granted leave to file the special plea of prescription in terms of the section 5(2) of the Act, the plea is hereby declared to form part of the pleadings in this matter, plaintiff is awarded wasted costs, the defendants are also ordered to pay costs on the ordinary scale as from November 9 2017 to December 14 2017, the parties are to agree on a date for trial in this session," Judge Maseko said.

Judge Maseko said he is of the considered view that it would be in the interest of justice not to shut the door in the face of the defendants and disallow the application filing of the plea by the defendants because section five permits the late filing of the special plea.



LAW AND ORDER: High Court Judge Nkosinathi Maseko.

MY WIFE WAS BURIED ALIVE - GAMEDZE

MANENE Gamedze is suing government after he alleged that his wife was 'buried alive' through a memo in order to secure financial assistance for the burial of a senior official's maid.

The startling revelation was made by Gamedze in his application filed at the High Court, where he is seeking an order compelling the ministry to compensate him for damages he suffered as a result of the ministry's alleged action.

He wants government to compensate him to the amount of E800 000 as a result of the injury to his good name as the contents of the memo became widely known and even reached his in-laws who were seriously offended by same.

According to Gamedze of Siphofaneni, in his particulars of claim, the ministry of public works issued a memo on April 2011 falsely stating that his wife had

died and he was unaware of the memo until January 2012.

He stated that although his wife Lomagugu Happy Gamedze was sick at that time, she was however alive and had not died.

He says the memo by the defendants (principal secretary and ministry) was wrongful and of a defamatory nature to him in that when it was discovered that his wife had not died, this portrayed him as a dishonest person.

Dishonesty

He submitted in his affidavit that as a result of the defendant's actions, his relationship with his in-laws broke down as his in-laws accused him of wishing for his wife's death and accused him of dishonesty.

He further stated in his papers that the memo was allegedly issued for the purposes of securing financial assistance

for the burial of a senior official's maid since government could not disburse those funds for the said maid since she did not qualify.

"The statement by the defendant was to injure my reputation hence the claims of E800 000 for the damages I suffered," Gamedze stated.

He further stated that when his wife eventually died on July 22, 2011 he could not get financial assistance from government as an official because the ministry had already fraudulently lodged the claim using his wife's name who at that time was still alive.

He stated in his papers that he would have received a total sum of E15 000 for his wife's burial hence he alleged that the defendants are liable to compensate him to a total sum of E815 000 at a rate of nine per cent per annum plus cost of suit.

EBC calls for suitable nomination venues

By Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

THE Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) has urged chiefdoms to use suitable and flexible venues for the nominations.

The nation will at the end of this month head to different venues in their chiefdoms to nominate individuals that they see fit to stand for the elections.

Each chiefdom in consultation with the EBC will decide whether the nominations take place on the Saturday, July 28 or Sunday July 29.

EBC's Communication Officer Mbonisi Bhembe said they were still awaiting schedules from the different chiefdoms which would then be released to the public.

Bhembe said while the chiefdoms were expected to use their own discretion when identifying the venue where the nominations should take



place, the commission advocated for neutral places, where everyone could freely participate in the nominations.

Structures

"We are aware that there are structures within the traditional set-up where people in certain conditions cannot set their foot in hence we are advocating for neutral places.

I will make an example, we know that as per Swazi Custom women wearing their mourning gowns cannot go

to chiefdoms let alone participate in activities taking place in them. We therefore urge our Chiefs to thoroughly consider all people in their chiefdoms, make sure that all people can fully participate in the elections that is nominate and be nominated," he said.

The elections will take place in September 21. The nation is currently gearing up for the nomination rounds which will take place on July 28 and 29.

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DOC:16498

12 NATIONAL NEWS

Liswati based in Norway donates to Ngwazini

By Bahle Gama
Mbabane

AN 18-year-old student of the United World College, Red Cross Nordic in Norway has donated kitchen utensils to Ngwazini Primary School.

This was Thandolwethu Shabangu's way of giving back to her community.

She was born and raised at Ngwazini and felt the need to begin her charity at home.

"I went to the head teacher at school

and asked what they needed before I left in January.

Project

She pointed out a number of things, but since it is my first project, I decided to start small and then move on to something bigger in the future."

Shabangu donated pots, dishes and spoons to the school kitchen.

"I am part of an organisation called Saving the Future Generation (SAFUGE). It is independently run by students in Norway, so I applied for the funding

there because it specialises in encouraging students to make change in their local communities," said Shabangu.

She further stated that she did this project not only because she wanted to help a local school which she knew was in need, but she wanted to inspire the youth and show them that one does not need to be old and rich to make a change.

"You do not need to be old to make a change, stand up and do something, budvodza abukhulelwa," she continued.



SHARING IS CARING: Thandolwethu Shabangu with the head teacher and pupils during the kitchen equipment donation at Ngwazini Primary School.

LUBANE CO-OP DONATES E15 000 TO FIVE PUPILS

By Sabelo Majola
Ezulwini

LUBANE Savings and Credit Co-operative Society has come through for five pupils by donating E15 000.

Lubane, in collaboration with Red Cross Swaziland, is paying tuition fees for the five secondary school pupils amounting to E7 500.

The also bought them grocery items worth E7 500.

Red Cross identified the less-privileged pupils while Lubane helped finance their academic and basic needs.

The grocery items included rice, sugar, beans and cooking oil.

Also included in the items were blankets for the scholars and school uniform.

Lubane Manager Gugu Vilakati said their objective was to see the pupils going all the way to tertiary and make something out of their lives.

"We would like to thank Lubane members for giving us a green-light to the initiative, which is aimed at equipping the less privileged pupils academically and enhancing them with basic needs. The initiative dates multiple years back, where we collaborated with Red Cross to help us identify the pupils and some have finished school already," she said.

The pupils are from Hillside, Sigombeni, Zombodze, United Educator (Salesian) High School.

Red Cross Representative Andreas Dlamini, whom the items were handed over to, expressed gratitude to Lubane for their meaningful initiative which has helped more than 10 pupils around the country with academic and basic needs.

"Red Cross works closely with the



HELPING HAND: Lubane Savings and Credit Cooperative Society Manager Gugu Vilakati presenting a E7 500 replica cheque to Swaziland Red Cross representative Andreas Dlamini after presenting grocery items and uniforms worth E7 500 for five secondary school pupils at their offices in Ezulwini yesterday. Dlamini received the donation on behalf of the pupils. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

communities and we come across these pupils who are living under tough circumstances.

Enhanced

"We then hand them over to Lubane so that they are enhanced. Recently, Lubane helped build a one-roomed house for a Maliyaduma based pupil, who goes to St Pauls High School.

"They bought material and we assembled our skilled labourers to build the

house," he said.

Lubane Savings and Co-operative Society was established by Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) employees in 1977 and in 2010, they opened the doors for every Liswati citizen to join.

Also present during the hand over of the donation were guests from Botswana, who are coming from Maitlamo SAC-COS, a similar co-operative in that country.

Murder suspects remanded behind closed doors

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

THE four men from Northern Hhohho who were arrested for allegedly assaulting a supposed dagga thief to death appeared behind closed doors at the Pigg's Peak magistrate's court on Sunday.

The four accused individuals are said to have assaulted a man (28) to death after he allegedly stole some dagga in a daring plan that involved two masked gunmen.

10 killed for stealing dagga

ABOUT 10 people have been killed for supposed dagga stealing in the past 10 months.

These statistics come after another man (28) was allegedly bundled into a taxi boot and then beaten to death, by his friends who are believed by police, to be dagga dealers.

The latest murder bears stark resemblances to the story of other men who were also assaulted to death for dagga-related crimes.

Around February 2018, a man (27) was beaten to death at a dagga field at Nkomazi by six men, who were later arrested for the murder.

In another similar case, one man (26) tragically lost his life after he was beaten to death by a mob for allegedly trying to steal dagga at Maphalaleni by four men who were later arrested for the murder.

In March 2018 another man, in his early 20s, also beaten to death by a mob for allegedly trying to steal dagga at Maphalaleni, this incident resulted in five arrests.

In June 2018, three men from

Due to the fact that police are still locating the deceased's next of kin, this publication has withheld his name.

Sources said the four men appeared before Principal Magistrate Joe Gumede.

"The four alleged murderers appeared before the magistrate on Sunday morning. They were advised to apply for bail at the High Court in Mbabane. Thus they will remain in police custody until they manage to be admitted to bail," a source said.

Nyonyane around Bulandzeni were arrested for the brutal assault and murder of another man (24), who was suspected of stealing dagga.

Another dagga death was recorded in November 2017, after a man was beaten to death for stealing dagga at Maguga, this incident resulted in three arrests.

In October 2017 two men from Bulandzeni were assaulted by an angry mob for stealing dagga at a particular dagga field.

After the assault, one of the men survived, while his counterpart lost his life, the incident resulted in four arrests.

Also in October 2017, an elderly man from Vusweni was also murdered and then dumped on the roadside, at the time dagga was found near the corpse, leading police to assume that the murder was dagga-related.

All the incidents were confirmed by Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba.



THE PEOPLE'S BANK: Lubane Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Chairman Doctor Hlongwane (l) Manager Gugu Vilakati (c) posing with visiting Maitlamo SACCOS executive from Botswana; Piaki Tom, Hendry Sethibe, Moremi Mugupi, Tupimu Obert and Richard Ntlatlang.



ROAD WORKS: Upgrading of the streets at Queen's Gate is already underway and motorists are advised to be extra cautious around this area. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

ALLEGED KILLER HACKED

By Mncedisi Dlamini
Mbabane

AN alleged killer was brutally hacked by people who apparently wanted to avenge for the death of their friend.

Wandile Dlamini (24) was arrested and charged by the police for allegedly stabbing another to death sometime back at Cuddle Puddle at Ezulwini.

Dlamini was recently hacked by his assailants, who were carrying bush knives.

Bheleza Lungelo Nxumalo (22) of Lobamba area and Brent Littler (19) of Ezulwini, both appeared at the magistrate's court in Mbabane for the offence.

They were charged with the offence of assault with the intent to cause grievous bodily harm at Manzana, Ezulwini area in



PRESIDING: Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati.

the Hhohho district.

They are said to have wrongfully and unlawfully hacked Dlamini using a bush knife on the head.

On second count, the accused are charged with the offence of contravening Section 92 of the Crimes Act after being found in possession of a dangerous weapon.

Both Littler and Nxumalo are currently in police custody following the crown's submissions that they should be kept behind bars due to the sensitivity of the matter.

They were both remanded to police custody by Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati until July 13, 2018.

The ironic part in the story is that Dlamini was hacked just a few metres from where the alleged murder incident occurred.

When being interviewed after the court proceedings, Dlamini stated that he was now living in fear as Ezulwini residents were baying for his blood following the unfortunate death incident.

Dlamini said he would be applying for a protection order from the courts for safety reasons.



BREAKING THE LAW: The owner of this motor vehicle ignored all the road signs and continued to wrongfully park his car at the junction along the Libandla Street in Mbabane over the past weekend. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Man accused of raping former lover

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A man from Mzilikazi has appeared before the Magistrate's Court for allegedly raping his former lover.

Sibusiso Matsenjwa (27) also faced a charge of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

He was said to have wrongfully and unlawfully assaulted one *John (real name deliberately withheld to protect the rape survivor) by hitting him several times on the body with a stick. He is said to have accused the complainant of causing the breakup between him and the woman, whom he is alleged to have eventually raped. The altercation is said to have taken place at a popular drinking hall situated near Mlindazwe area. Information gathered is that

the accused person found the complainant together with the woman. He is said to have then forcefully taken the woman away to his house.

On the second count, the accused is said to have wrongfully and unlawfully had sexual intercourse with a woman without her consent. The charge was also accompanied with aggravating factors, which include that the accused person inflicted a lifetime trauma to the woman by forcing her to the act. He is also said to have exposed the complainant to sexually transmitted illnesses, as he did not use any form of protection.

The accused person appeared before Principal Magistrate Dumisani Magagula. When he was informed of his right to legal representation, the accused person elected to conduct his own defence.

The matter was then set to commence for trial on July 29, 2018.

Mhluma, Bible Society to offer counselling sessions to widows

By Samkelisiwe Khoza
Manzini

IN collaboration with the Bible Society, Mhluma Women and Youth Foundation will provide counselling sessions for Eswatini widows.

Mhluma Women and Youth Foundation Director Lungelo Zulu explained that the key objective of the initiative was to train widows on how to deal and work with traumatised people, especially other widows during the passing of their spouses.

He was speaking on Monday during the trauma counselling training for widows held at the Global Village in Manzini.

Zulu said the whole programme was motivated by a scripture from the Bible (2 Timothy 5: 3).

"There are 22 widows who are undergoing the training, they will then go back to train, teach and counsel others back home on how to deal with trauma after the loss of their part-



NO STRESS: Some of the widows in a recent meeting.

ners. They are expected to be ambassadors of this programme," he said. The director added that such an initiative was the first of its kind in the history of Eswatini. He said the main aim of the training was to create a divine relationship with church leaders, as it was also the duty of churches to look and take care of widows and their children.

"As Umhluma Women and Youth Foundation, we appreciate the collaboration with the Bible Society, which will help bring peace and hope to widows because of the trauma healing training," Zulu said.

He said not all widows in the

country underwent counselling during the loss of their husbands and most Emaswati did not see the necessity of undergoing counselling after the loss of a spouse. Zulu added that regular home visitations would also be part of the counselling offered to widows just like community nurses.

"Churches will also create programmes, where widows in their denominations will be offered counselling," he said.

The director said the foundation and the Bible Society would continue to support Eswatini widows by providing counselling sessions and other necessities.



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PUBLIC NOTICE/ SATISO

DEATH GRATUITY DISTRIBUTION BY PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONS FUND

The Public Service Pensions Fund invites the following deceased members' families to meetings to be held at the following scheduled times and dates at the Pensions Building, along Mhlambanyatsi Road. Family members are requested to bring certified copies of the following: proof of identity, death certificate, birth certificates, marriage certificate(s) and any other relevant documents.

Lihhovisi letemhialaphansi (PSPF) licela tihlobo tanabalabalandzelako kutsi tivele enhlokothovisi ngalamalanga netikhatsile tilandzelako.

Tiyacelwa kutsi tiphatse sitifiketi sekufasemufi, titifiketi tekutalwa tebantwana bemufi, titifiketi tekutsatsana, nabomatise bebuve (P.I.N.) ID natontonke tincwadzi letingasita.

The following deceased members' families are invited to attend a meeting on the following dates:

MONDAY 16 JULY 2018

Name of Deceased	Ministry	Empl. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. MlotsaXolani Ronnie	C.T.A.	40132835	11.06.2018	09h00
2. Masangane-Dlamini Thoko	Health	3312087	16.06.2018	09h45
3. Msibi-Sifundza Cebile K.	C.T.A.	9219432	10.06.2018	10h30
4. Dlamini Dumisa Daniel	Correctional	5150045	16.05.2018	11h15

TUESDAY 17 JULY 2018

Name of Deceased	Ministry	Empl. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Ndlovu Zwelithini Raymond	Works	3676309	06.06.2018	09h00
2. GamedzeMeshackZaha	Health	8715605	17.06.2018	09h45
3. Shongwe Busisiwe Phumzile	King's Office	9834767	16.06.2018	10h30
4. Dlamini McolisiSimphiwe	Defence	6818661	26.05.2018	11h15

WEDNESDAY 18 JULY 2018

Name of Deceased	Ministry	Empl. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. MkhombeLindokuhle	C.T.A.	6957364	31.05.2018	09h00
2. Mathabela Phumzile M.	Education	6514817	17.06.2018	09h45
3. Manana Moses Lobovu	Defence	4304007	19.06.2018	10h30

For more information please contact Nothando Dlamini at 24119000 or our Toll Free Number 8002401

NORTHERN HHOOHO NEWS

...With
Sizwe Dlamini

Pigg's Peak Office

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KIDS SHARE ROOM WITH DEADLY SNAKE FOR WEEKS

PIGG'S Peak tenant Nomsa Dlamini-Ndlangamandla says her two sons are still sharing their bedroom with a green snake.

It is believed that the reptile is the deadly Boomslang or green tree snake known locally as the *indlondlo*.

The snake was spotted by her two sons a month ago entering a small hole in their bedroom wall.

She then called Asian businessman / snake catcher Sharafat Ali Shafi to try and retrieve the snake without killing or harming it.

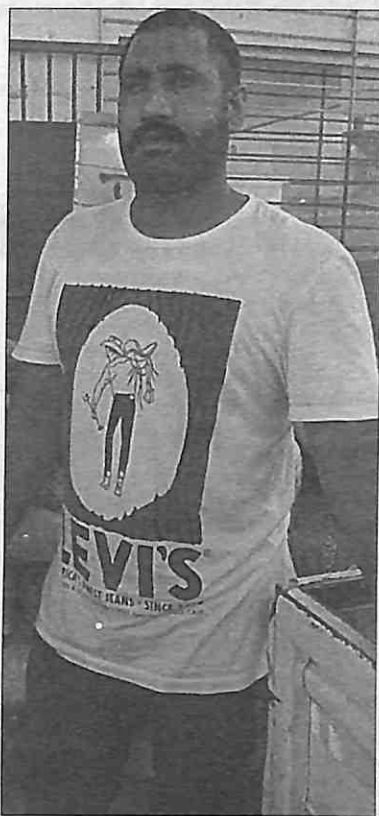
Shafi paid a visit to the house that is located behind the Pigg's Peak Fire Station and tried to safely remove the reptile, however, he failed as the snake slithered deep into the wall of the bedroom.

At first, the snake slithered into the ceiling and when it sensed Shafi, it moved into a deep crack.

Upon realising that the snake was in the crack, he then tried to retrieve it by hand, but could not do so as it had slithered deeper into the wall and out of arms reach.

This dilemma then left Shafi with two options, to leave it there with hope that it will eventually leave the home or to break down the entire wall and retrieve it. Breaking down the wall would not be possible as the owner of the house who lives in Mbabane refused to allow such extensive demolition.

The snake was left in the wall for in hopes that it would move out of its hiding place sooner rather than later.



CALLED FOR HELP: Asian businessman/snake catcher Sharafat Ali Shafi.

Unfortunately, a month later this has not happened as it was spotted peering through the wall yesterday by the house occupant (Ndlangamandla).

She again raised an alarm and Shafi rushed to the house.

He could not retrieve it because it

slithered back into the deep wall crack.

Ndlangamandla said she had reported the snake to the landlord, who said the wall should be covered with wall filling trapping the snake inside the wall until it dies.

"I thought the snake had already moved out of the bedroom a few weeks ago as it had never reappeared after Shafi told us to leave the window in that bedroom open. I have left the window in that room open for at least three weeks, and only closed it at night. I feel I have done enough to make sure that the snake has left my household," she said. She said she had concluded that her children have been sharing their bedroom with the snake for a month.

After seeing it for the second time, she ordered her children to remove their beds and items from the bedroom, and leaving the window open.

Meanwhile, Shafi said snakes were cold blooded creatures that need heat to survive during the cold winter months especially around July.

"The snake has made the bedroom wall as its hiding place for now as Pigg's Peak is experiencing colder weather. If the snake is nesting in the wall, it will move out once it starts to get hotter, snakes are creatures that like to live in peace and avoid noise. It will eventually move out and back to the nearby trees to hunt for birds, but for the safety of the children that bedroom should be left unused for now," he said.

...Family advised to vacate house

SWAZI Anti Venom Foundation Snake Expert Thea Litschka-Koen has advised the family living with the snake to vacate the room where it is hiding for a few days.

This will allow the snake to move out through an open window.

Koen said the family should lock the room where the snake is located and place a towel under the door so that the snake can vacate the room at its own time.

She said snakes in the Kingdom don't hibernate, as they become less active during the colder winter months, moving out of their hiding places to sunbath.

"The weather in Pigg's Peak is quite cold, but snakes don't hiber-

nate they just become less active and go outside to sunbath in peace. So if this family is dealing with a snake, it should be allowed to move out of the wall and go outside, the window should be open and door closed," she said.

She added that

Eswatini had four different types of green snakes that are harmless. She said the affected family could take a picture of the snake and send it to her for proper identification.

"The picture does not have to be of its head, it can be of its scales so we can then see how we at the foundation can help the family. I can send our volunteer to the house and remove the snake safely using all the correct tools," she added.



SNAKE HOUSE: Snake Expert Thea Litschka-Koen at the Swazi Anti Venom Foundation has advised the family living with the snake to vacate the room for a few days and let the snake move out through an open window.

MINISTER DONATES FENCE, BLANKETS

MINISTER of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani 'Buy Cash' Mabuza has donated garden fence and 150 blankets to the people of Malanda.

Mabuza is also former Pigg's Peak Member of Parliament (MP).

Present at the donation was Malanda Councillor Sibongile Magagula and about 150 residents of Malanda.

Mabuza spoke about the importance of subsistence farming.

"It is important that everybody who owns some land should practise the habit of farming vegetables for their own consumption. This idea might seem small and insignificant

in the beginning, but it will help people save money over time as vegetables are expensive. Employment is hard to come by and it is important that we develop a proper mindset of trying to feed ourselves through the land that God has blessed us with, these garden fences will be used by locals to protect their gardens from animals or thieves who would steal the garden produce," he said.

He added that farming in the long run was cheap and if someone in Malanda focused more on growing vegetables, then that particular person could become a vegetable supplier.



DONATION: Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza donated 129 garden fences at Malanda recently where he was joined by Malanda Councillor Sibongile Magagula and Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Christopher Gamedze.

BABY MAMA ABUSED ME, LEFT WITH MY BED TO ANOTHER MAN

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

A man has claimed that the mother of his child abused him, before she dumped him for another man.

Despite many watchful eyes at a residents meeting held at Mathendele Township, Pat Nxumalo revealed how he had been subjected to abuse by the mother of his eight-year-old daughter, who now lives with another man.

He said all along he had been stomach-aching the pain of the abuse as he felt others would laugh at him because it was thought that only men abused women; and not the other way round.

The meeting was called by the township's authorities, and it covered several topics.

Anthony Maseko, who is a member of the township inner council, had highlighted that they intervened in many incidents where partners had misunderstandings, some of which turned physical.

Maseko said the purpose of the meeting was also to request community members to live in harmony.

"We have cases where partners at times hurt each other over petty issues, which could have been handled amicably. Fighting is not a solution and there are consequences if someone has assaulted another irrespective of the



ABUSED: Pat Nxumalo.

excuse," said Maseko.

Nxumalo stood up and arrated that his abusive mother of his child had been problematic.

He said he was confused on what to do as he had made several efforts seeking help from the relevant authorities, including social welfare offices.

"She left me with our daughter to live with another man. She did not just dump me alone, but she also took with

her some of our belongings, which I had contributed when they were purchased such as the bed. She is sharing the bed with another man and I sleep on the floor with my daughter," said Nxumalo.

Nxumalo said he had reported the matter to the authorities of the township and there was a serious discussion which looked promising.

He said shortly after that discussion, he was summoned to the police station as there was a matter reported by his live-in-lover.

"Just when I had thought all was well, I was shocked to be served with court papers and she was the complainant. In court, she wanted me not to repossess the bed she took with her despite having agreed when we met with the elders that she acknowledged that I contributed to its purchase," he said.

Nxumalo told the meeting that he was being abused by the mother of his child in many ways, even though she was now staying with another man.

"She does not contribute anything towards our child's welfare, though I am unemployed but she is in gainful employment," said Nxumalo.

Others in the meeting suggested that Nxumalo should approach organisations such as Swaziland Action Against Abuse (SWAGAA) as it also handled matters brought by men who are abused by their partners.

Liquor outlets operating 24/7 to blame for high crime rate

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

LIQUOR outlets that operate for hours have been blamed for the escalating crime rate at Mathendele Township.

Nkhululeko Hlophe, a member of the community police forum, said as long as some of the liquor business outlets continued operating anyhow, there was no way crime could be reduced.

He said there were known liquor outlets in the township, where incidents occurred including stabbings and other attacks, but still they were allowed to operate as if all was in order.

"This is worrying as these liquor out-

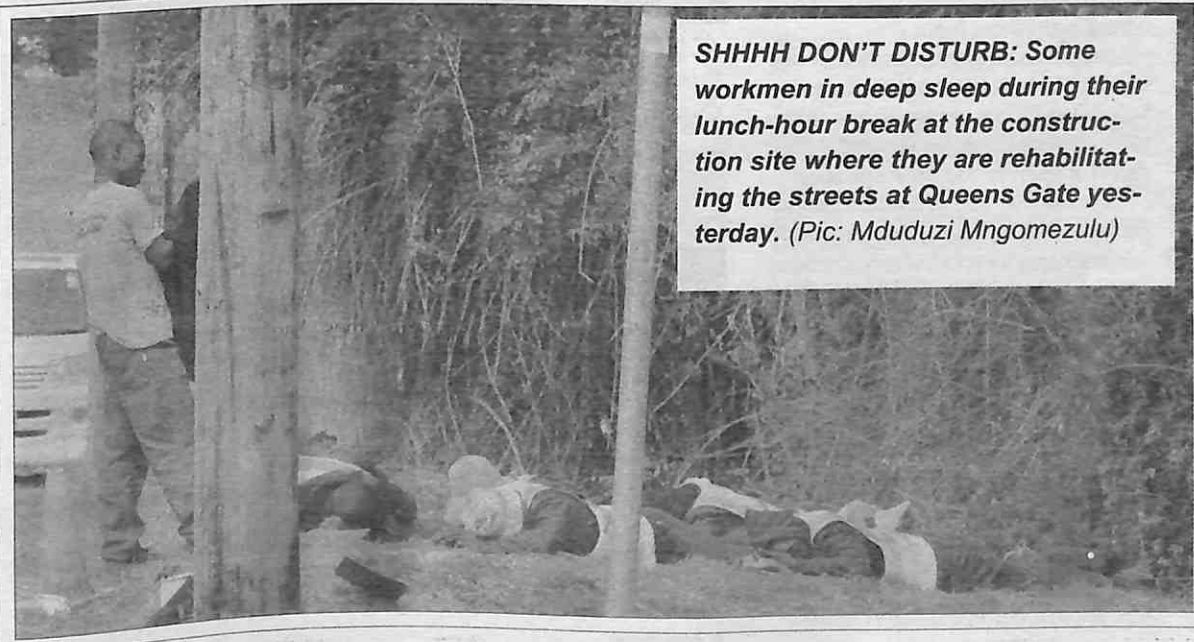
lets have not closed doors from the day they started operating. Bars operate day and night, these are the businesses that promote crime in the township. Their customers are also a nuisance to members of the public and apart from that, you hear others hurling unbelievable insults right in the presence of our children. Some of these liquor outlets located within residential areas are a curse to us who no longer enjoy sleep," said Hlophe. Hlophe said the bar brawls experienced in the township were unbearable, as at times families were awoken from sleep by noise which could not be easily controlled.

"There are fights which start from these bars and end spilling to our homes

and when you are still resting or sleeping, you get disturbed by the people from these businesses which do not close. When you wake up in the morning, you find blood all over the place and some of these brawls lead to deaths as people are stabbed," said Hlophe.

Another concern that was raised in the meeting was that some of the revellers were drunkards, who were also a menace to innocent members of the public as they were subjected to abuse.

"The drunkards attack anyone they come across and also break bottles all over the road. Something has to be done fast, we can't just pretend as if all is okay when we know things are in shambles," said Hlophe.



SHHHH DON'T DISTURB: Some workmen in deep sleep during their lunch-hour break at the construction site where they are rehabilitating the streets at Queens Gate yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Houses used as brothels at Mathendele Township

Stories by Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

SOME houses have been turned, reportedly, into brothels at Mathendele Township in Nhlangano.

Some of the structures are housing different people who are not even known in the township.

Residents in a meeting heard that some property owners were only interested in making money as they did not care even if married women and men used them for illegal activities.

"You also see people going into some of these properties in partners and some are dropped by different vehicles and also seen with different men. It does not only happen during the ungodly hours, which is the night but even during the day, you see different people coming in and out of some of these properties. We see married men and women visiting these places which now operate as brothels. The sad thing is that even young girls who are still attending school frequent these

places and you see some wearing uniforms," alleged one of the speakers.

The speaker noted that immorality was rife, and involved in this dirty work were married men and women who cheated with other men and women using some of the properties around.

It is feared that several of the women seen roaming the streets in the township are suspected to be involved in prostitution.

Meanwhile, the meeting also wanted to know if property owners, such as landlords, were aware of the activities taking place in their properties.

"Landlords are to blame for some of the crimes and illicit activities taking place in this community. Property owners should screen their tenants, and it's possible that several of the properties harbour criminals," said another resident.

Supporting the speakers, member of the community forum Nkhululeko Hlophe said there was an instance where they found that 20 people were squeezed in one house with male and females.

...Mathendele Township needs more community police

ONLY three community police service a population of over 5 000 people at Mathendele Township in Nhlangano.

The densely populated area now faces a challenge in addressing crime due to the shortage of community police.

The 5 000 people excludes tenants or those who live in the area on temporary basis and if all could be added, the number of people residing in the township is plus or minus 7 000.

Meeting

During the meeting called by the township's inner council, it was explained that criminals do as they please and have 'taken' over the township.

Nkhululeko Hlophe, a popular resident serving in the community police forum, told the meeting that they were now overworked as they had to patrol all over the area, including the 'mushrooming' suburbs such as Esiphumelele close to the township. Hlophe first requested the township's authorities to rally behind them, saying their support was needed, especially when considering that community police are known as the administrative arm of the community leadership.

"We get no support, thus we are facing numerous challenges when going about our work. We have a huge workload now as

there is just the three of us who have to serve such a high number of residents. It's impossible to service all the areas in this township when there are only three of us who are active in community policing.

Discouraging

"It's also discouraging as at times when we deal with someone well connected to known people, we are blamed and it's like others are allowed to be found on the wrong side of the law," said Hlophe.

Hlophe said they were also discouraged by those who interfered when they (community police) carried out their work, especially when confronting those they felt were involved in crimes and enjoyed the backing of people who should be exemplary.

"It makes our work difficult to have someone question our work. Law should not favour anyone, whether rich or poor family," said Hlophe.

Hlophe said there was a need for the elders of the township to call a special meeting, where issues affecting the work of the community police would be discussed, including recruiting more community police.

It was then agreed that the next meeting should be slated for the end of the month and the issue of community police be top of the agenda.

STA UNVEILS 3RD TEKUVAKASHA TOURISM AWARDS APPLICATION PERIOD

By Nomthandazo Nkambule
Mbabane

APPLICATIONS for the third edition of the annual Tekuvakasha Tourism Awards will open on August 20, 2018, revealed the STA Acting CEO Gcinithemba Fakudze.

STA is Eswatini Tourism Authority. Addressing tourism, hospitality, and travel industry players last week at an industry workshop held at the Royal Swazi Spa Resort, Fakudze revealed that a full month had been set aside for receiving applications for this year's awards. "The application period will run from August 20 to September 28, 2018. The STA encourages all industry players to apply and compete in their respective categories,"

said Fakudze.

Fakudze went on to reveal that there were still 17 categories that will be contested for this year, as was the case in the previous two editions of the initiative. Tekuvakasha Tourism Awards started in 2016, following realisation that the tourism industry had to embrace service excellence as a culture.

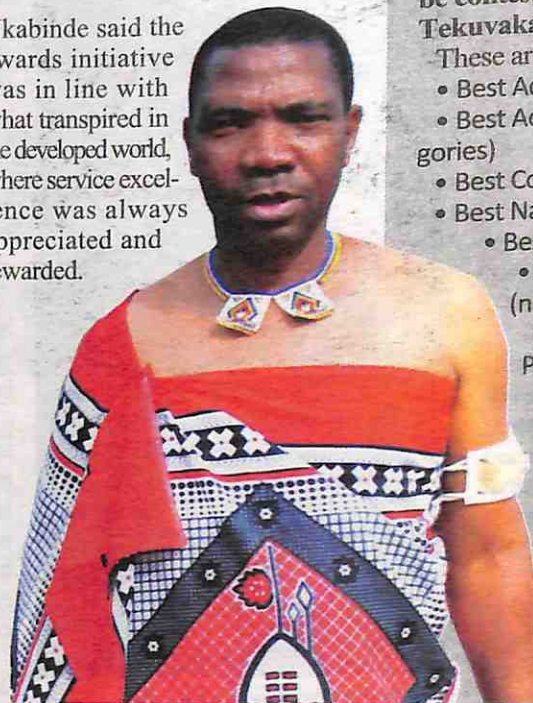
The debut ceremony in 2016 was held at the Royal Swazi Spa Resort, in Ezulwini, while the second edition was held at Esibayeni Lodge, in Matsapha. Meanwhile, industry players in the tourism, hospitality, and travel sector have suggested the scrapping-off of prize money in the annual Tekuvakasha Tourism Awards. In his remarks, the President of the Hospitality and

Tourism Association of Eswatini (HOTAS), Marc Ward, suggested that the STA re-channel the cash incentive towards covering the marketing and promotion of the awards' ceremony. In separate interviews, industry players said they were quite eager to enter for this year's awards, as the initiative tended to encourage them to be at their best throughout the year.

"We have come to adopt service excellence as a consistent value in our hotel, thanks to such initiatives as the Tekuvakasha Awards; hence our excitement at the announcement of the opening of the application period," said Sibane Hotel General Manager Mbali Khulu.

Happy Valley Hotel and Casino Marketing Manager Noxolo

Nkabinde said the awards initiative was in line with what transpired in the developed world, where service excellence was always appreciated and rewarded.



...Tekuvakasha Awards categories revealed

MEANWHILE, STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini has revealed the 17 categories that will be contested for at this year's Tekuvakasha Tourism Awards.

These are:

- Best Adventure Tourism
- Best Accommodation (three categories)
- Best Community Based Tourism
- Best Nature Reserve
- Best Cultural Tourism
- Best Major Festival/Event (non-national events)
- Best Tour and Transport Provider
- Major Tourist Attraction
- Best New Tourism Business
- Best Tour Guide
- Best Tourism Restaurant and Catering Services
- Minister's Award

ANNOUNCED: STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini.



ROTARIANS: Incoming Mbabane Rotary Club President Nonhlanhla Kazembe with other rotarians. (Pics; Mhlengi Magongo)

Nonhlanhla Kazembe the second female president of Mbabane Rotary Club

By Mhlengi Magongo
Mbabane

THE status of women in Eswatini continues to soar as the Mbabane Rotary Club inducted the second female president.

Nonhlanhla Kazembe was introduced as the incoming president of the Rotary Club of Mbabane during an induction dinner held at the Mountain Inn on Saturday.

Kazembe takes the reins from immediate past president Daran Rehmyer, who has been at the helm of the branch for three years.

Rehmyer said he appreciated the support he received while he was president, adding that he was hoping that the same

spirit would be accorded to his successor.

"The club is known for the quality of service it provides to the public and I hope it will continue to live within those standards," he said.

Rehmyer said he wished projects being done by the club would not cease to exist, but be multiplied.

He also urged that the club members should attend the club's meetings and be part of the projects.

After her induction, Kazembe said

she was thankful for the new position.

She said she was not blind to the fact that such could come with challenges, however, she said she was committed to serve and support the club.

She reminded fellow rotarians to always keep their objectives in mind whenever they went about their duties as this would assist them focus.

Kazembe also highlighted that she was available to listen to advice and to be guided by her predecessors, while working with the theme in mind, which calls for them to 'Be the Inspiration'.

As president, she promised that all projects would continue successfully, while calling for robust recruitment of new members. She added that more new members were needed who would bring fresh ideas to the club.

"It is my wish that all the clubs in the country can work together on individual projects or combined ones," she said.

Some of the projects being done by the Mbabane Club include the construction of a kitchen at Vuvulane Primary, the renovation of a clinic at Maphiveni and another one at Salvation Army.



STUDENTS: (L-R) Majaha Zikalala, Graca Mendz and President Nkosinathi Mkhonta from Limkokwing Rotary Club.



ALL PROTOCOL OBSERVED: (L-R) Richard Lemmer, Pastor Carl and wife Elma Brook, Marjorie Balarin, Cythia Dlamini and Liz Arden.



LALELA SISI: Past president Daran Rehmyer giving words of advice to incoming President Nonhlanhla Kazembe.



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

1 BILLION RISING REVOLUTION

LAST week Eswatini made history by hosting the first ever Eswatini Pride Parade, a parade that celebrates differences.

If anything, this event has cemented the fact that the struggle of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) people for equal rights has to move to center stage. LGBT people battling for their civil rights in the streets is only the beginning. But despite this significant step towards gaining recognition, LGBT people continue to face real discrimination in all areas of life.

Almost 2.8 billion people are living in countries where identifying as gay could lead to imprisonment, corporal punishment or even death. In stark contrast, only 780 million people are living in countries where same-sex marriage or civil unions are a legal right.

Eswatini is one of the countries where same-sex marriage is not a legal right, and identifying as gay or lesbian is still frowned upon. Despite the fact that all people on the Eswatini land have the constitutional right to be protected, not much has been done to protect LGBT people against abuse. They are still kicked out of their homes by their parents, and not much is done to educate people on the different types of sexual orientation.

However, there's been enormous progress globally and locally. It is important to note that the fight for LGBT rights is not a Western phenomenon; many of the governments at the forefront for the defense of LGBT rights are from the developing world.

Take South Africa, for instance, not only are LGBT people allowed to express themselves, they have the right to get married as well. They are considered human and their rights are protected

PRIDE PARADE A HISTORIC EVENT



I'M PROUD: Franky Dlamini the Diva.



HAPPY DAY: Pole Dancer Sasha from Mozambique.

just like everyone else. It wasn't easy, we cannot confidently state that it was easy from the beginning. But upon realising that denying them equal rights is counterproductive, the South African government decided to do the right thing.

The status of the LGBT community is a good litmus test for the status of human rights in the Eswatini society, precisely because it is such a vulnerable minority.

Imagine being a woman who identifies as lesbian - you are already a member of one minority group, and your

coming out makes it a double tragedy. Women are already living in fear of being battered, and more so if that woman is lesbian. Correctional rape is not a thing outside the country, it is a thing inside the country as well.

Lesbian women are threatened with rape everyday, with a recent incident where a popular man from Mbabane raped a lesbian woman and the whole country made light of the situation.

When you look back over the last decade, what do you think was the main driver for change, in regulation and people's mindset? Generally, the rights

revolution and the greater respect for individual autonomy. It is Human Rights Organisations that have held hands with civil society and forced authorities to recognise minority groups as human too. Before such organisations, a 50 year old woman had the same status in the eyes of the law as a three year old. Children, women and people living with disabilities were secondary to men. The rights awareness campaigns that may have taken years to bear fruit, are the same mechanism that will see the rights of LGBT people become recognised.

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ON THIS DAY

... JULY 11

1346 - Charles IV of Luxembourg was elected Holy Roman Emperor in Germany.

1533 - Henry VIII, who divorced his wife and became head of the church of England, was excommunicated from the Catholic Church by Pope Clement VII.

1708 - The French were defeated at Oudenarde, Malplaquet, in the Netherlands by the Duke of Marlborough and Eugene of Savoy.

1742 - A papal decree was issued condemning the disciplining actions of the Jesuits in China.

1786 - Morocco agreed to stop attacking American ships in the Mediterranean for a payment of US \$10 000.

1798 - The U S Marine Corps was formally re-established by "An Act for Establishing a Marine Corps" passed by the U S Congress. The act also created the U S Marine Band. The Marines were first commissioned by the Continental Congress on November 10 1775.

1804 - The United States' first secretary of the treasury, Alexander Hamilton, was killed by Vice President Aaron Burr in a duel.

1864 - In the US, Confederate forces led by Gen. Jubal Early began an invasion of Washington, DC. They turned back the next day.

1914 - Babe Ruth debuted in the major leagues with the Boston Red Sox.

1918 - Enrico Caruso recorded "Over There" written by George M. Cohan.

1934 - The first appointments to the newly created Federal Communications Commission were made.

1934 - US President Franklin Delano Roosevelt became the first American chief executive to travel through the Panama Canal while in office.

1955 - The US Air Force Academy was dedicated in Colorado at Lowry Air Base.

1960 - In Honolulu, HI, the first tournament held outside the continental US, sanctioned by the US Golf Association, began.

1962 - The first transatlantic TV transmission was sent through the Telstar I satellite.

1972 - US forces broke the 95-day siege at An Loc in Vietnam.

1977 - The Medal of Freedom was awarded posthumously to Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in a White House ceremony.

1979 - The abandoned US space station Skylab returned to Earth. It burned up in the atmosphere and showered debris over the Indian Ocean and Australia.

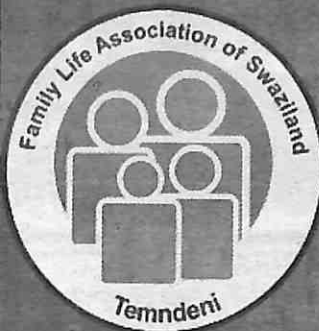
HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Lil Kim
(Rapper) - July 11, 1974
(44 years)



Justin Chambers
(TV Actor) - July 11 1970,
(48 years)



TEMNDENI NEWS

Read the **SWAZI OBSERVER** and get exciting news about The Family Life Association of Swaziland

f Family Life Association of Swaziland

@flas79

Flas-temndeni

Website: www.flas.org.sz



Maxwel Dlamini
Resource Mobilization
and Communications Officer

SEXUAL RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS!

THE Family Life Association of Swaziland (FLAS) took a paradigm and strategic shift in 1999 after the IPPF conference to focus on young people and integrate Sexual and Reproductive and Health Rights programming.

The focus has brought about a lot of controversy amongst the conservative and religious sector, especially when SRHR is used in conjunction with young people. Hence, the objective of today's article is to explain what are Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, as well as the essence of providing comprehensive SRHR services and information to young people in Eswatini.

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) encompasses all of the rights and issues surrounding a person's sexual and reproductive life. These rights are closely linked with other internationally recognised human rights, such as the right to privacy, the right to education and information, the right to equality and freedom from violence and all forms of discrimination, the right to the highest attainable standard of health, etc.

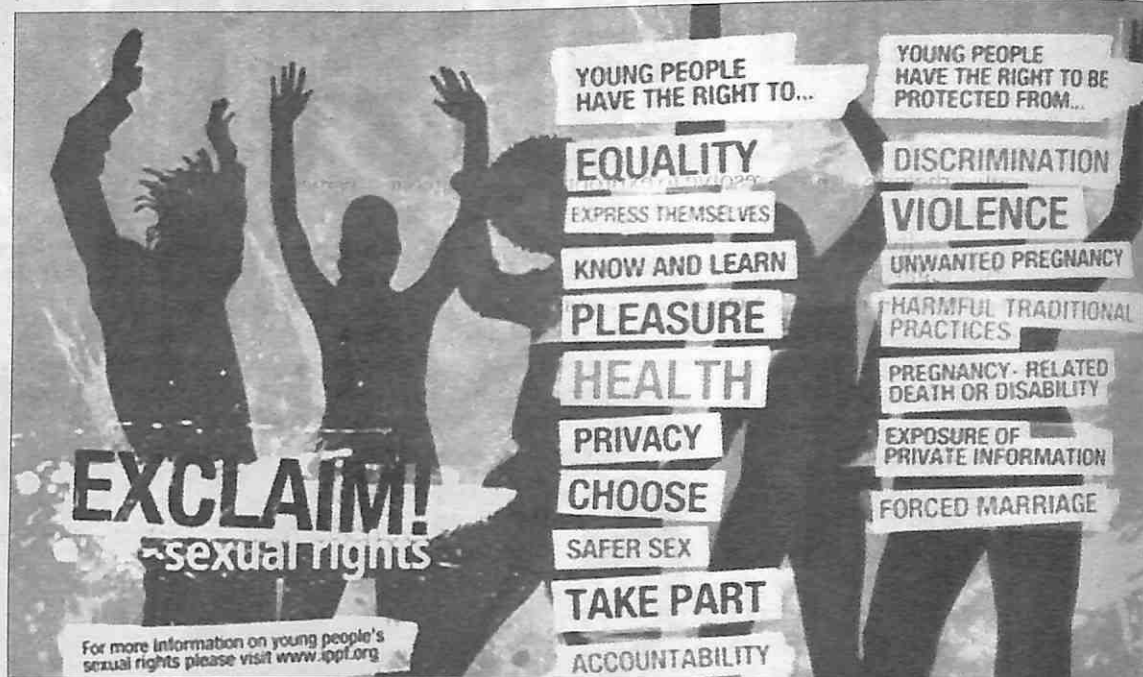
The term SRHR combines four separate but interrelated concepts: Sexual Health (SH), Reproductive Health (RH), Sexual Rights (SR) and Reproductive Rights (RR). Sexual and Reproductive Health cover the right to decide if, when and how often to have children, right to live free from diseases, the right to have access to accurate, comprehensive and confidential information.

On the other hand, Sexual and Reproductive Rights cover the sexual pleasure, the right to sexual privacy, the right to have the full range of contraceptives, the right to choose your partner as well.

SRHR, therefore, encompasses many human rights that are internationally, regionally and nationally recognised and protected. These rights are still considered extremely controversial, especially when this term is used in conjunction to young people. They are particular contentious as they also recognise and protect sexual and gender diversity issues, which are not yet accepted in many communities.

SRHR and youth situation in Eswatini

FLAS primarily focuses on young people aged 10-24 years to provide comprehensive and integrated SRHR



services and information. The reasons the association focuses in the area of SRHR are outlined below:

Inadequate and limited SRHR policy implementation

The country has signed and ratified a number of SRH international and regional policies, some of which have been operationalised through policies and legislation. However, there still remains a gap in terms of implementation due to the unawareness by the population – at all levels and absence of operational instruments such as guidelines and legislation.

This is notable in areas affecting women and girls. In spite of the many efforts to stimulate interest in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights matters, knowledge and support remains relatively weak across the board.

Although there has been a notable improvement in the policy framework in the country over the years, there still remain some barriers to making healthy choices.

The policy environment with respect to social and programmatic enablers is particularly challenging with concerns ranging from the protection of adolescent girls from sexual violence, discrimination and the enabling environment for meaningful consultation with and engagement of adolescents.

High maternal, neo natal and child mortality

Maternal and new-born deaths during childbirth are as a result of a complex mix of factors such as inadequate services, low levels of

community awareness, physical and financial barriers, as well as traditional cultural values and gender norms.

In Eswatini, all of these factors play a role and are further complicated by the severe HIV epidemic.

Eswatini has one of the highest maternal mortality rates at 589 per 100 000 live births and, the infant mortality also stands at 85 per 1000 live births. The high maternal mortality is as a result of various factors and compounded by the HIV situation, where 26 per cent of the reproductive population is living with HIV and HIV prevalence.

Limited access to SRHR services, especially to vulnerable and marginalised groups

In a country where the general dominating trends are pervasive poverty and economic inequality, access to quality Sexual and Reproductive Health services remains a key priority area. The social marginalisation of vulnerable groups calls for stimulation of a better policy landscape and service delivery mechanisms.

Limited access to appropriate information, gender inequality, abuse of cultural norms also add to the barriers that limit service availability and as well as service uptake in settings where those services have been made available

Youth

With over 50 per cent of the country's total population below the age of 20, there is a need to prioritise young people and enhancing their capacities to make informed deci-

sions. One of the most striking manifestations of this is that, 45 per cent of the under-18 population is orphaned or vulnerable (MICS 2015), with one in every four Eswatini children having lost one or both parents. These youths are at an increased risk of childhood poverty, abuse, violence and low educational attainment, which in turn further increases their vulnerability to contracting HIV (NERCHA 2014).

It is vital to the future of Eswatini that young people be afforded opportunities for social, personal and professional growth and development. Most urgently, they require access to activities that will equip them with the information, confidence and ability to not only participate fully in society, but also navigate the multitude of life choices and issues that lay before them. FLAS, together with IPPF, will strive to work towards a world where women, men and young people everywhere have control over their own bodies, and their destinies. A world where they are free to choose parenthood or not; free to decide how many children they will have and when; free to pursue healthy sexual lives without fear of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. A world where gender or sexuality are no longer a source of inequality or stigma. We will not retreat from doing everything we can to safeguard these important choices and rights for current and future generations. For Enquiries/Comments Email: maxwell@flas.org.sz Cell: 7618 5770/ 7918 5770

ANC, EFF BATTLE FOR RURAL VOTES

DEMOCRACY, many of us would like to believe, it is good because it offers voters choice.

It's the best possible way to regulate the replacement of a government by a process in which voters are presumably the kingmakers who choose from the policy menu.

Ideally, democracy should force political parties to compete in the formulation of the best possible policy positions. If the ideal was also the reality, our political parties would boast huge departments of research and policy innovations. They would hire the best experts to come up with the best policy solutions. Voters would also develop expertise to make judgement calls on best policy options.

Alas, in place of the best policy options for voters, we have competition for populist rhetoric. And voters seem to love the whole trickery. The more emotionally appealing your rhetoric, regardless of whether it is anchored on sound policy, the more likely you can earn your seat in Parliament.

Even the parties that have a semblance of good policies don't speak about those policies when they campaign for votes. Experts are hired not to develop policy solutions, but to develop public relations strategies to hypnotise voters. When talking to voters, it would seem the race to the bottom is the most preferred.

No time to play with rhetoric

This is not a uniquely South African problem. The rise of right-wing populists in Europe and the United States is primarily the result of this kind of emotionally charged rhetoric-based politics. While some developed countries might have room to play with rhetoric, South Africa doesn't. We need serious policy-driven solutions, mechanisms to implement them and reasonably honest politicians and voters.

The land reform debate offers potential for adopting innovative policy measures to correct the injustices of the past and simultaneously inspire investor confidence in the economy. But the debate is being hobbled by the short-term need for politicians to garner votes.

The potential benefits of democracy are undermined by populist short-term calculations towards the 2019 elections. Take for example



BATTLE: EFF supporters hold anti-Morocco placards.

the ANC conference's decision to resolve to expropriate land without compensation with the caveat that it should not affect food security and other sectors of the economy. Since its formation, the ANC never advocated for outright expropriation of land.

The ANC, however, had good ideas that, if implemented, would have fundamentally changed the land ownership landscape in South Africa. Land hoarding would have been taxed. Black farmers who benefited from redistribution would have been assisted to reach full production capacity. They would have been assisted to gain access to markets. And aspirant black agri-industry players would have received state-of-the-art training in vibrant agricultural colleges.

Comrades in power have other priorities in mind

Instead of implementing these ideas, the comrades in power had other priorities – such as instant gratification for themselves. In the context of political competition for votes, the new political party, the Economic Freedom Fighters, emerged to advocate for expropriation of land without compensation. All land, the party said, should belong to the State.

It seems this policy position was winning EFF voter support especially among the understandably disgruntled and unemployed. Not to be outdone, the ANC had to adopt a resolution along the lines of the EFF but polished with conditions.

This cat-and-mouse political com-

petition for votes between the two parties didn't end there. It is becoming a tragicomedy of sort. The battle for rural voters under the jurisdiction of unelected chiefs is forcing the two parties to alter their positions.

Press conference

Last week the EFF held a joint press conference with leaders of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of SA (Contralesa). They claimed to have agreed on a wide range of issues including the need to nationalise land. Interestingly, in their joint statement, the two organisations said they had agreed that, "land which currently falls under the custodianship of traditional leaders will continue to be held as such but subject to the primary and overall trusteeship of the state on behalf of the people."

Coming from the EFF this policy position is not only new; it contradicts the party's original policy. The EFF has to make a clear policy decision. Either it promotes expropriation of all land without compensation or it doesn't. Well, there is the matter of gaining votes. Policy muddling under the circumstances works. It won't be long before we hear slogans like 'hands off our chiefs!' especially where traditional leaders are perceived to have influence over the sentiment of voters.

Unsurprisingly, the EFF's joint statement with Contralesa also refers to the need to tread carefully behind the scenes when dealing with the controversial Ingonyama Trust led by Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini.

"We jointly disagree with an approach that seeks to conduct that debate [about the fate of the Ingonyama Trust] in the media, serving to entrench positions and will surely retard progress and only fuel unnecessary tensions," the statement reads. "We are all confident that this issue will be resolved through honest debates; there is no other alternative."

Isn't the land reform debate in South Africa a public matter? But, somehow, the Ingonyama Trust's issue must be discussed privately!

Not to be left behind in the political genuflection on the feet of Zwelithini, President Cyril Ramaphosa has also appeased the king, assuring him his government won't touch land under the Ingonyama Trust.

This is the third exclusion on the land that could potentially be expropriated. The first exclusion was that by implication, land that serves as collateral for bank loans won't be expropriated because it would affect other sectors of the economy. The second exclusion, also by implication, was that land that is productive will not be expropriated without compensation as there was the national imperative for food security.

In just one public pronouncement, Ramaphosa vowed to leave untouched land under the control of chiefs. So, people who live on tribal land will never have title over the land. They will remain subjects, not full citizens. Doesn't all this make the land reform debate a farce?

On the positive side, however, political competition between the DA and the ANC on the land question seems to be yielding some positive results.

Since the DA began popularising the idea of giving people title deeds for townships homes, starting in Cape Town when Patricia de Lille was still the party's mayoral darling, the ANC also has been making moves in that direction. Political competition that gives Africans asset ownership is really progressive.

Unfortunately, this type of competition is overwhelmed by the race to the bottom we currently are witnessing on the issue of communal land. Mkhabela is a political analyst with the Department of Political Sciences at the University of South Africa. *News24*



● "When someone loves you, the way they talk about you is different. You feel safe and comfortable."
— Jess C. Scott, *The Intern*

● "I no longer believed in the idea of soul mates, or love at first sight. But I was beginning to believe that a very few times in your life, if you were lucky, you might meet someone who was exactly right for you. Not because he was perfect, or because you were, but because your combined flaws were arranged in a way that allowed two separate beings to hinge together."
— Lisa Kleypas, *Blue-Eyed Devil*

● "Indifference and neglect often do much more damage than outright dislike."
— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

● "I think you still love me, but we can't escape the fact that I'm not enough for you. I knew this was going to happen. I'm not blaming you for falling in love with another woman. I'm not angry, either. I should be, but I'm not. I just feel pain. A lot of pain. I thought I could imagine how much this would hurt, but I was wrong."
— Haruki Murakami, *South of the Border, West of the Sun*

● "The meeting of two personalities is like the contact of two chemical substances: if there is any reaction, both are transformed."
— C.G. Jung

● "A guy and a girl can be just friends, but at one point or another, they will fall for each other... Maybe temporarily, maybe at the wrong time, maybe too late, or maybe forever"
— Dave Matthews Band

● "You can talk with someone for years, everyday, and still, it won't mean as much as what you can have when you sit in front of someone, not saying a word, yet you feel that person with your heart, you feel like you have known the person for forever.... connections are made with the heart, not the tongue."
— C. JoyBell C.

● "For the two of us, home isn't a place. It is a person. And we are finally home."
— Stephanie Perkins, *Anna and the French Kiss*

● "Man may have discovered fire, but women discovered how to play with it."
— Candace Bushnell, *Sex and the City*

● "I will find that special person who is wrong for me in just the right way."
— Andrew Boyd, *Daily Afflictions: The Agency of Being Connected to Everything in the Universe*

● "Well, it seems to me that the best relationships - the ones that last - are frequently the ones that are rooted in friendship. You know, one day you look at the person and you see something more than you did the night before. Like a switch has been flicked somewhere. And the person who was just a friend is... suddenly the only person you can ever imagine yourself with."
— Gillian Anderson

Could AU law shape a new legal order for the continent?

IN his forthcoming book, African Union Law, Femi Amao argues that Africa is on the cusp of a new continental legal order.

It's evolving slowly but there are early signs that it's showing traits similar to the development of European Union law. The Conversation Africa's Julius Maina asked him to explain.

What are the preconditions for a new legal order?

The African Union legal order stems from the integration efforts that started with pre-independence

Pan-Africanism. This led to the formation of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), which was succeeded by the African Union (AU) in 2002.

The formation of the AU formally marked the beginnings of continental legal order because, unlike the OAU, it was formed by a Constitutive Act – a recognised social contract and legal code that now underpins the continental legal order. This development means that we now have the prerequisite framework for a continent-wide legal order. It's acknowledged that

the legal order is in its infancy and there's a long way to go. Even though the AU has made significant progress in meeting its ambitious goal of political integration, African leaders are aware of the need for further reform. That was why the AU Assembly commissioned the Kagame report which recommended a number of institutional and legal reforms. These include improving the effectiveness of the AU court system, clarifying the legislative powers of the Pan-African Parliament and the

speedy implementation of the AU continental passport.

You argue that AU law is beginning to show traits similar to the development of European Union law. What are these? The design of AU institutions is broadly similar to that of the EU with comparable institutions. Laws of supranational organisation evolve progressively with the institutions. It is therefore not surprising that the emerging AU law is also showing characteristics similar to EU law. *News24*

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	4.8%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E13.30 per litre
Replacement	E13.35 per litre
Diesel	E13.30 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.65 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 10 JULY 2018

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.3706	13.4206
British Pound/SZL	17.6953	17.7614
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.2776	8.3078
Swiss Franc/SZL	13.4757	13.5247
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.2956	1.3112
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.9718	10.0117
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.1871	10.2221
Mozambique Metical/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.6950	15.7537
Gold	1,256.2900	
Oil	76.8700	

For more information contact:
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Email: gmswaziland@stanbic.com



Standard Bank

MUNICIPALITIES TO UNDERGO FIVE-DAY TRAININGS

By Majaha Nkonyane

LOCAL governments will be the first to receive trainings from the Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA) to be facilitated by the University of Swaziland (UNISWA).

The training schedule shows that local government officials will undergo short courses for five days.

The short course is designed to introduce the concept of public procurement, as well as discuss best practices.

The trainings are targeted at CEOs, town clerks, town treasurers, head of human resources, project managers and heads of procurement.

The course content will cover public procurement reforms in the country, legislative context, public procurement tools, methods and

processes.

Speaking in a press briefing held at the SPPRA headquarters in Mbabane yesterday, SPPRA Senior Capacity Building Officer Nokuphila Mayisela said facilitators would come from both institutions.

She said in future, other institutions would also be roped in to complement the trainings on offer.

Acting UNISWA Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Micah Masuku

assured their commitment towards the collaboration. Masuku said all trained delegates would receive their certificates at the end of each session.

"As an institution of higher learning, we believe this will help motivate the delegates to improve their work places by complying to public procurement standards, while engaging in continuous learning and sharing," he said.

Ezulwini tender scam, 2 other cases handed over to police

By Mhlengi Magongo

THE E900 000 Ezulwini municipality fake tax clearance tender scam has been handed over to the police by the Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA).

This was revealed by the agency's Director of Policy, Legislation and Investigations Buhle Dlamini during a media briefing held at the SPPRA offices in Mbabane.

Apart from the Ezulwini tender scam, another case involving the Siteki Town Council was also handed over to the police. At Siteki, a prospective tenderer also forged his tax clearance.

The third case, which was also referred to the police was a government stores tender.



LEGAL-WISE: SPPRA's Director Policy Legislation and Investigation Buhle Dlamini clarifies some of the issues raised during a press briefing held yesterday.

In this case, a supplier won the tender without entering the bidding process.

Dlamini revealed that the cases had been reported to the police's fraud unit, who were to make fur-

ther investigations.

Dlamini also said SPPRA was trying by all means to ensure that suppliers were awarded fairly without any form of prejudice.

He added that the agency followed strict policies, as well as the law in making sure that all tender applicants adhered to the policy.

The director, mentioned that the agency has developed a policy, which is set to correct all wrongfully awarded tenders in an event where it is proven that the awarding of the tender was not justified.

This, according to Dlamini, will result in fraudulently awarded tenderers facing suspensions ranging from one to five years. They can also be slapped with fines not exceeding E10 million, according to section 55 of the Procurement Act of 2011.

SPPRA, UNISWA join hands to train municipalities on procurement

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA) has joined hands with the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) in a bid to professionalise procurement processes in public institutions in the country.

The collaboration of the two institutions was announced at a media briefing held at SPPRA offices in Mbabane yesterday.

SPPRA Chief Executive Officer CEO Madoda Mngomezulu said the lack of well-capacitated professionals make it difficult to professionalise procurement in the country, thus weakening the system of buying of goods within public institutions.

Mngomezulu expressed confidence that the collaboration would meet both institutions' mandate of skills development in the country.

"We also believe that this union



ONE TEAM: SPPRA CEO Madoda Mngomezulu and acting UNISWA Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Micah Simelane pose with some of the SPPRA and UNISWA's staff members and a representative from government. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

will enhance public procurement reforms with the local government space and thus ensure improved service delivery," he said.

According to Mngomezulu, it is important for SPPRA to increase confidence within government procurement, hence the engagement in capacity building would result in improved service delivery systems.

Mngomezulu was also optimistic that the training session would

enhance procurement processes thus reducing the risk of corruption, fraud, fiscal wastage and poor performance. Acting UNISWA Pro Vice Chancellor Micah Masuku said following the partnership, they would soon approach the donor community for funding of interventions to close gaps as informed by the capacity assessment report conducted by SPPRA.

Masuku described the time for business as usual as being over.

He also discouraged the long-standing tradition of institutions working in silos as collaborations between relevant entities are important to build the economy of the country.

As the two institutions are also working on enhancing service delivery from government through capacity building, local governments were identified to have the closest relationship with citizens as compared to other public entities.

VAT HELPS SA INCREASE TAXES BY 17 PER CENT IN TWO MONTHS

By Hlengiwe Ndlovu

THE increase in Value Added Tax (VAT) from 14 per cent to 15 per cent has noticeably helped the South African Revenue Services (SARS) to increase its tax base.

At Eswatini, the Finance Bill of 2018 which proposes that the country's VAT increases from 14 per cent to 15 per cent failed to see the light of the day in the recently dissolved Parliament. Analysts from the NKC Research Institute had predicted in an analysis made earlier this year that MPs would not approve the Finance Bill of 2018 because this would hamper their chances of making it in the upcoming elections because the electorate would not be comfortable with voting into political office legislators who expose them to increased taxation. The same Bill proposes an increase in 15 other user fees; tolls, duties and taxes, a move which could result in ordinary citizens being taxed to the bone. Finance24 reported that effects of the one per cent VAT increase in South Africa which came into effect



on the 1st of April this year were now evident as the Treasury website shows that VAT collections for April and May were up by 17.6 per cent to E47.7 bil-

lion compared with E40.6 billion in April and May last year.

While Eswatini grapples with its VAT hike from 14 to 15 per cent, Lesotho

implemented the one per cent increase in this consumption tax on April 1, the same date as South Africa. The ministers of finance in Eswatini and Lesotho

both announced in their budget speeches that they would be increasing VAT to 15 per cent following a similar announcement made by then Minister of Finance in South Africa Malusi Gigaba.

The economies of Eswatini and Lesotho are heavily connected to South Africa hence changes in monetary policy happening in the 'big brother' economy often affect the two Kingdoms. Reacting to the minister of finance's budget speech, Swaziland Revenue Authority Commissioner General Dumsani Masilela made it clear that developments in tax that occur in South Africa normally have an impact on both Eswatini and Lesotho.

"Unfortunately for Eswatini and Lesotho, we are small economies and have very little policy independence. Developments occurring in South Africa definitely impact in the country and the sooner we accept and embrace this, the better," he was quoted saying by this publication.

Following the Parliament's delays in passing the Finance Bill of 2018 into law, SRA announced an administrative charge of E50 for all Sekulula VAT refund payments for goods purchased in South Africa. Sekulula is an agreement reached by SRA and SARS which aims to simplify the process for paying import VAT in Eswatini for goods purchased from South African VAT registered vendors. It is open to all the country's residents.

Media helps grow procurement compliance levels

By Mhlengi Magongo

CHIEF Executive Officer of Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA) Madoda Mngomezulu yesterday praised the role the media plays in Eswatini, in growing procurement compliance levels among procuring entities.

Mngomezulu commended the media for unearthing hidden issues around areas of procurement.

This was during a press briefing held at the SPPRA boardroom where the agency officially announced a collaboration with the University of Swaziland Consultant Training Centre (UNISWA CTC) to provide rapid capacity building interventions.

Mngomezulu also said the media in the country is able to look into issues that the public cannot be able to attain to on its own. According to Mngomezulu, people are quick to react and pass



BRIEFING: SPPRA CEO Madoda Mngomezulu speaking during a press conference held at their offices in Mbabane yesterday. Next to him is the Chief Financial Officer Musa Sikhondze. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

judgment on what the media is doing wrong despite the fact that journalists have the mandate of keeping peo-

ple informed. Mngomezulu encouraged journalists to practice more investigative journalism.



PARTNERS: Acting UNISWA PRO Vice Chancellor Professor Micah Simelane makes his remarks.

Gross official reserves down to E6.1 billion

By Hlengiwe Ndlovu

WHILE the country's gross official reserves are on a persistent downward spiral by 7.8 per cent from E6.6 billion to E6.1 billion at end of June, the credit sector on the other hand is on an upward growth trend, the Central Bank of Eswatini states in its monthly statistical release.

Credit extended to the private sector in the form of loans by banks to households was at E14.2 billion at the end of May, depicting a month-on-month growth of 0.5 per cent. The rise was, however, observed in credit extended to other sectors and households whilst credit extended to businesses decelerated. Over the year, private sector credit rose by 11 per

cent. In line with the fall in reserves, the Central Bank reported that import cover went down from 3.2 months recorded in May to 2.9 months at the end of June. The discount rate and prime lending rate remained unchanged at 6.75 per cent and 10.25 per cent respectively.

The liquidity position of banks closed at E4.5 billion at the end of May, depicting growth of 9.2 per cent from the fall of 5.3 per cent in April 2018. The increase was attributed to a rise in other depository corporations' balances with the Central Bank and their investment in government securities. The banks' liquidity ratio closed at 29.2 per cent, higher than the 26.3 per cent recorded at the end of April 2018. Compared annually, the banks' domestic liquid assets rose by 5.0 per cent.

Swaziland Business Year Book gets STA brochure tender

By Hlengiwe Ndlovu

WITH the country's tourism industry tipped as having great potential for significance to the country's economic growth, the Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) has awarded an intention to award contract for a tender worth E283 777.00 to Swaziland Business Year Book for development and printing of generic marketing brochures.

The tender is inclusive of taxes. With a total evaluation score of 92 per cent, Swaziland Business Year Book beat Print Design to this tender, the STA chief executive officer

said in documents published in the Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory (SPPRA) website.

Print Design's bid tender price was E1 625 134.98 and an evaluated price was, however, not conducted because this company did not submit a technical proposal.

The SPPRA Act in section 45(2), however, states that the intention to award decision does not constitute a contract, hence the STA CEO invited all tenderers who submitted bids to submit their applications for review within 10 working days of publication of the intention to award contract. This notice was first published yesterday.

BUSINESSWOMAN'S DOORWAY TO SUCCESS

JOHANNESBURG

Businesswoman Annah Maringa has put her experience as a quality controller to good use by starting her company following sweeping retrenchments at her former workplace.

Maringa, 54, started her company, Tshikvithi Trading, in Soshanguve outside Pretoria in 2007, a year after being laid off from her stressful job as a quality controller at Apple Plastic SA in Rosslyn, where she worked for 15 years.

The company, which is effectively run by women who are involved in every aspect of production, manufactures wooden doors such as twin doors, stable doors, pivot doors, single and double garage doors, and normal house doors. They cost anything from R1 800 up to a cool R14 000 a piece. Maringa manufactures the doors from her workshop in the township. It has ample space at the back, which serves as a storage facility for completed products. Her staff compliment, which includes three women as full-time employees, not only manufacture the doors, but are also responsible for installing them at the clients' homes. Maringa, who is the company's chief designer,



WAY TO THE TOP: Businesswoman Annah Maringa manufactures wooden doors from her home in Soshanguve.

says her designs infuse both her love for flowers and contemporary African patterns.

"I also help clients come up with their preferred designs and specifications. I must say people love my designs because they are authentic. You will never find them in any furni-

ture shop," she says.

She maintains that she has no competition in Soshanguve and now plans to expand her business through other product offerings in an effort to entrench her company.

The Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), an entity under

the Department of Small Business Development, took notice of Maringa's work in 2017 and supplied her with industrial machines to help run the business more efficiently.

"When we started out in this manufacturing business, we had these small D.I.Y machines which don't really last. We gradually moved to better and bigger machines as we scaled up the business and received more clients," she says, adding that the SEDA machinery donation couldn't have come at a better time.

"I'd say I'm Number 1 in terms of what I do here in the township. I don't have competition. There's one guy who also tried his hand in this business but he closed shop because he couldn't keep up I guess," she says, who works with her daughter Desiree, 28. As part of their growth strategy, they started manufacturing aluminium doors in June 2017 to leverage on their demand and growing popularity. "I want to grow the firm and create more job opportunities. This skill is scarce around here, so I'd love to teach others so that they could become independent one day, especially the youth," she says.

Business Report

Tsogo Sun in R23 billion HPF deal

CAPE TOWN - South Africa's largest hotel and casino operator, Tsogo Sun, has sold seven of its casino and hotel businesses to Hospitality Property Fund (HPF) in a shares-and-subscription deal worth R23 billion.

In a statement released by Tsogo Sun on the Stock Exchange News Service yesterday, the hotel operator said the transaction was in line with the board's strategy to restructure Tsogo Sun into three separate and distinct operating divisions, being a property division, a gaming division and a hotel management division. "The board anticipates that the separation of Tsogo Sun into these three focused divisions – and separate listed entities – will unlock value and provide greater investment choice for Tsogo Sun shareholders. "On conclusion of the transaction, Hospitality is expected to own investment properties with a total fair market value of about R36bn," the company said in the statement. Tsogo said upon completion of the transaction, it would hold about 87 per cent of the shares in HPF. "It is Tsogo's ultimate intention to unbundle their shareholding in Hospitality to its shareholders and has warranted to Hospitality to do so at a time and in a manner that does not have any adverse consequences to Hospitality," it said. Tsogo said that it had appointed PSG Capital as the independent expert to make the appropriate recommendations in the form of a fairness opinion as required in terms of the JSE Listings Requirements. "The independent expert is in the process of finalising its opinion on the transaction, which opinion, together with the views of the board on the transaction will be detailed in the circular to be sent to Tsogo shareholders. **Business Report**

Groupon could be looking for a buyer

INTERNATIONAL - Groupon, the company that made local online daily specials, is looking to be bought out, according to report in Recode.

According to the publication, executives and representatives of the Chicago-based company have recently stepped up efforts to bring in possible buyers.

In 2016, Alibaba bought 33 million shares nearly six per cent of the company in 2016, has been reported as a potential suitor, as well as IAC, whose CEO Joey Levin, is a Groupon board member. In May, Groupon reported better than expected first-quarter earnings on lower year-over-year revenue.

Amid a digital push and a drive to

bring more brands and small businesses onto the platform, the company's stock has languished under US\$5 per share which is far below its post-IPO high. Groupon's market capitalization was once valued at US\$16 billion (R213 422 560 000.00), but is now around US\$2.5 billion (R33 347 275 000.00).

In 2016, Groupon South Africa's website officially shut down in the country. In a statement on its website, the company announced that it will "wound down operations". "We are sorry to inform you that as of November 4, 2016, Groupon has wound down its operations in South Africa and we are unable to offer you any deals today.

"For our customers, this means we will stop offering deals on our website from tonight. All current vouchers bought will remain valid until the date stated on the voucher. The terms and conditions on the voucher remain the same. For any customers who are uncomfortable with using their voucher, we are offering a cash refund option if they contact us before November 30, 2016," read the statement. According to Bloomberg, since news broke out about the company looking for a buyer, Groupon's shares rose as much as 12 per cent before the start of regular trading in the U.S. The stock closed Friday at US\$4.36 in New York. **Business Online**

Eskom in move to come clean with its recent past

JOHANNESBURG - Eskom yesterday primed its bond-holders for further revelations of tender-related graft when the power utility releases its financial results for the year ended March 31, likely to be released later this month.

In a statement on the JSE's Stock Exchange News Service (SENS), Eskom said that it was aware of the ongoing reportable irregularities and irregular expenditure which relate to tender processes.

Eskom has been embroiled in allegations that corrupt individuals within and outside the power utility had weakened its governance to facilitate largescale looting by a politically-connected elite.

Eskom yesterday said disclosure on the quantum of the uncovered reportable irregularities and irregular expenditure would be published with the release of the company's annual financial statements.

"The board has resolved to review all governance and has elevated decision making to the board until completion of its review process," Eskom said. The expected irregularities are part of a trend in Eskom's financial results. For its results for the year ended March 31 last year, the power utility received an audit qualification, because auditors could not express an opinion on the com-

pleteness of the irregular expenditure reported in the results.

These included former chief executive Brian Molefe's controversial "early retirement" and his multi-million-Rand pension payout. At the time, the auditors also flagged allegations of conflict of interest involving former generation executive Matshela Koko. This related to Koko's stepdaughter's interest in Impulse International, a company that did business with Eskom.

Auditors Sizwe Ntsaluba Gobodo earlier this year said they had identified reportable irregularities in Eskom's financial results for the six months ended September 30 last year. These related to the parliamentary inquiry into alleged maladministration, governance and procurement problems at Eskom.

They also raised the controversial payment of approximately R1.6 billion to management consulting firm McKinsey & Company and Trillian Management Consultancy without following due procurement processes. The auditors also flagged former chief financial officer Anoj Singh's questionable decision to give Tegeta Exploration and Resources a three-month guarantee, in contravention of the Public Finance Management Act.

Business Report

McKinsey admits to overcharging Eskom

JOHANNESBURG - McKinsey says it overcharged Eskom and was slow to admit its own wrong-doing.

Its global managing partner, Kevin Sneader apologised at a business breakfast on Monday.

McKinsey repaid nearly R1 billion on a deal linked to the state capture scandal.

In October, the consulting firm confessed to failing to follow its own procedures, while doing business with the power utility when it worked alongside Trillian Capital Partners.

Clients, including Coca-Cola's South Africa unit and petrochemicals com-



pany, Sasol, are awaiting results from corruption probes before they'll award new business to the firm.

Sneader says McKinsey's fee was

weighted towards recovering the company's investment rather than being in line with Eskom's situation.

eNCA

SA CENTRAL BANK SLAMS LAW-BREAKING MUNICIPALITIES

JOHANNESBURG - The SA Reserve Bank (SARB) yesterday washed its hands of municipalities who deposited millions in embattled VBS Mutual Bank as Nedbank stepped in to facilitate payouts to other depositors.

The central bank said its deal with Nedbank covered 97 per cent of depositors and that the municipalities would have to wait to see if

there were enough assets at VBS to cover everybody if they hoped to get their monies back.

"Municipalities had no business placing deposits with VBS. They knew they were breaking the law, but they did it anyway," said Reserve Bank Governor Lesetja Kganyago.

"Even after the Treasury issued a circular that called on municipalities

refrain from placing deposits with a mutual bank, more municipalities in fact put in more money with the bank." At least 15 municipalities had deposited a combined R1.5 billion in deposits with the troubled bank.

The government has provided a guarantee to the SARB to facilitate the repayment of all retail deposits up to R100 000 per retail depositor, starting on Friday.

The central bank said it had decided on Nedbank to facilitate the repayment of retail depositors following advice from VBS's curator, and the bank met the four criteria set out.

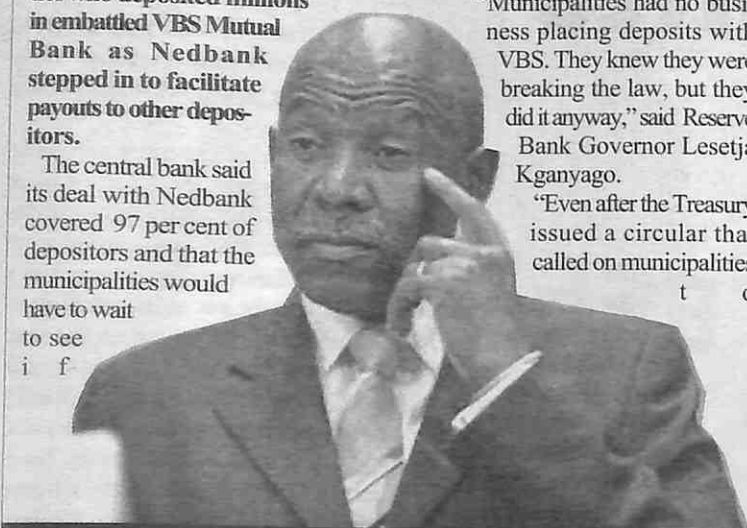
"We also looked for a pay-out institution that specifically provides similar types of products to what VBS offered its customers, in case VBS clients should choose to leave their deposits with the pay-out institution," Kganyago said.

The Reserve Bank put the guarantees at R336 million. Nedbank's share price added 1.57 per cent after the news broke that it would be paying out the deposits to more than 20 000 VBS depositors.

According to the deal, VBS retail depositors or account holders who have more than R100 000 deposited in VBS will only be able to access their deposits up to R100 000 through their new Nedbank accounts. However, the amounts in excess of R100 000 will remain as deposits in VBS.

Aeon Investment Management chief investment officer Asief Mohamed said Nedbank would not realise much economic benefit from the facilitation of the payments. "It is not going to be a big money spinner for Nedbank. It's more them (Nedbank) doing VBS clients a favour."

Business Report



SLAMS: Reserve Bank Governor Lesetja Kganyago.

More job losses looming at Implats

JOHANNESBURG - More workers at Impala Platinum (Implats) could soon be jobless as the price of the precious metal continues to drop.

The platinum giant has already cut 2 500 jobs this year. Implats employs about 31 000 people at its Rustenburg operations and says only 3 of the 10 shafts are making money. It said since March things had taken a turn for the worse. The platinum price hit a 9-year low last week. *eNCA*

Tharisa buys 90 per cent stake in Salene Chrome Zim

HARARE - Tharisa Plc (JSE:THA) says its acquisition of a 90 per cent stake in Salene Chrome Zimbabwe will help diversify its revenue streams from its single resource asset in South Africa.

Revenue in the half year to March 31, 2018 was up 13.8 per cent to US\$199.2m, while headline earnings per share were down 37.5 per cent to US 10 cents. The miner, however, still managed to pay its maiden dividend of US 2 cents, which is 18.3 per cent of its net profit after tax of US\$28.4m.

The 9 500ha special grant that Tharisa got through Salene Chrome will allow it to venture into a large-scale, low-cost project in a highly prospective area, with premium product potential. The Salene Chrome asset is located in a mineral-rich geography and is cash-generative, said Tharisa, in a presentation released on Monday. The new mine is located along Zimbabwe's Great Dyke region, which is known to contain alluvial chrome concentrations of up to 30 per cent Cr₂O₃. According to Tharisa, the mine has premium product potential as it allows for production of 48 per cent-50 per cent chrome concentrate higher than the 40-42 per cent chrome concentrate that it mines at its South African operations.

The Zimbabwean asset, which "adds further diversity to Tharisa's basket of chrome products, commands a premium of up to US\$70/t". *Fin24*

'Faults found in emissions, mileage data'

JOHANNESBURG - Nissan says there's been some misconduct in emissions and mileage data inspections in some of its Japanese plants.

The carmaker found that final vehicle inspections for emissions and fuel economy are not in line with requirements.

The shortcomings affect at least 19 models sold in Japan.

This marks the second misconduct case unearthed in under a year involving the company.



Last year, the carmaker admitted that for decades uncertified inspectors signed off on final

checks. The company is adamant that the failures do not compromise safety. *eNCA*

OPEC doing best to supply market

JOHANNESBURG - OPEC (Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) and its allies are doing what they can to offset crude output shortfalls that have kept global supplies tight and prices high, but they don't want to overdo it.

That was the message from United Arab Emirates Energy Minister Suhail Al Mazrouei after being asked about US President Donald Trump's call for the group to do more.

He said it's important to avoid bringing the market back to the kind of excessive supply that triggered the recent downturn.

"It's unfair to say that OPEC is not doing its part," Al Mazrouei, who's also serving as president of OPEC, said in a TV interview with Bloomberg BNN in Calgary. "There are things outside of our hand, the geopolitics, as well as how much production is coming from the shale oil and Canadian sands."

Oil futures are trading near three-year highs as disruptions in Canada and Libya, along with slumping production in Venezuela and a US call for allies to stop buying from Iran, have over-



DOING BEST: United Arab Emirates Energy Minister Suhail Al Mazrouei.

shadowed a pledge by OPEC and allies to add one million barrels a day. Surging prices led Trump to take to Twitter on July 4, accusing OPEC of "doing little to help" and urging the group to "Reduce Pricing Now!"

A day later, Saudi Arabia's state producer lowered August pricing for most crude grades in Asia and Europe and cut them for all

grades headed to the US. The kingdom was also said to have increased daily output by about half a million barrels in June.

"We need to just give it time to enter the market," Al Mazrouei said of the extra supply. "When a major consuming country speaks, we listen - we listen to the United States, we listen to China, we listen to India." *Fin24*

Telkom has launched a WhatsApp bundle for R15

CAPE TOWN - Telkom has launched a 1GB WhatsApp bundle for R15, where the data lasts for 30 days and can only be used on the messaging platform.

The new WhatsApp data bundle is available through the *123# USSD menu by selecting option 2. While Telkom's WhatsApp product will be attractive to certain Telkom subscribers, it is not the best deal available in South Africa.

MTN offers the same product for R10, making Telkom's 1GB WhatsApp data bundle more expensive. It does, however, offer better value for money than Cell C's 30-day WhatsApp bundle.

Cell's bundle costs R15, but only allows for 600MB data use. Unfortunately, Vodacom does not have any WhatsApp bundle deals available. In other Telkom deals, Telkom announced its Big Deal for July 2018 on the first of the month, offering users two uncapped LTE packages.

According to Telkom, for the "Business Hours" package users will receive uncapped LTE services between midnight and 5pm each day.

The "All Hours" package provides users with uncapped LTE for 24 hours a day.

Business Report Online

Steinhoff bought forests linked to executives at inflated prices

JOHANNESBURG - A company linked to executives of Steinhoff International Holdings (JSE:SNH) bought South African forestry plantations in 2001 and then sold them to the retailer three years later for more than five times their original value, documents show.

Steinhoff, which plunged 96 per cent after disclosing accounting irregularities and Chief Executive Officer Markus Jooste quit in December, commissioned PricewaterhouseCoopers to investigate its finances and has said restatements may have to go back to at least 2015.

The forestry deal is similar to car dealership transactions Steinhoff carried out in 2007 where it bought properties from companies linked to Jooste at a multiple of their initial value. Steinhoff declined to comment on the forestry transactions, saying it is awaiting the outcome of the PwC probe.

Since December, the global retailer has been selling assets and trying to persuade creditors owed more than €9bn not to force it into insolvency. With the equivalent of almost US\$17bn having been wiped off its market value, the saga has become one of South Africa's biggest-ever corporate scandals. *Fin24*





Focus on SA Scene

MALEMA POSTS VIDEO CALLING FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST WHITES

JOHANNESBURG - A tweet in which Malema appears to endorse a controversial call for violence against white people has sparked social media outrage.

Julius Malema has caused a frenzy on social media by posting a video of Louis Farrakhan calling on black people to fight injustices by using violence against white people. He posted the clip and said: "Amen."

Farrakhan is an American religious leader, black nationalist, activist, and social commentator. He has been controversial due to views seen to be antisemitic and racist, though he has denied this, saying the media is responsible for wrongly portraying him this way. He founded The Nation of Islam, an organisation that 'encourages black nationalism in the name of Islam'.

The clip sees an emotionally charged Farrakhan saying that because white people allegedly took what they now own the only way for black people to take back the land will be through violence. He



CONTROVERSIAL LEADER: EFF Leader Julius Malema.

also said that such violence would be justified because white people would otherwise 'extinguish' the black race. Last time Malema was involved in controversy regarding a Louis, it was not the controversial religious leader but French luxury designers Louis Vuitton. In

2014, a twar erupted between Malema and Fikile Mbalula after the EFF leader was seen attending court wearing a Louis Vuitton belt.

At the time, Mbalula tweeted, "Overalls were swapped for Louis Vuitton today... that's Julius revolution." By 2015, Malema had

ditched the luxury brand, according to a salesperson at Cape Town's V&A Waterfront.

"Mr Malema was a regular shopper here. There is no denying that he was often seen wearing Louis Vuitton apparel. But he doesn't come here any more." *Citizen*

The EFF and ANC betray the people to appease a king

JOHANNESBURG - Zwelithini needs to be told the truth, not mollicoddled: He is depriving ordinary South Africans of their birthrights.

Last week saw one of the most extraordinary outbursts of the post-1994 period when Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini threatened to take his people and land and secede from South Africa. This followed the government's plans to implement the recommendations of the Motlanthe high-level panel on the land held by traditional leaders. The Ingonyama Trust Board (ITB) holds land that Zwelithini's people have been benefiting from for decades. That is land that is held in trust for the benefit of his people, but the same people who are meant to benefit from the land are the ones who claim the ITB is making it impossible for them to use the land profitably because of the onerous requirements they need to fulfil to stay on the land.

Besides the constitution, the other document that can claim to have a beautiful legacy that covers the views of all South Africans is the freedom charter.

Over the years, this charter has been misconstrued as being an ANC document when in fact it is simply a document that has been adopted by the ruling party, but involved more than the ANC in its drafting.

Citizen

Zuma's new lawyer has a shocking past

NKANDLA - Dan Mantsha was once struck off the roll and allegedly later found to be a willing foot soldier for the Guptas while chairperson of Denel.

The Daily Maverick has reported that former president Jacob Zuma's new lawyer has been named as Lungisani Daniel Mantsha, after Michael Hulley was fired two weeks ago.

In the Gupta emails it was allegedly revealed last year that Mantsha had been 'hand-picked' by the Gupta family and 'cultivated' into the man who helped them attempt to capture influence and contracts at state-owned

arms manufacturing company Denel.

He was struck off the roll of attorneys in 2007 after a 'litany' of complaints from clients.

The court judgment reportedly found the public needed to be 'protected' from him.

He was readmitted in 2011 and served as a special adviser to then minister of communications Faith Muthambi in 2015 while the public broadcaster was under the guidance of then chief operating officer Hlaudi Motsoeneng.

He became the chair of Denel that same year.

The Gupta emails allegedly reveal he promptly set about sharing Denel's confidential information with Gupta associate Ashu Chawla and met with the family in India and Dubai on 'five-star trips'. Mantsha was removed as Denel chairperson in March after Pravin Gordhan was named as the new public enterprises minister. *Citizen*

DA welcomes reserve bank announcement

CAPE TOWN - The DA has welcomed the announcement by South African Reserve Bank (SARB) governor Lesetja Kganyago that the more than 20 000 depositors of VBS Mutual Bank, whose future hangs in the balance, will be able to withdraw their money as long as it does not exceed R100 000.

Alf Lees, the DA's spokesperson for finance, said although the party was pleased that ordinary citizens who deposited money with VBS would be able to get their money back, it would not reverse the problems caused by the apparent looting of the bank.

"Clients will be able to withdraw all their funds or leave them with Nedbank, but will need to have withdrawn all the money within three years," he said.

"However, we are concerned that monies deposited by the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) and several municipalities with VBS may not be recovered. "If these public monies are not recovered, state employees and citizens of various municipalities will be the hardest hit. The PIC manages the pension funds of millions of state employees and their savings have now been placed at risk." Lees said citizens of the affected municipalities would also be deprived of basic services should this money not be retrieved. *News24*

Public servants must share information with communities

MAHIKENG - Public servants must share information with the community, North West Premier Professor Job Mokgoro said yesterday.

He was speaking to managers employed at various provincial departments based in the Ngaka Modiri Molema District, as part of his ongoing engagements with internal and external stakeholders as new provincial premier.

He gave the example that he could not get reports of several investigations from provincial depart-

ments. "If I struggle to get such information, what about the people on the ground?" he asked.

He said public service was not about drawing a monthly salary, but rather serving the community. "Public service is a commitment to provide good service to the community, it is a dedication to serve the community," he told senior managers in Mahikeng. Mokgoro received a rapturous welcome when he walked into the hall, with the crowd rising and some whistling and ululating. *African News Agency*

Expropriation will focus on commercial land - Zikalala

JOHANNESBURG - The ANC's proposed land expropriation policy focuses primarily on commercial land and how it can benefit South Africans economically, said KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) task team coordinator Sihle Zikalala.

"We have always been clear. We want expropriation without compensation. We have been saying that since (the ANC's June policy

conference). But we want commercial land to economically assist black people in particular," Zikalala said on Monday. He was speaking at the Coastlands Hotel in Durban's South Beach where the ANC in KZN held a land summit. At the summit, regional structures of the party in the province convened and discussed intricacies surrounding the contentious issue. *News24*



SHOCKING PAST: Dan Mantsha.



BUY



DRIVE



MAINTAIN



SELL



PARTICIPATE



LOYALTY REWARD: Leites Manzini Sales Executive Zamokuhle Vilakazi handing over the E1 000 reward to Mr. Henwood.

Leites Toyota rewards loyal local customers

Leites Toyota has rolled out winners for the month of May.

After purchasing vehicles from both Leites Toyota Mbabane and Manzini dealerships.

The lucky customers were rewarded E1 000 each and are still in the running for the big draw in January 2019 where customers stand a chance to win E100 000, E50 000, E25 000 or E10 000 respectively. You could also be in the running for these rewards by buying vehicles from any of the two Leites Toyota dealerships locally. Recipients for the month of June will be announced in due time.



YOU'VE BEEN LOYAL: Leites Mbabane Sales Executive Xolile Shiba handing the E1 000 reward to Mr. Michael Simelane.

BE REWARDED! BUY LOCAL



BUY FROM LEITES TOYOTA MANZINI OR MBABANE

We are now giving you no less than **299, 000. 00** reasons to buy from us. You can't go wrong. Why buy anywhere else? Buy any new Toyota, Hino or Dyna Truck, any demo or used vehicle from us between **1 January 2018** and **31 December 2018** and you could be.....**RICHER!!!**



ONE LUCKY BUYER
E100,000.00

ONE LUCKY BUYER
E50,000.00

THREE LUCKY BUYERS
E25,000.00

FIVE LUCKY BUYERS
E10,000.00

**GRAND DRAW
JANUARY 2019**

PLUS MONTHLY DRAWS!

There will be monthly draws of E1000 per branch starting January to December 2018. This process will be administered and audited by RSM Swaziland (Chartered Accountants). Their decisions are final.

June 2018 lucky buyers will be announced shortly

(No Government purchases or vehicles bought via vender will qualify)

LEITES TOYOTA

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Manzini 2505 3635/6. Helemisi, Manzini
Email: sales@leitestoyota.co.sz



LEAD THE WAY TOYOTA

BRIEFS

16 fishermen 'missing' after clashes

CONGO - Sixteen Congolese fishermen are missing on Lake Edward, which is shared by Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, after deadly clashes between the Ugandan navy and DRC armed forces, a Congolese official said on Monday. Thirty people are now either dead or missing after tensions on the lake erupted late last week.

AFP

180 child soldiers handed to UN, govt

ABUJA - Nigeria's military command says it has handed to the government and the United Nations more than 180 former child soldiers who had been arrested or rescued in various military operations in Nigeria's northeast. Commander Nicholas Rogers said on Monday during the handover ceremony in Maiduguri that the children were former Boko Haram fighters being turned over in line with international humanitarian laws.

AP

'Zim polls to end rights violations'

HARARE - Zimbabwe's election at the end of the month gives the economically depressed southern African country a chance to break from its chequered past, which was littered with human rights violations, Amnesty International said yesterday. "As the country holds its first elections without former president Robert Mugabe on the ballot paper, it is time for Zimbabwe to break with decades of gross human rights violations," Amnesty International said in a briefing.

ANA

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Criminal back from Rwandan jail

SIERRA LEONE - The commander of a Sierra Leone militia alleged to have hacked civilians to death and burnt others alive has returned from Rwanda to serve the rest of his sentence at home, a UN-backed court said on Monday. Allieu Kondewa helped lead the pro-government Civil Defence Forces (CDF), a notorious paramilitary unit which recruited traditional hunters to fight rebels during the brutal 1991-2002 civil war in the west African state.

AFP

Vows to rid operations of disposables

EAST AFRICA - The East African arm of tourism group Tourvest on Monday vowed to purge its premises of all disposable plastic products to reduce damage to ecosystems. Jeanne Haigh, chief executive of Tourvest East Africa, said the company has all but eliminated the use of disposable plastic products at its properties, electing instead to use banana-weaved boxes for packed picnic lunches and aluminium canisters instead of plastic water bottles. "The impact of plastic pollution on the stocks of Nile perch and tilapia are already manifest," Haigh said.

African News Agency (ANA)



'ANGRY' ROBERT MUGABE FIRES STATE ASSIGNED BODYGUARDS

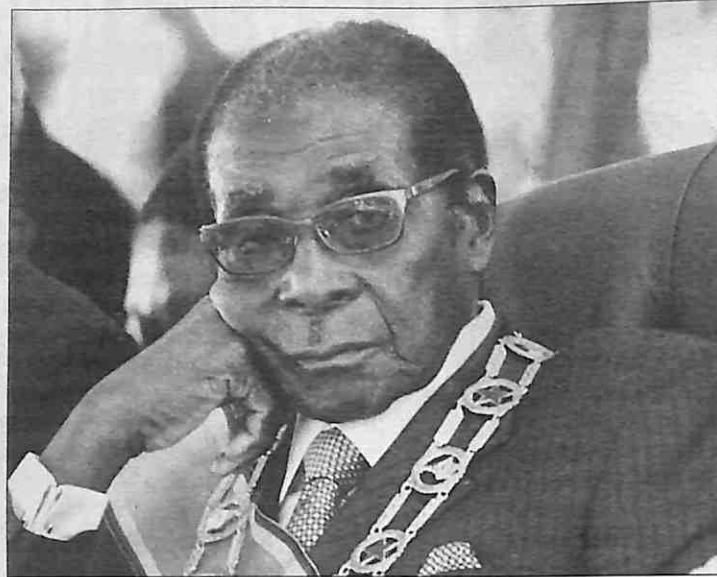
HARARE - Former Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe has reportedly fired six security details provided by the state, as he suspected that they were spying on him on behalf of President Emmerson Mnangagwa's government.

According to the privately owned Standard newspaper, insiders said Mugabe took the decision last week after his return from his regular medical check-up trip in Singapore.

Mugabe was reportedly "rushed" out of the country after his health "suddenly deteriorated" in June, according to NewsDay.

The government reportedly withdrew three of his security details without his knowledge during his absence.

This was said to have infuriated the former ruler, resulting in him instructing the remaining six body-



IRON MAN: Former Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe.

guards not to report for duty.

The veteran politician was now said to be looking at hiring his own

security details.

Mugabe was said to have also complained that his aides were reg-

ularly being questioned by government regarding the people who were visiting his home.

This was not the first time that Mugabe complained about his staff being interrogated by government.

In March, some security officers at his Harare mansion were allegedly interrogated at a military barracks and plied with questions after Mugabe hosted one of his former cabinet ministers, turned opposition leader, Ambrose Mutinhiri.

Four security staff, including chief security officer, were taken for questioning at an army barracks in Harare and only released at the end of the day, reported the Zimbabwe Independent.

The paper said the staff were questioned about "the visitors Mugabe has been receiving and the agenda of their meetings".

News24

Cameroon's presidential election in October

CAMEROON - Cameroon will hold presidential elections on October 7, head of state Paul Biya said in a decree issued on Monday.

Elected in 1982, the 85-year-old is Africa's oldest and longest-serving president, but has yet to say whether he will bid for another term, although his supporters are already urging him to put his name forward.

The vote will take place in a context of mounting problems in the oil-rich state, which faces an insurgency by anglophone separatists in the west and bloody

incursions by Boko Haram jihadists in the north.

The main opposition, the Social Democratic Front (SDF), has already designated its candidate, Joshua Osih.

Other declared candidates include Akere Muna, a lawyer and former vice president of Transparency International, and Maurice Kamto, head of the Movement for the Rebirth of Cameroon (MRC).

Earlier on Monday, residents in Buea, the main city in the predominantly anglophone Southwest Region, said gun-

fire broke out in the administrative district and lasted several hours, marking a further escalation in the separatist crisis. Anglophones, chafing over perceived discrimination at the hands of the francophone majority, launched a campaign for greater autonomy in 2016.

Biya took a hard line, rejecting demands for a return to Cameroon's federal structure and ordering a crackdown after the separatists issued a symbolic declaration of independence last October 1.

AFP

Mnangagwa vows to push ahead with US\$4.5bn power project

HARARE - Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa has vowed to push ahead with a hydro-electric power project on the Zambezi River as he campaigns ahead of the July 30 election on a promise to rebuild the shattered economy.

Mnangagwa, who took over from ousted long-time ruler Robert Mugabe in November, has said he intends to tackle mass unemployment by luring back foreign investment and investing in infrastructure.

"It is a US\$4.5 billion (3.82-billion-Euro) project and we are doing it in partnership with the Zambian government," Monday's state-owned Herald



CAMPAIGN: Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

newspaper quoted Mnangagwa as saying.

"At our level as presidents, that is myself and (Zambian) President (Edgar) Lungu, we have agreed that the project must go ahead," he said at a

campaign rally on Saturday in the farming and mining town of Bindura.

The 1 600-megawatt project was expected to create 6 000 jobs, he said.

AFP

Gunfire in Cameroon's English restive region

YAOUNDE, Cameroon - Gunfire broke out on Monday in Buea, the capital of a western region of Cameroon gripped by violence between anglophone separatists and security forces, witnesses said.

"We have been hearing gunfire since early this morning in the districts of Molyko, Malingo and Bonduma," a resident told AFP by phone, in an account confirmed by three other people.

"Separatist fighters entered several areas of the city and started firing. The army and police have retaliated, several vehicles have been burned (and) people are hunkered down at home," another witness said.

Buea is capital of Southwest Region, which with the neighbouring Northwest Region is home to most of Cameroon's English-speakers, who account for about a fifth of a mainly French-speaking population of 22 million.

Years of resentment at perceived discrimination at the hands of the francophone majority fuelled demands for anglophone autonomy, which on October 1 last year culminated in a symbolic declaration of independence. Radicals named Buea as the capital of the self-declared state, Ambazonia, which has no international recognition.

A government crackdown then followed, plunging the two regions into almost daily acts of violence and retribution. According to a government report last month, separatists had killed 74 soldiers and seven police since late 2017, while more than 100 civilians had died "over the past 12 months." AFP

World News

UK FOREIGN MINISTER RESIGNS

LONDON - Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson quit on Monday over Prime Minister Theresa May's plans to leave the European Union, the second resignation in a day, leaving the British leader's Brexit plans all but in tatters.

After a day when the foreign secretary cancelled meetings for crisis talks at his official residence in central London, Johnson decided to walk from his job - just hours after May's Brexit minister David Davis did the same in protest at her plans.

The two resignations leave May badly exposed at the top of a government unable to unite over Britain's biggest foreign and trading policy shift in almost half a decade.

It also puts a question mark over whether the leader will try to weather it and stand firm in her commitment to pursue a "business friendly" Brexit, or will be faced with



more resignations and calls to quit herself.

"This afternoon, the prime minister accepted the resignation of Boris Johnson as Foreign Secretary," May's spokesman said in a statement. "His replacement will be

announced shortly. The prime minister thanks Boris for his work."

The departures raise the stakes for May, who secured a hard-won agreement with her deeply divided cabinet of ministers on Friday to keep the closest possible trad-

ing ties with the EU.

Many Euro sceptics are angry, saying the agreed strategy betrays her promise for a clean break with the EU, raising the prospect that some could try to unseat her.

Reuters

Jeremy Hunt named UK's new foreign minister to replace Johnson

LONDON - British Health Minister Jeremy Hunt will replace Boris Johnson as Foreign Minister, Prime Minister Theresa May's Downing Street office said on Monday following Johnson's dramatic resignation over the government's strategy for

Brexit.

"The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of... Jeremy Hunt MP as Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs," Downing Street said in a statement.

Johnson resigned on Monday,

adding to divisions over Brexit that threaten to tear apart May's government.

May's office said in a terse statement that the prime minister had accepted Johnson's resignation and would name a replacement soon.

AFP



APPOINTED: New Foreign Affairs Minister Jeremy Hunt.

CANADA HEATWAVE DEATH TOLL HITS 70

MONTREAL - A heatwave in Quebec in eastern Canada has now been blamed for 70 deaths, officials said on Monday.

Thirty-four of the fatalities were recorded in Montreal, the provincial health ministry told AFP. Previously,

the toll was 54 dead. The heatwave has hit eastern Canada since early July but only Quebec has recorded a rise in deaths linked to the scorching temperatures. In 2010, around 100 people in the Montreal area died because of stifling heat. AFP

No vote on final Brexit deal - Theresa May

JOHANNESBURG - British Prime Minister Theresa May says the country won't hold a vote on the final deal to leave the European Union, or try to delay its exit date.

Two high profile resignations on Monday put her Brexit plan at risk. Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson

and Brexit Secretary David Davis resigned on Monday in protest of a proposed new deal.

They say it gives the EU too much, too easily.

May says she will appoint a new foreign secretary soon and plans to fight any attempts to oust her. eNCA

Lira plunges as son-in-law named treasury, finance minister

TURKEY - Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan named his son-in-law as economy czar in a new administration and removed the last member of an investor-friendly financial team that's been gradually pushed to the sidelines. The lira plunged the most since a failed coup in 2016.

Berat Albayrak, a former energy minister who entered parliament for the first time in 2015, will be in charge of a new ministry of treasury and finance, combining what used to be the two most powerful economic jobs. He'll replace Mehmet Simsek as holder of the most senior economic portfolio.

Simsek was deputy prime minister, and the last man standing from a group of politicians who've been trusted by investors over the years to rein in the president's go-for-growth instincts and keep Turkey's \$880bn economy on a sustainable path. There was no job for him in

the downsized cabinet of 16 ministries - or for Naci Agbal, the outgoing finance minister. "Their inclusion in the cabinet would have been a nod by Erdogan to the markets, signalling that Erdogan takes into account market concerns," said Inan Demir, an economist at Nomura International in London. "Such a signal is no longer there."

The lira extended losses after the president's announcement, falling 3.6 per cent to 4.74 per Dollar at 11:30pm in Istanbul.

Erdogan was sworn in earlier on Monday for a second term as president with enhanced powers, after winning re-election last month under an amended constitution. He promptly signaled that he'll follow through on a pre-vote promise to take more direct control over monetary policy - a prospect that alarms investors because of Erdogan's determination to keep interest rates low under almost all circumstances. AP

BRIEFS

Headscarf women gets 20-yr

IRAN - An Iranian woman who removed her obligatory Islamic headscarf out of protest in December says she has been sentenced to 20 years in prison. Shaparak Shajarizadeh posted on her personal website that she had been jailed for "opposing the compulsory hijab" and "waving a white flag of peace in the street". There was no immediate comment from Iranian officials. Police in Iran arrested 29 people in February for removing their headscarves as part of a campaign known as "White Wednesdays". Nasrin Sotoudeh, a prominent human rights lawyer who represented Shajarizadeh and other women, was arrested last month.

AP

Trump's strained visit with NATO

WASHINGTON - With the established global order on shaky footing, US President Donald Trump's weeklong trip to Europe will test already strained bonds with some of the United States' closest allies, then put him face to face with the leader of the country, whose electoral interference was meant to help put him in office. Trump departed yesterday on a four-nation tour amid simmering disputes over trade and military spending with fellow Western democracies and speculation about whether he will rebuke or embrace Russian President Vladimir Putin. He meets the Russian leader in Helsinki as the finale of a trip with earlier stops in Belgium, England and Scotland.

AP

Baby survives hours under debris

MONTANA - A five-month-old infant who miraculously survived more than nine hours being buried under a pile of sticks and debris in the woods of western Montana suffered only minor injuries despite wearing wet and soiled clothes in cold weather, authorities said on Monday. The baby boy is otherwise in good condition, authorities said. Missoula County Sheriff's deputies were called at about 8pm on Saturday about a man threatening people in the Lolo Hot Springs area of the Lolo National Forest. Deputies apprehended the man, who indicated that a baby was buried somewhere in the woods.

AP

Ryanair cabin crew threatens to strike

JOHANNESBURG - Ryanair cabin crew are threatening to disrupt Europe's biggest low-cost airline at the height of the holiday season. Strike action in four countries, including two of Ryanair's largest markets, has been set for late July. Cabin crews in Italy and Spain are set to join colleagues in Belgium and Portugal for a one-day strike on July 25. It will enter a second day when Spain, Belgium and Portugal continue the strike the following day. The airline gave in to pressure late last year and recognised trade unions for the first time in its 32-year history. eNCA

Means to reunite migrant children

LOS ANGELES - A US judge on Monday gave the government more time to reunite migrant children, aged five or younger, with their parents separated as a consequence of a "zero tolerance" policy, US media reported. The decision came after a government lawyer said around half of the 102 young children could be placed back with their parents by the previously given deadline of yesterday. They are among more than 2 300 children split up from their families as a consequence of the "zero tolerance" practice that saw their parents prosecuted for illegally crossing the border, even if they did so to seek asylum. AFP



NEWS

REVIEWS

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CARTOONS

AMANDA DU-PONT IS ENGAGED

By Nomfundo Sifundza

THIS is definitely her year.

The country's very own award winning actress Amanda du Pont has found her prince charming.

Just a few weeks ago the actress spoiled herself with a E3m worth Mavine Blue McLaren 570S for her birthday and now she got her engagement every girl wishes for in a beautiful breath-taking place.

The actress said yes in the Maldives over the weekend and she had the proposal recorded for the whole world to see.

Expensive

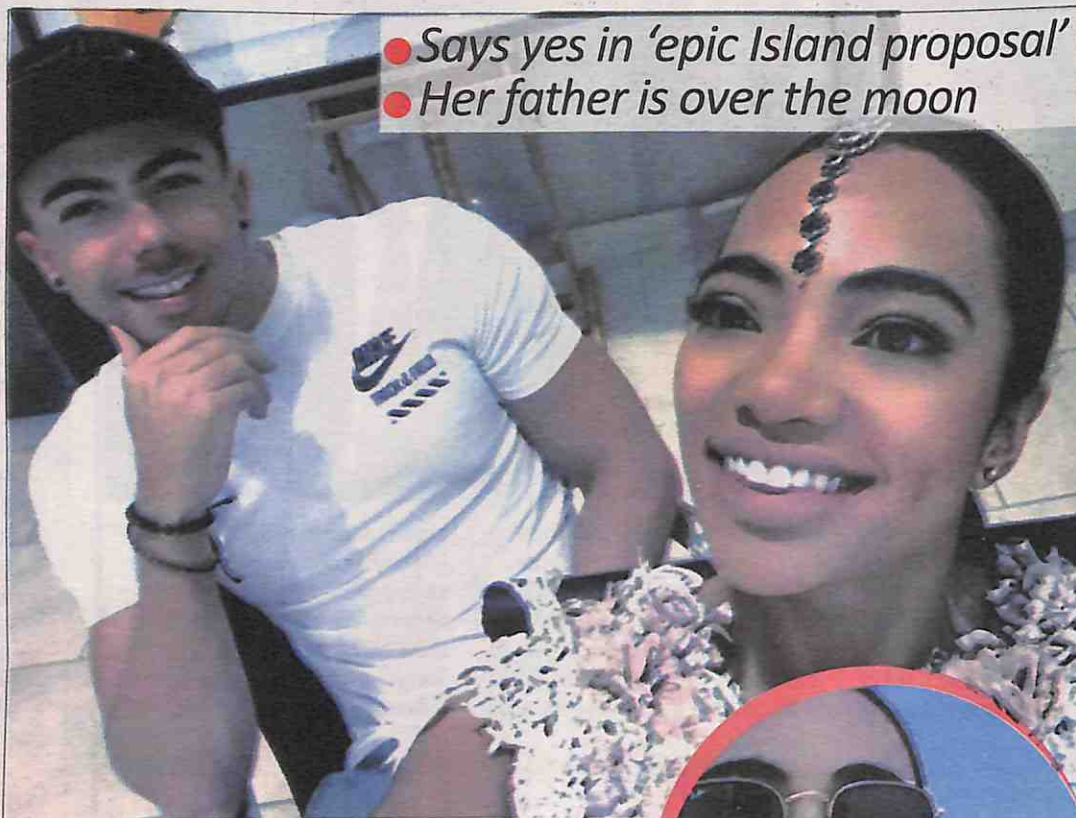
Admiring the expensive shining piece on her wedding finger the beauty said "I think I'm still in shock, I'm engaged, honestly and literally a dream come true."

Amanda's father, businessman Tums du Pont was over the moon and said that he was happier when his daughters were happy.

"I am very happy for her that she got the engagement she has always wanted."

This is why I sacrificed for my children so they are independent and make the right decisions," he said.

Even though the elder noted that an engagement could take as long as those engaged wish; he was



- Says yes in 'epic Island proposal'
- Her father is over the moon

ENGAGED: Amanda du Pont and her fiancé Shawn Rodrigues in this file picture.

however looking forward to walking his daughter down the aisle.

Asked if they would go the traditional way of getting married at the bride's parental home; du Pont said that was all up to his daughter. "Whatever she wants, I cannot decide for her."

"I wish them the best as a couple," he concluded.

Amanda du Pont is one of the finest actors based in South Africa who has established her name in the industry and is well respected for her talent.



CANDIES EVOLUTION DETERMINED TO TOUR EUROPE

By Andile Dlamini

KWAITO group 'Candies Evolution' is hell bent on representing the country in a competition in Amsterdam and London.

The competition in Amsterdam will take place on September 1 and the latter on the September 29.

Before flying to compete the group will host a fundraising event on July 19 at the Alliance Française in Mbabane. The fundraiser will be headlined by Candies Evolution and dancehall artist M. Triggerson. It will also feature poet Moses Maratis, Kizumbu and Dj Wacko.

The five member group was originally set to go to the United States of America and Amsterdam but felt they could not raise enough funds in time as the USA competition takes place this August, and thus they requested to be selected to go to another country.

The group has estimated that they need to raise an amount of 70 000 emalangenzi to cover their trip. Alliance française de Mbabane sponsored the group by allowing them to use their venue free of charge. The group is currently planning on doing another fundraiser in August and details will be announced soon.

LYRIKAL BUSTA TO DROP NEW SINGLE

By Andile Dlamini

MTN SWAMA awards nominee Lyrikal Busta has a new single for his fans and it drops on Friday.

The song titled #iNumber was produced by Yung Pro and features pianist and producer N.K.O. the song is a follow up of his single 'Dance for me,' which topped the SBIS 2 top 20 charts and got the young artist nominated for this year's Song Of The Year and Video Of The Year in the SWAMA Awards. #iNumber is a track from his latest Extended Play titled 'New Skool Love'.

The song simply portrays a situation where boy meets girl and boy does everything to please the girl and get her Number in return.

The song will be available on online music sites like YouTube, Sound Cloud, Culo and data file host. Lyrikal busta is not new to the music scene as he won the best new comer and best club banger at the Swaziland Hip Hop Awards back in 2016. The young artist who is signed with Swaziboy entertainment has shared a stage with Kwesta, Sjava and Emtee. "I feel very excited about this song and I'm pretty confident it will blow the listeners minds away, come December 31 we shall crossover with this one," says the young rapper.



YOUTH WELL BEHAVED AT HIPNOTIK, SWAZI JIVE IMPRESSED

By Nokwanda Sibandze

AFTER releasing a statement that Hipnotik was in danger of being shut down because of uncontrolled underage drinking, Sakhile Nkambule said he was impressed by the well behaved youth at the recent festival.

Director of Swazi Jive, Sakhile also said that this showed that the youth love and want to keep Hipnotik around.

"They were definitely behaved over the weekend and this just proved how much they value the festival and that makes us happy and proud as Swazi Jive," said Nkambule.

He also took time to thank the youth for the weekend and for their behaviour.

All Hipnotik fans, thank you for believing and trusting that we could host a bigger and better festival. Thank you for buying our tickets and funding the show with your support, because of our fans full creative control of the festival," he added. The Hipnotik



NO SHOW: Shane Eagle.

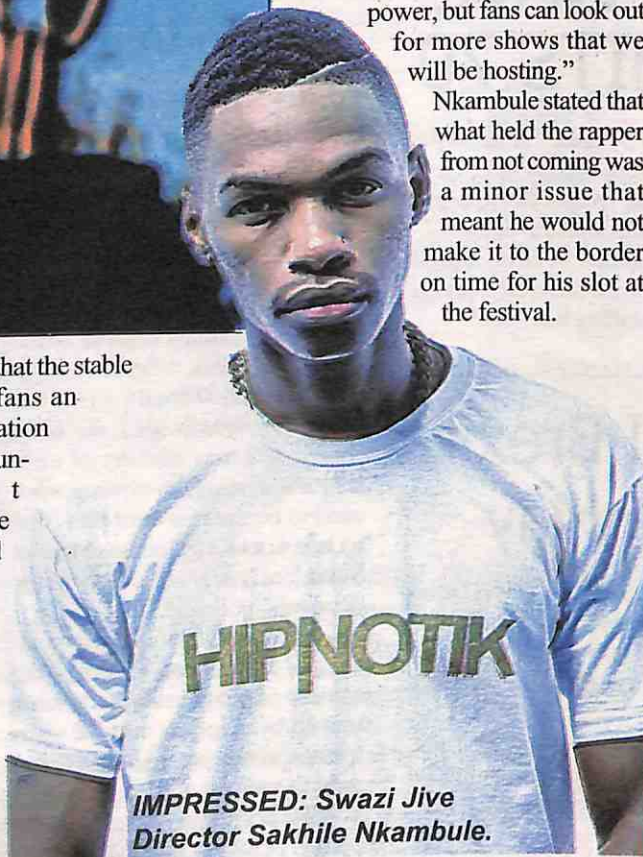
Festival entered its seventh edition this year and as usual; heavyweights in the African hip hop circle were staged. The likes of multi-award winning AKA, who is just about everyone's favourites and BET award winning Sjava.

Even though the event sailed smoothly, the absence of rapper Shane Eagle was hard to ignore. The rapper was scheduled to perform on Saturday but he was nowhere to be found. When contacted the rapper claimed Swazi Jive could not meet some contractual agreements Nkambule who acknowl-

edged that the stable owed fans an explanation on the unkept promise said "we are all good, I had a conversation with Shane

Eagle and his manager and everything is sorted, it is sad he couldn't make it but it was out of our power, but fans can look out for more shows that we will be hosting."

Nkambule stated that what held the rapper from not coming was a minor issue that meant he would not make it to the border on time for his slot at the festival.



IMPRESSED: Swazi Jive Director Sakhile Nkambule.

MTN SWAMA AWARDS VOTING LINES OFFICIALLY OPENED

By Nomfundo Sifundza

...Some artists withdrawn, others re-instated

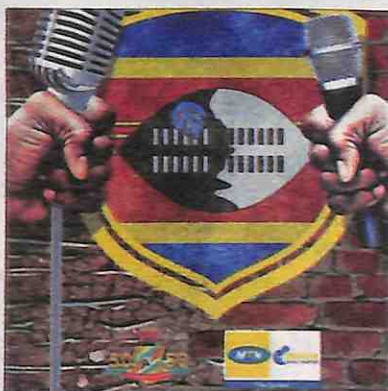
THE race has officially begun.

Voting lines for the MTN SWAMA Awards have been officially opened and fans are to vote as much as possible for the next three months.

This was confirmed by the host association; the Swaziland Music Arts Association (SWAMA) under the presidency of entertainment pioneer Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini. "We are glad to officially announce 6161 as the voting line for this year's MTN SWAMA Awards.

"The line will run for three months, meaning it will close on September 30, 2018," he said.

To vote, members of the public are encouraged to SMS the category, and the



name of the artist (or song, in the case of Song of the Year category), to 6161. Each SMS costs E1.

If one wishes to vote for an artist nominated in more than one category, voters

should send separate SMSes for each category.

Dlamini reminded voters that only the 'Song of the Year' category would be fully determined by the number of votes, hence nominated artists needed the votes.

The other categories will be determined by a weighted mean between the voters and the judges.

Dlamini further encouraged artists to use social and/or mainstream media to canvass for votes.

"In canvassing for votes, artists are not allowed to mention rivals' names, or to ridicule them in any way," he said.

The classy MTN SWAMA Awards actual ceremony will take place in December.

THE FULL REVISED LIST OF NOMINEES STANDS AS FOLLOWS;

BEST GOSPEL ARTIST NOMINEES

Banele Dlamini
Linda Dlamini
Skeel
Linda M
Phathwakahle
Nduduzo Matse

BEST COLLABO NOMINEES

DJ 1D ft. Diba Diba, Qibho Intalektual & Jurie - Lendlela
DJ Master P ft. Mandisa, Mozaik & King Terry - Misbehave
Shepard Brothers ft. Velemseni - Gendza
Sifiso M ft. Nono - All to you
Tenderness ft. Bholoja & LO - Jika
Virus ft. Sands - Overseas

BEST COUNTRY NOMINEES

Cleopatra (Mrs Roses)
Dusty and Stones
Isaac Gamedze
Lerato

BEST SWATI ARTIST BASED IN THE DIASPORA NOMINEES

Big Dreams
DJ Touch of Soul
Jazz P
Zamo

Sheejay Zoe

DJ OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

DJ 1D
DJ CYBOS
Mavava
DJ Zulu D
The Scientists

BEST HOUSE ARTIST NOMINEES

DJ Njebza
Slotta
Sifiso M
Speech Umlangeni
S-Tone
DJ Czar

BEST HIP HOP ARTIST NOMINEES

Mozaik
King Terry

Lyrikal Busta
Kena

Mr. Kangaroo
Diba Diba
MP

BEST KWAITO ARTIST NOMINEES

Candies Evolution
Immortal 7
Magaya
Metal Chains
Thiba

BEST REGGAE/RAGGA/DANCEHALL NOMINEES

Jack Rhallie
M. Triggerson
Plateau Roots
Umbutfo Nhlabu
Zairman

BEST TRADITIONAL/ BEST MBAQANGA/ BEST MASKANDI NOMINEES

Majalibhunu (Maskandi)
Bocwephesha (Mbaqanga)
Sithobela Band (Mbaqanga)
Sontonzima (Maskandi)
Amathole Amahle (Maskandi)
Umajika (New Maskandi)

BEST JAZZ ARTIST NOMINEES

John Phillip
Quad Element
Soul friends
Step by Step

BEST AFRO-POP ARTIST NOMINEES

Amanda Mo
Mvilas
Nomsa M
Zamo
Judah

BEST POET / BEST WORDSMITH NOMINEES

Beko The StoryTeller
Majaha Nkonyane
Qibho Intalektual
Skeel

Zinyane Lebenguni
Thabani Maseko

BEST COMEDIAN NOMINEES

Dr. Shakes
Mandy
Mdura

BEST SWATI SOUL ARTIST NOMINEES

Symphony
Velemseni
Zamo
Amanda Mo
Mr Music

BEST R&B ARTIST NOMINEES

Adrienne Foo
Mandisa
Sasha
Zoe Genesis

ARTIST OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Illa Penboy
Linda Dlamini
Mozaik
Symphony
Immortal 7
Nduduzo Matse

FEMALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Adrienne Foo
Banele Dlamini
Symphony
Phathwakahle

MALE ARTIST OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Diba Diba - Diba WaNgwane
Kena - Litseba lemaginsa
Linda Dlamini - From Lo Debar to Palace
Mozaik - Nearly Far
Mr. Kangaroo - Broke Superstar
Illa Penboy - Bra Wami

BEST PRODUCER NOMINEES

LO
Mozaik The Producer
Mr. Kangaroo
SubJamz
Squash
M. Seth
AOS

Changes in nominees categories

THE president of the Swaziland Music Arts Association Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini stated with emphasis that the public should note that a few changes have had to be made in the list of nominees.

Dlamini noted that the changes are due to that every project at an infancy stage goes through changes and thus; "the MTN SWAMA Awards initiative is at its infancy, the post-verification process will always be instituted whenever the need arises in the next years to come so as to ensure that the Awards are credible, transparent, and fair.

We are certain that this will encourage participation, attract more corporate sponsorship of the arts, and grow the industry into one that is lucrative for all."

As the normality in award ceremonies around the world states; after nominees are announced, there has to be a 'post-verification' process that the organisers and judges partake in.

This was also applied in the MTN SWAMA Awards last week and, therefore, there are significant changes in nominees. Some artists are re-instated in categories whilst others are withdrawn.

"A small but significant number of artists who had been nominated by our panel of judges, who had considered the public nominations list, declined nomination.

Obviously, they were within their rights to do so, as is done elsewhere globally. This then led to a back-and-forth process of consolidating the final nominees, resulting in some few omissions and commissions, as human nature would have it. To ensure that such anomalies are quickly addressed, the final post-verification process was duly instituted," confirmed Dlamini.

Below are the changes and the artists involved;

i) Artist King Terry, who had been erroneously included in the 'Male

Artist of the Year' category, is hereby being withdrawn from that particular category. The category requirement was an album released before May 30, 2018, and his missed the deadline. Perhaps, the good side of the coin is that that makes it qualify for consideration in next year's awards.

ii) Artist Illa Penboy, who was in the pre-verified list of nominees, has been re-instated in the 'Male Artist of the Year' category after verifying that he indeed has a valid album. Remember, the category requirement is an album released within the stipulated time frame.

iii) Gospel artists Phathwakahle and Nduduzo Matse, who were in the pre-verified list but missed announcement under the 'Best Gospel Artist' category, are hereby being retained in the post-verified list. This means that they are nominees under the 'Best Gospel Artist category,' alongside those who were announced.

iv) Furthermore, for same reasons, Phathwakahle is hereby re-instated in the Female Artist of the Year category.

v) Country music duo Dusty and Stones have been removed from the 'Artist of the Year' category, a category that requires the release of an album within the stipulated time frame. However, they remain nominated in the Best Country category, and rightfully so as they had new singles coming out during the year under review.

vi) Finally, Miss Trophy (who was nominated in the Best RNB category) and Haem-O (who was nominated in the Best Collaboration and Best Video categories) requested to forego this year's nomination, and the judges have duly granted them that right. However, being the final post-verification process, this means that the grace period for withdrawal has now elapsed, hence no withdrawals, reviews, additions, will be accepted going forward.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

NR
Size Killa
Skhubash
Smokey&Wigo
Sthe Manyatsi
Umfana Webhejisa

VIDEO OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Dance for Mi - Lyrikal Busta
Jika - Tenderness ft. Bholoja & LO
Uwami - Amanda Mo
Woza woza - Sands
The Blow Up - Big Dreams feat Kwesta

SONG OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Dance for mi - Lyrikal Busta
Gendza - Shepard Brothers ft. Velemseni
Jika - Tenderness ft. Bholoja & L.O
Lendlela - DJ 1D ft. Diba Diba, Qibho Intalektual & Jurie
Misbehave - DJ Master P ft. Mandisa, Mozaik & King Terry
Monarchial Democracy - Mshikishi
Right on time - Mozaik
Tinyembeti - Zamo
Uwami - Amanda Mo
Yaya - 80 Script ft. Una Rams
Colors - King Terry
Lona Ngumnyaka Wetfu - Linda Dlamini

Mzwaa's 'Got it'

By Nokwanda Sibandze

MZWAA, dubbed the next music sensation has released a single titled 'I got it.'

The single was officially released on Monday and has already received much support both locally and internationally. 'I Got it' is an eclectic and vibrant anthem in which Mzwaa embodies self-confidence in his lyric delivery. A fusion of RnB and Soul with Hip Hop undertones, "I Got It is certainly a breath of fresh air within the country's musical landscape and 2018 is evidently Mzwaa's breakthrough year, having been one of the winners

of this year's MTN Bushfire Firefly competition. He has also been delivering mesmerising performances at local events, where he always leaves patrons yearning for more," says Mmeli Hlanze from Antidotes.

"The song is playfully seductive, and I did not have anyone specific when I wrote it and the song is not for anyone specific as well, anyone can listen to it and vibe to it. As this is my first single, I hope people will like it," said Mzwaa.

The artist also revealed that he was working on an EP that would be released later this year. "I am definitely working on something and I am excited about it, even though I do not have specific dates for the



MR MUSIC: Mzwaa serenading the audience at the firefly stage.

release, I am working hard to make sure I release a good EP," he added. The song is but a glimpse of greater things to come from the marvel straight out of Manzini. 'I Got It' is available for streaming and download on Mzwaa's Soundcloud, Audiomack, Bandcamp and YouTube pages through the following link: <http://smarturl.it/MzwaaIGotIt>

Skeel for 'This is who I am' show

By Andile Dlamini

MTN SWAMA Awards nominee poet and rapper Skeel is scheduled to perform at the Swaziland Theatre Club in a show dubbed 'This is who I am.'

The show is made possible by a determined and selfless upcoming singer named Siyabonga Gama.

Gama aims to give back to the community by empowering other upcoming acts in the art genres of choice.

The show will headline; Siyabonga himself, upcoming accapela group Tribe New, Poetic Sounds, Letta,

Static, Ngomane the poet, Dede the poet, Skeel, Moyanic and many more.

The show will take place at the Swaziland Theatre Club on July 29.

Gama said the reason he started this initiative was that the youth was involved in so many immoral and self-destructive activities and he thought he should play his part in building a generation of empowered young men and women.

"The audience will be inspired by the very best of artists of soul and poetry," said Gama.

Tickets for the show are now available at Trophy Empire, a restaurant in Mbabane.

International
Celebrity News

G-Eazy denied entry at Canadian border

CANADA—G-Eazy was just turned away at the Canadian border ... and had to cancel a huge show because of it.

Sources tell us G-Eazy and crew ran into issues with Canadian customs agents when they touched down in Calgary on Monday. The rapper was set to be a headliner at the Cowboys Music Festival ... a festival that coincides with the Calgary Stampede. The Cowboys Dance Hall released a statement on Monday night, saying, "Cowboys regrets to inform you that G-Eazy is unable to perform tonight due to

**HARD LUCK: G-Eazy.**

reasons beyond our control. Refunds will be processed at the online point of purchase (Showpass)." **TMZ**

Prince Louis' christened

LONDON—God has blessed Prince Louis!

The 11-week-old royal baby, who has not been seen in public since his birth on April 23, was christened on Monday at The Chapel Royal at St. James' Palace. In addition to his immediate family—Prince William, 36, Kate Middleton, 36, Prince George, 4 and Princess Charlotte, 3—attendees included Prince Charles, 69, Camilla Parker-Bowles, 70, Prince Harry, 33, Meghan Markle, 36, Michael Middleton, 69, Carole Middleton, 63, Pippa Middleton, 34, James Matthews, 42, and James Middleton, 31; Queen Elizabeth

**BLESSING: Kate**

II, 92, and Prince Philip, 97. **TMZ**

Jada Pinkett-Smith shares 'sex addiction' past

NEW YORK—Jada Pinkett Smith's mother wrestled through a 20-year battle with heroin, and the actress shared a few of her own addictions in another revealing conversation on her Facebook talk show.

Monday's "Red Table Talk" revolved all around addiction, with her mom Adrienne Banfield Norris, Will Smith's youngest sister Ashley Marie and musician August Alsina all opening up about their struggles with sobriety. My sort of addictions with jump, they jump around," Pinkett

**OPENS UP: Jada Pinkett-Smith with her mother.**

Smith explained. "When I was younger, I definitely think I had a sex addiction of some kind. **Toofab**

TI promises to stop cheating

LOS ANGELES—MTO News confirmed that

TI and Tiny are trying to work through their marital issues, and that the couple plans on renewing their vows this fall. The couple is working with VH1 to have their marriage renewal special aired on television.

MTO News also confirmed that TI has promised Tiny "no more cheating." Well, he was at a party this weekend, with the woman whom many are accusing was his alleged

side chick. Asiah Pearson.

Last month, a video surfaced showing TI groping a light skinned beauty. Folks on social media speculated that the woman being groped in the video, was actress Asiah Pearson.. Well, Asiah and TI were at the club together on Saturday.

And while it may have just been a coincidence, the image clearly shows Asiah dancing near TI.

So far Tiny has NOT commented on this pic. **MTO**

**TRYING HARD: TI**

SA Celebrity News

We did not invite him - GCIS speaks out on Arthur

JOHANNESBURG—The Government Communications and Information System (GCIS) has issued a statement distancing themselves from reports that it invited Arthur Mafokate to join the 100 Men March.

A Sunday publication announced that Mafokate, who is in the middle of a court battle for allegedly assaulting former girlfriend Cici, would join the march. This caused a raging debate on social media. In their statement, GCIS makes it clear that Mafokate was not invited to participate in the

**NO WAYS: Arthur Mafokate.**

march and was not appointed as an ambassador. **Sowetan**

Cassper splurges big on diamond

JOHANNESBURG—Despite being criticised for being a 'show-off', Cassper Nyovest continues to stunt his wealth in the face of his haters.

While the rest of us are digging deep to fill our petrol tanks, Cass is out here spoiling himself as if it's Christmas.

The rapper, who already has an impressive watch collection, added another flashy time piece to the cabinet. This time it's a custom-made diamond-encrusted Audemars Piguet.

The piece of bling was personally delivered to Cassper on Saturday by

**WEALTHY: Cassper Nyovest.**

bespoke jewellery designers, Schofield and Co. **TimesLive**

'I just fell and I haven't had a drink in seven years'

JOHANNESBURG—Musician Emtee has broken his silence on his 'collapse' during a performance over the weekend after video footage of the incident went viral on social media, with the hip-hop star insisting it was "just a fall" and there's nothing more to it.

Emtee said he wasn't phased by the comments around the incident, many involving drugs and alcohol claims. "You know, with hip-hop there will always be rivalry and putting each other down. Like, 'look at him. Hahaha.'" He also slammed celebrities who have spoken out about the incident and called out his

**JUST A FALL: Emtee.**

record label Ambitious for not taking action. **Sowetan**

In SA it's okay for Beyoncé to be naked, but I'm trash

DURBAN—Zodwa Wabantu stopped traffic at the annual Durban July with her cut-out lacey number, but for her it wasn't the stares that got her in her feels when she spoke to TshisaLIVE on Monday, it was the very personal reactions she got from ordinary women.

Zodwa explained she always expects people to act shocked over whatever she decides to put on her body and she's accepted it. "People knew that they would be exposed if they came for me because in SA, it's okay for Beyoncé and Rihanna to be naked and be inspirational but Zodwa is trashy. They couldn't judge

**DEFENSIVE: Zodwa Wabantu.**

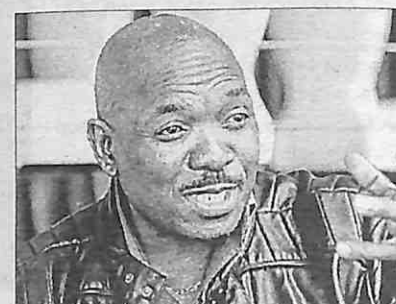
my dress because they didn't judge J.Lo for hers. **TshisaLive**

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Samson works to help Ntwenhle save Nikiwe. Thandeka and S'bu pursue the search for their real baby. Mehlemamba begs the ancestors to help him. Meanwhile, Judas arrives at Kwa'Gatsheni.

**ARRIVES: Judas.**

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Sechaba risks all when he sets out to strike a deal with the devil. Lincoln finds himself caught in the crossfire between Ben and Ntando. When Wendy runs into Anja and Joshua it's awkward.

**TAKES RISK: Sechaba.**

Muvhango

TODAY

Mulalo cautions Tenda not to trust Azwindini. Rendani's new friend has a negative influence on her. Gugu unwittingly insults Brother Max.

**BAD FRIENDSHIP: Rendani.**

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

Sabelo still wants to kill Melusi. David accuses Bash of being a Ndlovu spy. Pearl has an ultimatum for Mzi.

**ACCUSATIONS : David.**

PICTURE OF THE DAY

My reaction to my white friends when they say I need to stand up to my parents



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19

Today's trine between amorous Venus and volatile Uranus could chum up drama with the object of your affections. If you're craving attention, be honest about it instead of picking a fight to 'connect.' If you're feeling bored or uninspired, find healthy outlets for scratching that itch. A reckless romantic liaison could offer a tempting adrenaline rush, but the crash will not be worth it. Tune in to your sensual energy with physical movement—a dance class or after-work party with a great DJ will help you unleash without becoming unmoored.



Aquarius January 20 – February 18

Today, the most emotional sectors of your chart will be positively activated by a trine between charming Venus and your co-ruler, spontaneous Uranus. Let your feelings take center stage and surround yourself with people you trust with the most vulnerable parts of your soul. A good cleansing cry could be on the agenda or some cathartic storytelling over a glass of French rose.



Pisces February 19– March 20

Relationships get a boost today, when electric Uranus gets in formation with amorous Venus. You'll find it insanely easy to talk about any subject in the book—including ones that would seem tricky, touchy or even taboo on the average day. Perhaps both of you are craving a bit more freedom within the bond. Brainstorm ways to satisfy that autonomous itch without doing damage to the foundation of your union.



Aries March 21 – April 19

Your wellbeing takes center stage today, thanks to an alignment of vitality-boosting Venus and changemaker Uranus. Check out a new studio—something 'glamorous' with classes that actually sound like fun. (The 'no pain, no gain' approach is a no-can-do for Venus.) As Uranus governs all things tech, you might download a fitness app to help keep your wellness goals on track.



Taurus April 20 – May 20

Today, romance figures front and center as amorous Venus gets a playful boost from spontaneous Uranus in your sign. Follow your impulses and 'fess up to an attraction—or at least brew up a plan to get some alone time with your latest romantic interest (who might not be aware they hold such status in your heart). Coupled Bulls could get working on a project with your S.O.



Gemini May 21 – June 21

Today, beautifying Venus in your domestic sector gets an energising beam from impromptu Uranus. Whether you're decluttering or decorating (or both), channel some creativity towards Maison du Twin. Objects hold a charge, and seeing certain mementos



can actually be upsetting. Maybe it's time to let go of a few "sentimental objects" that remind you of a loss.

Cancer June 22 – July 22

Today, charming Venus and 'anything goes' Uranus bring out your social streak full force. Your phone will be buzzing non-stop with invitations, but don't tie yourself down to any commitments. You'll be happiest flitting from one group hang to the next, even just popping in for a quick cameo. With love planet Venus in the mix, the amicable could turn amorous with a casual friend. Follow your gut and lean in for a kiss if the mood strikes.



Leo July 23 – August 22

Practical magic returns today, when a Venus-Uranus trine infuses some creativity and innovation into the most pragmatic tasks on the list. A lingering brunch could morph into a brainstorming session, or you could catch up with a good friend and start a shared Pinterest board over a mutual passion.



Virgo August 23 – September 22

Today, a playful formation between Venus in Virgo and spontaneous Uranus makes you a 'down for whatever' extrovert. Friends may have an extra ticket to an event or a spare seat in the car for a day trip. Use that vacation day! A change of scenery will refresh your creative (and romantic!) mojo. Single Virgos could meet someone with romantic potential along the way.



Libra September 23 – October 23

Today, changemaker Uranus connects to your ruler, love planet Venus, which could shake things up in your romantic life. With Uranus in your erotic eighth house, a playful conversation might evolve into some spicy experimentation. Ready to jailbreak from an unworkable situation? Liberated Uranus can spring you free. Single Libras could be uncharacteristically impulsive.



Scorpio October 24 – November 21

Today, an unexpected collaboration could emerge as Venus gets a boost from spontaneous Uranus. You might team up with a friend on a tech-related project or get involved in supporting a cause that touches you deeply. This cosmic confab can also trigger an out-of-the-blue attraction to someone in your social circle. Whoa! If you're both single, go forth and explore.



Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

Choose your company wisely, Sagittarius. Under the electrifying influence of a Venus-Uranus trine, people can inspire you to new heights—or seriously jangle your nerves. If your gut is saying 'hell no,' don't force yourself to show up at an event out of obligation or guilt.



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NO WORMS

A biology teacher wished to demonstrate to his students the harmful effects of alcohol on living organisms. For his experiment, he showed them a beaker with pond water in which there was a thriving civilization of worms. When he added

some alcohol into the beaker the worms doubled-up and died. "Now," he said, "what do you learn from this?" An eager student gave his answer. "Well the answer is obvious," he said "if you drink alcohol, you'll never have worms."

USELESS FACTS

1. A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.
2. Cranberries are sorted for ripeness by bouncing them; a fully ripened cranberry can be dribbled like a basketball.
3. The male gypsy moth can "smell" the virgin female

- gypsy moth from 1.8 miles away.
4. The letters KGB stand for Komitet Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosti.
5. The word "dexter" whose meaning refers to the right hand is typed with only the left hand.

BRAinteasers QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterday's brainteasers

1. What do Princess Diana and Pink Floyd have in common?

Answer: Their last big hit was the wall.

2. What do you call a 100 year old ant?

Answer: An antique!

Today's brainteasers

1. Who is the most famous French ant?
2. What kind of ant can you colour with?



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NEWS



EXCITING NEWBIES THIS WEEK

ERICA is off to college and Barry has a little too much time on his hands, much to Adam's irritation, with the season five return of 'The Goldbergs.'

Bad Blood turns a romantic weekend away, into a messy massacre as a woman finds herself fighting for her life.

Don't miss the tender tale of youth and adventure as four young boys, fed up with the politics of school and parental relationships, band together to form an exclusive club to fight injustice. Watch **Benji The Dove** on DStv Catch Up now.

After a plethora of wins during the awards season, **The Handmaid's Tale** is back with new drama and shock in season two.

Priyanka Chopra puts on her special agent uniform for your entertainment in season three of **Quantico**.

Love At First Flight takes romantic road trips to the next level when strangers are coupled up, on a journey to learn their compatibility and decide if they'd like to say "I do" once they reach their destination. The NCIS team are still searching for a missing Gibbs and McGee with season 15.



GEAR FOR THE MANDELA POP UP CHANNEL

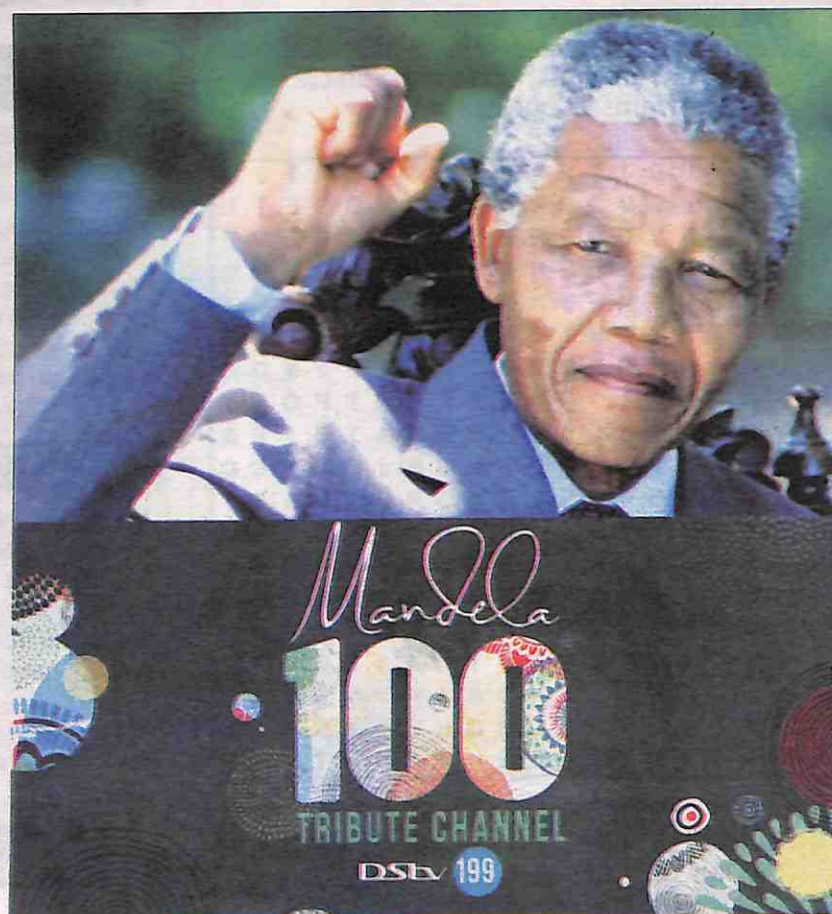
WEDNESDAY, July 18 is an important date on the 2018 calendar. On the timeline of world history, it marks 100 years since the birth of one of Africa's most beloved icons, legendary statesman and Nobel Peace Prize winner Nelson Mandela on DStv channel 199.

On that day, DStv will launch a special five-day long pop-up channel to celebrate and honour the extraordinary life and legacy of Tata Madiba. DStv's Mandela 100 Tribute Channel will be available to all DStv customers across Africa.

Starting on Madiba's birthday, today, at 7pm, the channel will feature an exceptional mix of films, documentaries and archive footage.

"Around the globe, Nelson Mandela is revered as a hero of the struggle and as the man who led South Africa to democracy. While striving for justice and freedom and shaping a nation, he also changed the world with his humility and indomitable spirit. We are immensely proud to dedicate a unique pop-up channel to celebrate the life and legacy of this beacon of selflessness and reconciliation, who gave hope to millions," says Yolisa Phahle, General Entertainment CEO, MultiChoice.

The channel, which was compiled for DStv by M-Net, Africa's leading storyteller, is packed with programmes that paint a powerful picture of what it means to be Madiba – and what Madiba has meant to the world.



Each night at 8pm - from today, to Saturday, July 21 - DStv customers across the continent can tune in for a new director's cut, in the form of a four-part miniseries, of the landmark film *The Long Walk to Freedom* (2013), based on Mandela's autobiography which focuses on his early life and 27

years in prison, and stars Idris Elba. The Mandela 100 Tribute builds up to a heart-stopping climax on the final evening: *Invictus* (2009), the Hollywood blockbuster directed by Clint Eastwood, starring Morgan Freeman as Nelson Mandela and Matt Damon as Springbok rugby captain Francois Pienaar.

The debut we've all been waiting for: Project Runway SA is here!

THE search for South Africa's next big fashion designer has arrived.

The debut aired last night and baam, boy oh boy it's about to get real.

Mzansi Magic, Ndalo Pictures in association with Headline Sponsor 4th STREET Wines and production partners, Rapid Blue, are thrilled to bring you Project Runway South Africa, Season 1.

From the first show we experienced creativity, tension and drama as aspiring fashion designers compete against each other to create runway-perfect garments restricted by time, materials, and theme.

Designs are judged by Noni Gasa and Rahim Rawjee in the company of a guest judges. Designers are eliminated until one gifted star walks away with the ultimate prize: An opportunity to showcase as a pop up with ELLE African collections, where the winner will WIN a trip to Paris Fashion week (flights and accommodation included) for its legendary spring/ summer event in February 2019, brought to you by ELLE SA, ELLE Paris and 4th Street Wines.

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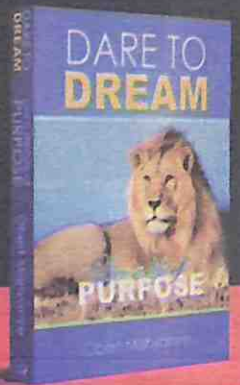
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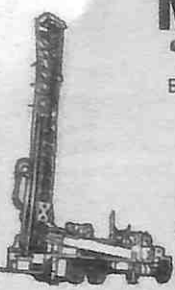
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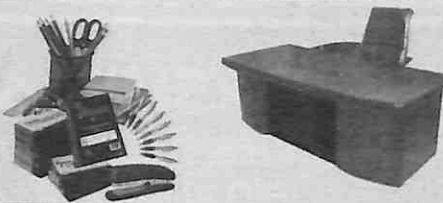


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TORRES JOINS JAPAN SIDE SAGAN TOSU

JAPAN - Fernando Torres has announced his departure from boyhood club Atletico Madrid to join Japanese side Sagan Tosu.

The Spaniard confirmed at a press conference that he is set to join the likes of Lukas Podolski and Andres Iniesta in the J1 League despite rival bids from the US and Australia.

Torres scored twice on his final appearance for Atletico in a 2-2 draw against Eibar on the last day of the La Liga season.

On his 404th and final appearance for Atletico, Torres' goals were his 128th and 129th for the club, coming 17 years after his first, scored against Albacete in the Segunda Division in 2001.

"I thank the whole Atletico family," Torres said afterwards. "I knew I wanted to play here and it has been an honour and a privilege to wear this shirt more than 400 times. You have made me the happiest person in the world." The 34-year-old was a childhood Atletico



NEW HOME: Fernando Torres is set to join the likes of Lukas Podolski and Andres Iniesta in the J1 League.

fan, who first watched his team with his grandfather as a child, and when he returned to the club for a second spell

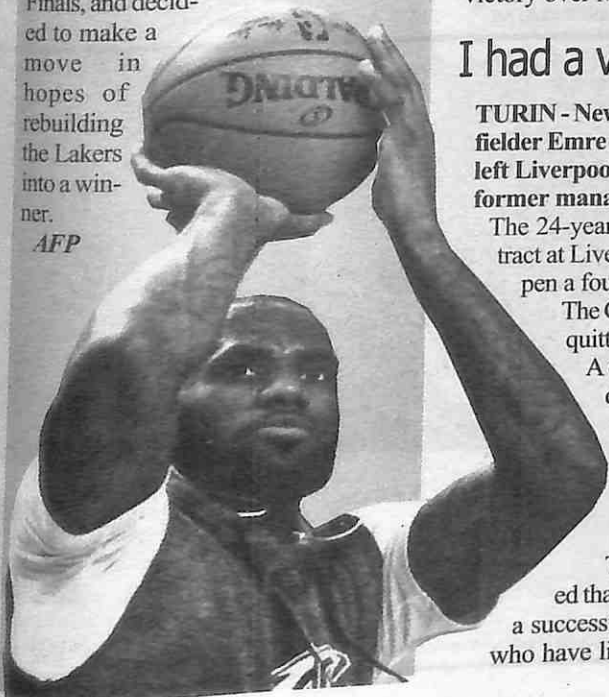
in 2015, drew a crowd of more than 40 000 just for his presentation. **News24**

LeBron signs Lakers NBA deal for four years at \$154 million

LOS ANGELES - LeBron James signed his new four-year NBA contract worth \$154 million with the Los Angeles Lakers on Monday, with Lakers president Earvin 'Magic' Johnson calling it a "huge step" for the team.

The Klutch Sports Group, agents for James, tweeted a photo of the four-time NBA Most Valuable Player on Monday night with "officially signed with the Lakers" as the caption. The agents revealed July 1, hours after the start of free agency, that James had agreed to terms on the Lakers deal, leaving the Cleveland Cavaliers after four seasons in which he led them to four NBA Finals. James brought Cleveland its first major sports crown since 1964 when the Cavs won the 2016 NBA crown but lost three of four finals showdowns with the Golden State Warriors, falling to 3-6 for his career in the NBA Finals, and decided to make a

move in hopes of rebuilding the Lakers into a winner. **AFP**



Lewis to fight Klitschko in exhibition rematch in Ukraine

LONDON - Lennox Lewis and Vitali Klitschko will reportedly come out of retirement for an exhibition rematch later this year.

The pair met in the ring in 2003 when Lewis won via sixth-round technical knockout when two cuts opened up around Klitschko's left eye.

Lewis, now 52, was behind on the scorecards at the time and then hung up his gloves having successfully defended his WBC heavyweight title.

According to reports in Ukraine, the pair will meet in an exhibition bout during the WBC Convention in Kiev which runs from September 30 to October 5.

Klitschko, 46, is the mayor of the capital and has reportedly taken control of the fight.

He went on to become the WBC world champion when he stopped Corrie Sanders in 2004 and went on to defend it 11 times before retiring following his victory over Manuel Charr in 2012.

Last month, the Ukrainian admitted he was frustrated not to be given a rematch.

"Yes of course. Lennox Lewis after the fight promised to give me a rematch and I appreciated a chance to fight the great champion, great fighter that's in Lennox Lewis," Vitali told Sirius XM Boxing Radio.

"I showed my skills and I beat him but they stopped the fight and I was really upset.

Lennox was very happy, but after the fight Lennox told me, 'Don't worry, I promise you I will give you rematch and we will fight again' but, we made negotiations and Lennox invited me to his office in London to sign the contract, the fight contract for the next fight.

"I came to his office I was really surprised Lennox was not alone, [he was] with his mum. We talked about the next fight, I guess two hours and his mum doesn't say one word. **Mirror**

I had a very good relationship with Klopp - Can

TURIN - Newly signed Juventus midfielder Emre Can has revealed that he left Liverpool on good terms with his former manager Jurgen Klopp.

The 24-year-old rejected a new contract at Liverpool and left on a free to pen a four-year deal at Juventus.

The Germany international said quitting the Reds for the Serie A champions had nothing to do with his relationship with his former manager and Klopp wished him well ahead of his new journey with the Old Lady of Turin.

The lanky midfielder stated that he is looking forward to a successful career with Juventus, who have lifted the Serie A title for

the last seven years.

"I didn't have problems with Klopp. I had a very, very good relationship with him," Can said.

"At the end he wished me all the best here. I never had problems with Klopp."

The 24-year old midfielder, who made 37 appearances for Liverpool in the previous season, said he would relish the chance to play with Cristiano Ronaldo if his much talked about transfer to Juventus succeeds.

Added Can: "I think for every player it would be great to play with a big player like Cristiano Ronaldo, but I don't know if the club has contact with the player. "For me I just focus on my thing, of course if he would come it would be great but for now I just focus on myself."

Sport24

Buffon says no PSG promise of starting slot

PARIS - Gianluigi Buffon, Paris Saint-Germain's veteran goalkeeper, said on Monday he was not a guaranteed starter as he embarks on a new challenge following his move from Juventus.

"Nobody ever told me I would be a starter," said Buffon, 40, as the Italian was presented to the media.

"I was always first choice at Parma, Juve and the national side, but nobody ever told me I'd be an automatic first choice" at PSG, he explained.

"I have always been a player who has earned his starting place on the field," added Buffon, who will seek to dislodge Alphonse Areola, who pushed German Kevin Trapp down to number two last season.

"Of course I am 40 years old but I am in excellent physical form. I know that when there is a need to have major goals (at a club) then you need all hands on deck.

"We shall all get game time during the season and I shall do all I can to put the others in the best possible conditions. I want to show



NO PROMISES: Gianluigi Buffon.

I am a great keeper and I am sure I shall do that," Buffon concluded as he looks to stake a claim at the French champions, who have five keepers on their books. **AFP**

Anderson hoping for rhythm not blues against Federer

LONDON - Kevin Anderson, the big South African who winds down from tennis by reaching for his guitar, admits he needs to be right on key from the start of his Wimbledon quarter-final against eight-time champion Roger Federer tomorrow.

The eighth-seeded Anderson became the first South African man since Wayne Ferreira in 1994 to reach the Wimbledon quarter-finals with a 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/2), 5-7, 7-6 (7/4) win over France's Gael Monfils on Monday.

The odds are stacked against Anderson who will be playing in his first last-eight match at the All England Club while defending champion and first seed Federer is in his 16th.

He has also lost all four meetings against the 20-time major winner, failing to win a set off the great Swiss star.

When asked what he admired

about defending champion Federer, the 32-year-old Anderson was happy to reel off an exhaustive check-list.

"His consistency, the way he plays such great tennis week in and week out," said Anderson.

"Just the way he moves, the way he conducts himself on the court is very impressive. Everything looks so easy, so fluid.

"The variety he brings to the court. The use of the slice backhand. The use of his attacking forehand. His defence. He's really got the complete package."

Anderson added that Federer, who won his first Wimbledon title in 2003, is the perfect role model for the sport — and for those players in the chasing pack.

"The expectations he's had to deal with for over a decade, 15 years, I mean, at the top of the game, he's able to deal with it so well, which isn't easy." **AFP**



WELL DONE: South Africa's Kevin Anderson shakes hands with Monfils after winning against France's Gael Monfils during their men's singles fourth round match. **Sport24**

++ WORLD CUP 2018 ++

THE BEST HOLIDAY EVER

England ace Ash loving life in Russia

MOSCOW - ASHLEY Young says victory for England at the World Cup will make their Russian adventure the holiday of a lifetime.

Gareth Southgate has built such a good team spirit within his squad that Young believes the tournament feels more like a sunshine break than a mission to end 52 years of hurt and bring football home.

And while Germany, Brazil, Argentina and Spain suffered an early check-out, England are only too happy to have extended their stay in Russia.

"It's felt like a good holiday we've been on," said Young, who celebrated his 33rd birthday on Monday. "And if we get to the final, of course, it will be the best ever."

England take on Croatia in Moscow today for a place in the final, where either Belgium or France lie in wait.

But none of those sides hold any fear for England, insists Young.

"I think we've got a great chance," he said. "We are in a great position to go on and win it."

"It's been a fantastic journey, we've been on but we haven't come this far not to go on and win it, get over that line."

"It is one of those things as a child you always dream of playing in a World Cup and you dream of winning the World Cup."

Jordan Henderson's tight hamstring has improved and he has declared himself fit for the semi-final.

Daily Mail



FIFA WORLD CUP
RUSSIA 2018

Kramaric wants to talk about Croatia for years

MOSCOW - Croatia forward Andrej Kramaric hopes he will be able to talk about their World Cup campaign for years to come, he said on Monday, as his side prepared for their semi-final against England.

Kramaric said the pressure on his team had been lifted after they passed the round of 16, and they were now simply enjoying their World Cup adventure, which has taken them to the semi-finals for the first time since 1998.

"The biggest pressure for us was in the game against Denmark in the round of 16...now we are enjoying what is happening," he said.

"When the game starts, there will be a bit of pressure but we are enjoying the fact that we are here in the World Cup semifinals."

"It would be a fantastic achievement for Croatia to play the World

Cup final, it's our dream and we will do the best to fulfil it," he added.

Kramaric, who plays for Bundesliga side Hoffenheim, spent one year in England at Leicester City in their title-winning season but could not break into the team.

"My stay in England is a great story for me, my first time outside of Croatia, everything was really new. I didn't play that much, it was difficult to get into the team because the team was doing really well," he said.

"I could talk about that for days, however, I would hope to talk about this World Cup for years."

He also praised an England side he said was devoid of top names.

"England was one of the favourites for me because they have a young and hungry team with no big international movie stars," Kramaric said. *Super Sport*

England dreaming, Croatia set to provide biggest WC test

MOSCOW - England are dreaming of a first World Cup final since 1966 but first they must come through today's semi-final at the Luzhniki Stadium against Croatia in what looks like their toughest test yet in Russia.

Excitement has reached fever-pitch levels back in England, with Gareth Southgate's young team making it to the last four of a major tournament for the first time since Euro '96, and for the first time at a World Cup since Italy in 1990. Both of those runs ended in defeats on penalties, but there is a belief that something could be different this time. England have already won a shootout in Russia, against Colombia in the last 16. And a young, likeable side with an eminently sensible and humble manager in Southgate have captured the hearts of a nation. *AFP*

England take aim at Croatia in World Cup semi-final

MOSCOW - England will back themselves to claim victory when they face Croatia in a 2018 World Cup semifinal today night at the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow. Kick-off will be at 8pm CAT.

England have been one of the surprise packages at the 2018 finals, and their semi-final berth was earned with a 2-0 win over Sweden in Samara on Saturday. Goals from Harry Maguire and Dele Alli - as well as a couple of excellent saves from Jordan Pickford - secured their place in the final four for the first time since 1990.

Gareth Southgate's 'Three Lions' have shown tactical flexibility, athleticism, speed and a fine defensive discipline in their campaign, and they will fancy their chances of securing victory in the Russian capital city.

The England manager says his team has a chance to become heroes in the same vein as their legendary 1966 team. "We've talked, touched briefly,



certainly, on the team which won," said Southgate.

"How they're still held and revered. (It was) at the beginning of working together with the lads and trying to sell them the vision of what's possible, what we're looking to achieve in the long-term."

"We have had events on in camp when some of those guys have been in, when the road was named at St George's (Park) after Sir Alf."

"I've met quite a few of those players and we know exactly how they're held and perhaps, in the modern era, that would be even crazier."

Croatia were arguably the most impressive team in the group stage, but have since been forced to dig deep against Denmark and hosts Russia in the last 16 and quarterfinals respectively, playing out draws after extra time before advancing on penalties.

Back Page

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ZAHA TARGETED BY EVERTON

LONDON - New Everton boss Marco Silva is desperate to land Wilfried Zaha, but is struggling to convince him to return up north.

Crystal Palace's Ivory Coast international Zaha bagged nine goals and three assists last term despite missing five weeks injured.

He is in demand this summer and Silva wants to bring Zaha, 25, to Goodison Park to spearhead a new-look attacking line next season.

But Palace are battling hard to keep their prized asset on a new £125 000-a-week deal and are reluctant to sell him.

Everton are showing firm interest, but Londoner Zaha did not enjoy his previous transfer up north when he moved from Palace to Manchester United in 2013-2015.

The £15 million flop was subsequently loaned back to Palace and out to Cardiff after failing to settle in Manchester on and off the pitch.

But he is the star man back at Selhurst Park who already want to tie him down on a new deal just 15 months after Zaha signed a five-year deal worth around £100 000-a-week.

Meanwhile, Silva has taken Everton's

● Marco Silva faces job to convince Crystal Palace star to return to north



ON TARGET: Wilfried Zaha in action against West Bromwich Albion player.

squad to Austria for a pre-season camp after they flew out yesterday.

MirrorSport understands Silva has

taken the full compliment of stars and not exiled anyone.

Mirror

Wolves boss Santo signs contract extension

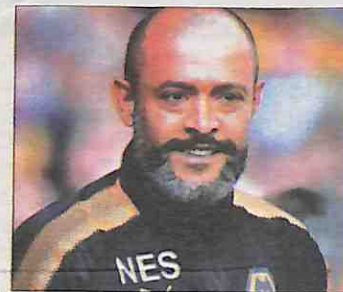
LONDON - Wolverhampton Wanderers Manager Nuno Espirito Santo has signed a one-year contract extension that will keep him at the West Midlands club until 2021, the Premier League side has said.

The 44-year-old joined Wolves last May and helped the club win the second-tier Championship with 99 points and secure promotion to the top flight for the coming season.

"We have a team and we are in the Premier League, and we are now in year two," the Portuguese manager told Wolves' website. "In year two, we know the challenge is even more difficult, but we have something that we hold on to - we have our own identity."

"We need to bring in players and we will do so, but it is very difficult to find the right ones, because the quality that we have already is high."

First team coaches Rui Pedro Silva, Rui Barbosa, Antonio Dias, Joao Lapa and Julio Figueroa have also signed contract extensions, while Ian Cathro joined as a coach on a



EXTENDED:

Wolverhampton Wanderers Manager Nuno Espirito Santo.

three-year deal last month.

Santo has bolstered his squad with six recruits in the current transfer window, including Portugal goalkeeper Rui Patricio, Mexican striker Raul Jimenez and defender Willy Boly.

"The way we did it last year was absolutely amazing - I cannot thank the supporters enough. But at the same time I humbly ask, let's do it again. Together we are stronger," Santo added. Wolves began their pre-season fixtures against Swiss club Basel later yesterday.

Reuters

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BRIEFS

'I was pushed out at Rennes'

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa international Kermit Erasmus feels that he left Premier Soccer League (PSL) giants Orlando Pirates at the right time. The well-travelled striker was sold to French Ligue 1 side Stade Rennais by Bucs in January 2016, soon after helping the club reach the 2015 CAF Confederation Cup final - where they lost to Tunisian giants Etoile du Sahel. "Basically, I was playing in something similar to the Europa League, but we call it the Africa Confederation Cup, and I was playing with Orlando Pirates. An agent from South Africa was contacted for a player with certain qualities, and he referred me to them," Erasmus told Get French Football News. *Goal*

Sredojevic pleased at training camp

NELSPRUIT - Orlando Pirates head coach Milutin 'Mico' Sredojevic is pleased with the progress his squad made during their pre-season training camp in the Mpumalanga province. The Soweto giants spent a week in Nelspruit, where they endured an intensive pre-season camp under the tutelage of the Serbian tactician, who is assisted by Rulani Mokwena. The week-long camp in the Mpumalanga province concluded with a practice match this past weekend against a local club. The team flew out to Zambia yesterday where they will continue preparations for the new season, which starts next month. *Soccer Laduma*



Chief boss takes matters into his own hands

JOHANNESBURG - Motaung senior is said to have gone to England a few weeks ago, where he is believed to have interviewed a few candidates for the Chiefs head coach job. Kaizer Chiefs chairman Kaizer Motaung is personally handling the process of hiring the new coach for his club and no one knows how close he is. "Nobody knows who the candidates are or how far he is with his search. He is not updating anyone, not even Bobby knows. Everyone will know when he has concluded a deal with whoever he selects," said a source. Motaung senior is said to have gone to England a few weeks ago, where he is believed to have interviewed a few candidates. *Citizen*

PSL charge Leopards, Cosmos

LONDON - The Premier Soccer League Disciplinary Committee has found both Black Leopards and Jomo Cosmos guilty on charges of misconduct. Black Leopards FC were charged with failure to provide adequate security during the National First Division play-off match against Cosmos on Saturday, May 6. They were fined R150 000 excluding VAT - suspended for 24 months. They were also ordered to pay costs of the sitting amounting to R33 000. In the second matter, Cosmos were also found guilty of contravening the Sport and Recreational Events Safety Act after it allowed supporters to enter the stadium without tickets during their Promotion Play-off match against Black Leopards on May 20. *Sport24*

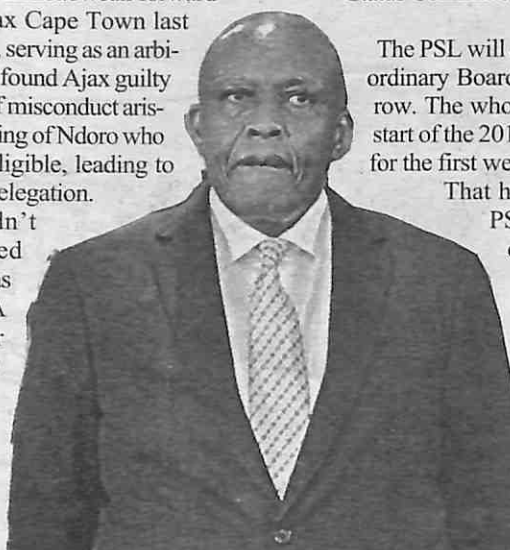
NDORO SAGA COULD SEE START OF NEW SEASON STALLED

JOHANNESBURG - The Premier Soccer League (PSL) hasn't considered increasing the number of teams in the league for now. That's because Chairman Irvin Khoza, argues Judge Denise Fisher's judgement didn't find the PSL in the wrong on the Tendai Ndoro saga.

The South Gauteng High Court last week set aside Advocate William Mokhari's ruling on the eligibility of the Zimbabwean forward to represent Ajax Cape Town last season. Mokhari, serving as an arbitrator for SAFA, found Ajax guilty on five charges of misconduct arising from the fielding of Ndoro who was deemed ineligible, leading to their automatic relegation.

Ndoro shouldn't have represented Ajax last season as it's against FIFA rules for a player to represent three teams in a season.

The Zimbabwean played for Orlando Pirates, Saudi Arabia's Al Faisaly before joining Ajax in



ARGUES: Chairman Irvin Khoza.

January. But the PSL's Dispute Resolution Chamber cleared Ajax to field Ndoro.

The PSL appealed that decision and won. The Urban Warriors fought the matter in the courts, which led to them getting a reprieve last week with Judge Fisher setting aside Mokhari's ruling arguing that he didn't have jurisdiction on the matter. Judge Fisher referred the matter to the FIFA Players' Status Committee.

Appeal

The PSL will appeal that ruling after an extraordinary Board of Governors meeting tomorrow. The whole drama threatens to delay the start of the 2018/19 season that was scheduled for the first weekend of August.

That has led to an argument that the PSL should increase the number of teams in the league from 16 to 18 to remedy the matter. Highlands Park and Black Leopards have already confirmed their places in the Premier Division, replacing Ajax and Platinum Stars.

The "solution" is that the PSL should just "promote" Ajax from the National First Division (NFD) along with Jomo Cosmos who finished behind Highlands and Leopards.

The Star

Record-breaker Percy Tau faces work visa hurdle

PRETORIA - After the announcement of Mamelodi Sundowns' agreement to the record breaking R50 million transfer of Percy Tau to Brighton & Hove Albion, the issue of gaining a work permit has been raised for the player to complete the deal.

Despite ludicrously assumptive reports doing the rounds that the deal would fall through due to work permit restrictions - with nightmarish stories that Tau might be sent out on loan for a number of years - we have to look at the cold, hard facts. The bottom line should be that... Brighton would not enter into negotiations in the first place if they were not confident of getting a work permit for the player.

Regulations have been tightened on foreign non-EU players gaining work permits due to the fact that only 58 per cent of footballers granted working visas played any top-flight football in their second season.

Clubs interested in signing players have to:

- Prove that they are internationally established at the highest level.
- That their employment will make a significant contribution to their sport at the highest level.

A look at the requirements needed for a UK work permit:

The Premier League states that where applicable, a club's application to register a player has to be accompanied by evidence to allow the league to demonstrate that the player may take up employment in the UK.

Players with passports from outside the European Union and the European Economic Area need permission to work in the UK.

The UK Home Office has a points-based system based on which clubs must apply to The FA for a "Governing Body Endorsement" for such players. If the player does not automati-



RECORD-BREAKER: Percy Tau.

cally meet these criteria, the club can request an FA Exceptions Panel to consider the player's experience and value in order to determine whether a Governing Body Endorsement should nevertheless be granted.

Official FIFA ranking	required % of international matches in past two years
FIFA 1-10:	30% and above
FIFA 11-20:	45% and above
FIFA 21-30:	60% and above
FIFA 31-50:	75% and above

Sowetan Live



Chiefs made no offer for Baxter - SAFA

JOHANNESBURG - The South African Football Association (SAFA) says they have not received an offer for the services of Bafana Bafana coach Stuart Baxter from Kaizer Chiefs.

Baxter has been linked with a return to Chiefs but SAFA said he's part of their plans until 2022.

As the start of the new Absa Premiership season draws closer, Chiefs remain without a coach since Steve Komphela resigned.

SAFA CEO, Dennis Mumble said: "There's nothing in front of us that says this way or that way we still have a coach he has been signed for the long haul and we are going to continue to look at him preparing our national teams going forward. So it's not a scenario that we contemplate but until something is put in front of us but we expect that contract will be respected and the contract is until after the World Cup 2022." *eNCA*

I still have few years left in me - Khumalo

JOHANNESBURG - Former Bafana Bafana captain Bongani Khumalo says he is looking forward to a fresh challenge after leaving Bidvest Wits.

The 31-year-old former Tottenham Hotspur centre-back feels he should be in the prime of his career as he assesses his options ahead of the 2018/19 campaign as a free agent.

"I am still hungry and desperate to achieve things," he told SowetanLIVE.

"I still think I have a good few years left in me."

"In fact, at my age these should be the best years for a centre-back. I am very much keeping an open mind about my options and looking for a club that has vision and a good idea of where they see themselves in the future. In terms of where that club is situated, that is probably the least important thing for me because I have always moved around a lot in my career." Khumalo adds that he brings not only experience, but also a wealth of knowledge for younger players after five years spent playing in England and Greece.

"I have gone through some difficult times in my career, both at home and abroad, and I feel like this is the best time to share that."

"One of the most challenging things in football is the ability to adapt to different environments. That might be hard for people to understand, but it is a real issue, especially for young players."

Sowetan Live

MAN U EXTENDS INVITE TO RESCUED THAI FOOTBALL TEAM

JOHANNESBURG – English Premier League giants Manchester United have extended an invite to a Thailand football team that was trapped in a cave for 18 days.

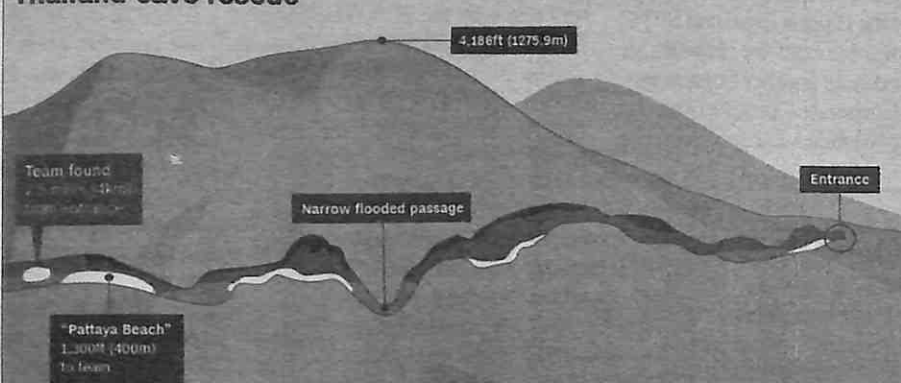
Yesterday all 12 boys and their soccer coach were rescued after being trapped for more than two weeks deep inside a flooded Thai cave. Shortly after

the news of their rescue, the Red Devils took to social media to extend an invite to the team and their rescuers for an experience of the English league in the coming season.

"#MUFC is relieved to learn that the 12 footballers and their coach trapped in a cave in Thailand are now safe," the tweet read.

eNCA

Thailand cave rescue



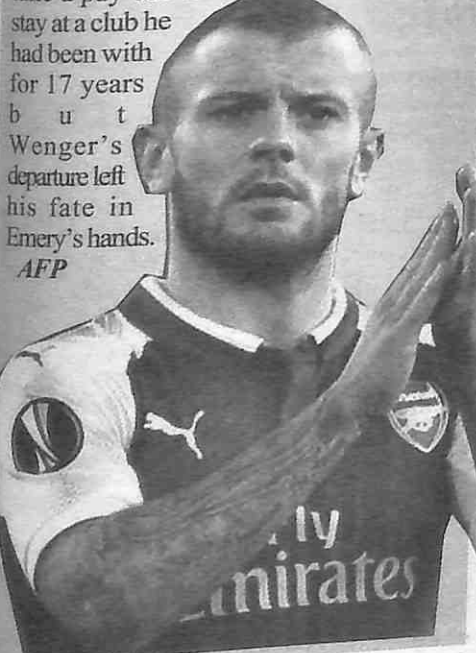
'I've always had a special bond with West Ham'

LONDON - England midfielder Jack Wilshere said it felt "special" to be joining West Ham on a free transfer on Monday as it is the club he and his family supported.

The 26-year-old - whose lack of form towards the end of the season with Arsenal led to his being omitted from the World Cup squad - signed a three year contract with the Hammers. Wilshere - scorer of 14 goals in his 197 appearances for the Gunners and who won two FA Cup winners medals in 2014 and 2015 - said it was well known the strong emotional ties he had with West Ham.

"It feels good, it feels special," said Wilshere on the West Ham website. "Many people know that I've had a special bond with this club growing up. People will have seen the picture of me in a West Ham shirt and I've got good memories of my childhood supporting West Ham, watching them at Upton Park."

It feels good and of course my family and a few of my friends are West Ham fans so everyone's buzzing." Wilshere - whose contract ran out at the end of June - decided to look for a new club when new Gunners manager Unai Emery told him he would not be a first choice next season. Emery's predecessor Arsene Wenger had recommended that the club offer Wilshere a new contract after a series of impressive performances last season. His career has been hobbled by injuries and he was willing to take a pay cut to



Wenger reveals what he noticed about Ozil at World Cup

LONDON - Arsene Wenger has attempted to explain why Mesut Ozil wasn't at his best for Germany at the World Cup in Russia.

The Arsenal legend signed Ozil for the Gunners back in 2013, and knows the player well from their time spent together in north London.

Germany were shocking in this summer's finals by their dizzyingly high standards, and failed to get out of their group following defeats by Mexico and South Korea.

Ozil came in for a lot of criticism as a result, and was even dropped for the Sweden game - the only match Germany won



OPENS UP: Arsene Wenger and Mesut Ozil.

- but Wenger thinks he knows what went wrong.

Speaking on beIN Sports, he said: "I know Ozil well, he's an exceptional football player."

"Him and (Ilkay) Gundogan

suffered with what happened before the World Cup because they have been vindicated in Germany. Ozil is a guy who needs support, he doesn't need controversy." *Mirror*

Burnley ready for Europa League - Dyche

LONDON - Burnley manager Sean Dyche says they will take the Europa League seriously, while the Premier League remains the club's priority.

The Clarets will be competing in a European competition for the first time in 51 years after finishing seventh in the Premier League last season.

Despite placing just behind Arsenal in the league, Burnley still have one of the smallest budgets in the English top-flight and will see their player resources stretched to its limits by competing in Europe.

Dyche is aware of the challenge that faces Burnley, but

he is also determined to see his side give a good account of themselves abroad.

"It's a strange thing about the psyche because it's a tremendous thing for Burnley Football Club to be in Europe," he told Clarets Player HD.

Taken

"It's not there to be taken lightly and we won't be doing that, but it has to be balanced against the Premier League because that's the bread and butter of what we're about."

"You can go back into that debate of downplaying cups, but it's nothing to do with that. The fact is the Premier League is our bread and butter, but

alongside that, the first time in Europe in 51 years means we are looking forward to that as well."

"We know the challenges of both, so therefore the importance of pre-season, and working in the market to add to the group and make it stronger, all combine. "There's a lot going on and we have to make sure we can add to the grip to add to this upward curve."

Burnley play a number of friendlies in July before their first European tie, against Scottish Premier League side Aberdeen in the Second qualifying round, on Thursday, July 26.

Sport24

FIFA says rescued Thai boys won't attend World Cup final

MOSCOW - Football's governing body FIFA welcomed the rescue of 12 Thai boys from a cave, but said they were too weak to attend Sunday's World Cup final in Moscow.

Elite foreign divers and Thai Navy SEALs saved the final batch of four boys yesterday after an 18-day ordeal that captivated the world.

FIFA boss Gianni Infantino had invited the boys' Wild Boars football team to the final "as

our guests" last week.

But FIFA said it had been informed "that due to medical reasons, the boys will not be in a position to travel to Moscow".

Priority

"FIFA's priority remains the health of everyone involved in the operation and we will look into finding a new opportunity to invite the boys to a FIFA event to share with them a moment of communion and celebration," a spokesman said.

The Thai footballers, aged from 11 to 16, had been stuck

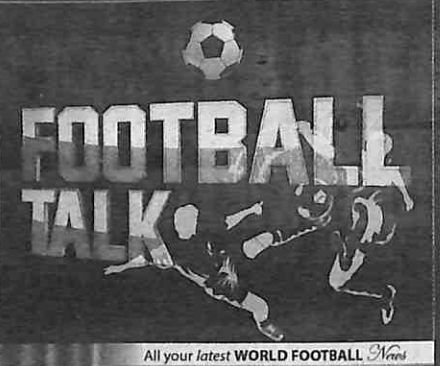


deep underground after setting off to explore the cave with their 25-year-old coach after training on June 23.

FIFA also expressed condolences to the family of a Thai Navy SEAL who died after running out of oxygen during the rescue operation on Friday.

"Our thoughts are with his family," FIFA said.

AFP



● Juventus President Andrea Agnelli has flown by helicopter to Cristiano Ronaldo's hotel in Greece to discuss a proposed move for the Real Madrid and Portugal forward, 33. (*Sky Sports*)



● Chelsea are trying to jump in to beat Manchester City to the signing of Napoli's Italian midfielder Jorginho, 26. (*Manchester Evening News*)

● City have also made an enquiry for Real Madrid and Croatia midfielder Mateo Kovacic, 24, amid doubts over their pursuit of Jorginho. (*Mirror*)

● Chelsea's Belgium forward Eden Hazard, 27, says Real Madrid "makes everyone dream" even without Zinedine Zidane in charge. (*Marca*)

● Bayern Munich's Polish striker Robert Lewandowski, 29, looks set to stay with the club despite being linked with a move away. (*Bild*)



● Manchester United and Real Madrid have met officials from Lazio to discuss a move for 23-year-old Serbian midfielder Sergej Milinkovic-Savic. (*Il Messaggero* - via *Talksport*)

● Borussia Dortmund plan to use the money from Ukrainian forward Andriy Yarmolenko's imminent transfer to West Ham to help fund a move for 25-year-old Crystal Palace and Ivory Coast midfielder Wilfried Zaha, who has also attracted interest from Tottenham and Everton after turning down a new contract at Selhurst Park. (*Sun*)

● Juventus have told Liverpool they can sign Croatian winger Marko Pjaca, 23, this summer for £22m. (*Gazzetta dello Sport* - via *Talksport*)

● Liverpool have seen an opening 18m (£16m) Euro offer for 29-year-old Croatia and Besiktas central defender Domagoj Vida rejected. (*90min*)

● West Ham could sign Sevilla attacking midfielder Franco Vazquez, 22, with the Spanish club open to selling the Italy international for the right offer. (*Sport Witness*)

● Italy's former Liverpool and Manchester City striker Mario Balotelli will become Marseille's highest-paid player when he completes a move from Nice in the coming days. (*RMC* - via *Talksport*)

● West Ham have made a club-record bid for Lazio's versatile Brazilian forward Felipe Anderson, 25. (*Goal.com* - via *Calciomercato*)

● Arsenal manager Unai Emery personally persuaded Lorient's French midfielder Matteo Guendouzi, 19, to join the Gunners instead of Paris St-Germain or Borussia Dortmund. (*L'Equipe* - via *Metro*)



CHARITY PLAYOFFS MIGHT BE MOVED

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCER - THE SPTC Charity Cup playoffs involving Young Buffaloes, Green Mamba, Malanti Chiefs and Moneni Pirates might be moved back from the initial date of July 22 to July 21.

This is a proposal that has been forwarded by sponsors SPTC to the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS). July 22 is also the date for the fourth edition of the Biggest Braai and SPTC doesn't want to host the playoffs on the same day as another huge event. SPTC Corporate Communications Manager Nqobile Magagula said her

...next roadshow in Nhlanguano on Saturday

organisation has recommended the date change but the final decision will rest with the PLS. The Biggest Braai is organised by Philani Maswati. "The PLS is finalising the format details of the playoffs as well as the date. We have proposed that the date be moved from July 22 to July 21

because there is also the Biggest Braai on the Sunday (July 22). Philani Maswati are one of our partners and we also don't want to have two big events in one day. But the final decision will rest with the PLS," Magagula said. Meanwhile, the next Charity Cup

roadshow will be held at the Zama-Zama complex in Nhlanguano on Saturday. The four playoff teams as well as the big three of Mbabane Swallows, Manzini Wanderers and Mbabane Highlanders will be represented at the event which will start at 10am.

Streaming of major sport events catching on in Africa

SOCCER - ENGLAND'S World Cup quarter-final against Sweden was watched by just under 20 million viewers in the UK via BBC One.

While this traditional broadcast audience was huge, it was streaming that broke records with the game being the BBC's most popular online-viewed live programme ever, with 3.8 million views. In Africa, the absolute numbers are lower but the trend towards streaming major sports events on the continent is also well under way.

Live streaming of sports dominates the usage figures for DStv's own live and recorded TV streaming app, DStv Now. The number of people using the app in June was five times higher than a year ago, with concurrent views peaking during major football games.

Since the start of the World Cup, average weekday usage of DStv Now is up 60 per cent. The absolute peak in concurrent usage for one event was reached

on 26 June, during the Nigeria vs Argentina game.

The app's biggest ever test was on 16 June with both World Cup Football and other sporting events under way at the same time resulting in concurrent in-app views seven times higher than the peaks seen in June last year.

The World Cup has also been a major reason for new users to download and try out the app. First-time app user volumes have tripled on Android and doubled on iOS since the start of the tournament.

Speaking about DStv Now app usage, MultiChoice GM Phumi Drummond said:

"As expected the majority of our customers are using the app to stream live sport, however it is also encouraging to see that the app is fast becoming very popular for watching shows on Catch Up."

With respect to app usage, the web

and Android apps are the most popular way to watch DStv Now, with Android outpacing iOS by a factor of 2:1.

"As we continue to develop DStv Now, to ensure our customers enjoy an overall viewing experience, the other key priority for us is working with the telcos to deliver mobile data propositions that make watching online painless and worry-free for our customers," concludes Phumi Drummond.

The DStv Now app is free to all 10 million DStv customers in Africa. The app streams most of the DStv channels live, offers an extended Catch Up library with series, documentaries, kids content, movies and other shows for customers to stream or download to watch offline. Customers can register up to four devices on one account, and watch two separate streams on different devices simultaneously.

For more information or to register for DStv Now, visit DStv.com.



Italian Serie A football back on DStv

SOCCER - DStv customers are in for a fascinating 2018/19 football season as Italian league, Serie A rejoins the MultiChoice family

SuperSport and Serie A have reached an agreement that will see top tier Italian league football return to the World of Champions from the start of the upcoming 2018-19 season, beginning Sunday 19 August 2018.

Speaking after agreeing to the deal, Gideon Khobane, SuperSport Chief Executive, said: "We've always prided ourselves on offering viewers the best football from around the world and the return of Serie A to our screens fulfils our promise of an unrivalled football offering."

Gaetano Micciché, president of Serie A, was similarly enthused: "We are very happy with this agreement as it will allow the SuperSport audience to follow

all 380 matches of our league. We are certain that the passionate supporters from Sub-Saharan Africa will appreciate all the stars from Serie A."

Founded in 1898, and contested by 20 teams, the league is regarded as one of the best football leagues in the world and it is often clouted as the most tactical national league. "MultiChoice Eswatini is excited to continue bring customers the best international football. This is part of our ongoing commitment to bring more value to our customers," says General Manager, Phumi Drummond.

Supersport will be the only place to watch all 380 Serie A matches. Games will be broadcast on DStvThe 2017/18 season was exciting and uncertain until the end thanks to the epic duel between Juventus and Napoli and is a sign of great things to come.



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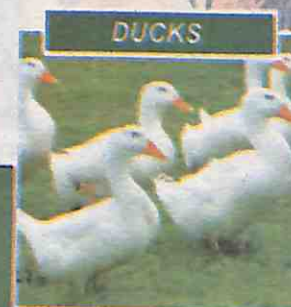
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INSIDE BIRDS' PLUSH NEW HOME

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCKER- Mbabane Swallows boss Princess Lungile recently moved the players from an old clubhouse near Selection Park to a plush new home at Eveni.

Yesterday, Swallows gave the Swazi Observer unprecedented full access to their new home. From the big screen television to WiFi, Swallows players are living like true stars at their new home.

A 12 ROOM MANSION

Swallows' new home is massive. The mansion boasts 12 rooms broken down into five bedrooms, a bathroom, a dining room, living room, kitchen and single garage amongst others. Outside, there is plenty of neatly taken care of space, where the players relax and unwind after training sessions and matches. There is ample parking space too for the players to park their wheels.

The big screen TV + WiFi

For Swallows stars, one of the house's standout features is the big screen TV in the living room, where the players gather to watch football matches most of the time. The living room is furnished with leather sofas. When we arrived yesterday, we found left-back Sanele Mkhweli relaxing and watching a replay of one of the FIFA World Cup matches on SuperSport 3. On top of that, there is free WiFi at the house, another favourite amongst the players.

"It is great here. Even though I don't live here, I enjoy coming to relax with my teammates, watch some football and obviously enjoy the WiFi. It's just amazing," Mkhweli said.

- Big screen TV, WiFi and dedicated chef for Swallows stars
- Victor's strict diet rules



VICTOR'S LEGACY: Different views of the Mbabane Swallows clubhouse located at Eveni in Mbabane. (Pics; Sibongiseni Zondi)

A TV FOR EACH BEDROOM

When you take the stairs up, you find the players' bedrooms. Two players share a bedroom, with a bed for each. Inside each bedroom, there is

a small television screen. According to defender Mandla Palma, they use these TVs mainly to watch movies.

"We use these TVs to watch movies. When we want to watch football, we

usually go downstairs to watch in the living room," Palma says.

A DEDICATED CHEF AND VICTOR'S STRICT DIET RULES

Lifelong Swallows supporter Lungile Tsabedze spends most of her days at the clubhouse, cooking for Swallows stars. "I arrive in the morning and prepare breakfast for them. Usually, I prepare oats for the players in the morning. Sometimes they have bread with eggs or polony.

Thereafter they leave for training and I start preparing their lunch. We try to be specific with what they have for lunch and supper because the boss (Victor Gamedze) didn't want us to feed them too much pap and beef. He told us that, it was difficult for the players to digest that so mainly we give them rice and chicken or spaghetti. It depends," Tsabedze said. Tsabedze added though that the players do eat, a lot. "They eat a lot, obviously but that is not a problem because what is important is that they are well fed," she said with a chuckle. Tsabedze

only cleans the kitchen, dining and living areas, while the players take care of the rest.

MKHWEI AND PALMA'S ASSESSMENT

Before we departed, we spoke to both Mkhweli and

Palma about their new home and what it meant to them.

Palma: "It is really motivating living in a place like this. It's good to see the club taking good care of us. This is a beautiful place and it shows that we are being taken care of. Most of the time we chill here, watch movies and football."

Mkhweli: "It's important to thank Mrs Gamedze for this. It means a lot to us as players and it shows that our management cares for our welfare as players. What I enjoy the most here is the TV and WiFi!"





I remember very well on the first day of the soccer World Cup about a month ago, on this very column, I said France would be the champions of this tournament.

I said while France doesn't boast of star players like Argentina, Portugal, Brazil and Spain, they were going to limp right through to the finals and if they made it to the finals they were going to win it.

While this tournament has been full of surprises last night's result did not surprise me at all. Yes, for the duration of the game I was nervous and stressed but in my heart I knew France would emerge victorious, by hook or crook.

See my heart of heart is never wrong if only I could just listen and rely on it in my everyday life I would be so great at this life thing.

In the beginning I was very sceptical though, I didn't understand what France was doing because in the first 20 minutes Belgium was just commanding the game. A good friend of mine, who is an England fan, sensing my tension and also he knows I don't know soccer tactics that well, said to me, "You need to understand the English approach to these matches, which is what France are doing, if you try to match them by keeping the ball, making useless runs, they'll definitely beat you, toe to toe they have better players, quality and experience, in the key positions, allow them to play, get them when they least expect those counter attack runs from Pogba will give you something". This opened my eyes and certainly eased my nervousness.

What I did observe, though is that France is a solid team, well structured, every department is playing well.

I also said in the beginning, France's performance in this World Cup would be determined by which Pogba showed up; I have been quite impressed with him and yesterday he played well. However, it is Griezmann and Mbappe who have shone in this tournament. Mbappe's touches are so classy, that baby boy is proper superstar material and if he continues the way he is playing now, the future is definitely bright. Honestly though, Belgium tried their best, but we all knew France were going to win this one, oh and Hazard is a hot short man.

Also, guys France had no choice, the President Emmanuel Macron was there, imagine losing while your president is watching, but the Belgians must not lose hope, they can still go home with bronze. Today, we watch Croatia and England, may the best team win and prepare itself to be number two, I have a feeling this game will be the final before the final.



ANOCA BOUND SQUAD ANNOUNCED

By Bahle Gama

SPORTS - THE Swaziland Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association has announced the squad to represent the country in the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa, popularly known as ANOCA games, to be held in Algeria.

This was during a press conference held at the SOCGA offices in Mbabane yesterday.

Addressing the gathering, SOCGA President Peter Shongwe said the squad was selected on merit.

"We wish to thank the IOC for ensuring that such events continue to grow in the continent through ANOCA. This being the third edition, we look forward to a quality event with lots of fun and excitement", said Shongwe.

The 10-day event will start from July 18 and run until July 28.

The ANOCA games are a precursor to the Olympic youth games scheduled for Buenos Aires, Argentina in October 2018. Some of the events in the games' menu are qualifiers for Buenos Aires 2018.

He said in line with SOCGA strategic objective, they selected from



ANOCA: SOCGA CEO Sidney Simelane, President Peter Shongwe and SNSRC Business Development Officer Zama Tsabedze during the ANOCA squad announcement held at their main office yesterday.

(Pic: Bahle Gama)

three individual sporting codes that were currently receiving direct support and were a potential podium in the near future.

"We also wish to thank the association and coaches for the hard work and commitment, the parents for allowing the talent to develop and the investment they put behind each athlete, our strategic partners SNSRC and the Government of

Eswatini for the huge support", Shongwe said.

The team is made up of seven athletes, three coaches and one Chef de Mission.

About the games:

The main objective of the African Youth Games is to prevent the decline of the sport practice within the young people and to contribute in giving to this generation an education based

ATHLETES

Mbingo Bongumenzi	Athletics
Hlatshwayo Khanyisile	Athletics
Emmett Liam	Swimming
Young Robyn	Swimming
Lukhele Melusi	Taekwondo
Mahlalela Sikhulile	Taekwondo
Gwebu Nhlakanipho	Taekwondo

COACHES

Tsela Bhengkosi	Athletics
Nhlabatsi Welcome	Swimming
Motsa Manqoba	Taekwondo
Chef de MISSION	
Zakhele Dlamini	

on Olympic spirit values, brotherhood, universality, peace and also the way of life, environment and health education.

These AYGs are not only based on competition, but they also have an educative cultural side. The organisation of the African youth games has been officially entrusted to Algiers during a memorandum signing on the May 29, 2014 in Gaborone where the second editions of the AYGS were held.

The organising committee of the AYGS is responsible for the 2018 games' preparation and organisation.

EVA to introduce sitting volleyball

By Sibusiso Masilela

VOLLEYBALL - THE Eswatini Volleyball Association is working around the clock to introduce sitting volleyball in the country.

The association is aiming to add the category in their calendar, which would also feature para-volleyball players around the Kingdom of Eswatini.

The initiative was discussed during the association's annual general meeting (AGM) held

at the Olymp Africa Centre on Saturday.

The association's Secretary, Nonophile 'Affir' Dlamini, said they wanted to introduce the new sporting code into their calendar.

"We are working on adding sitting volleyball as part of our activities in order to accommodate all sectors of the society in the sport. We have also tasked teams to work on establishing their own sitting volleyball teams. We are expecting teams to submit a report

after two weeks," she said.

Dlamini further stated that they wanted to improve beach volleyball in the country.

"We have also noted a need of transforming beach volleyball and this would be through grooming new coaches and umpires to help in the talent scouting," she also said.

The recently-held AGM also saw the name change of the association from Swaziland National Volleyball Association (SNVA) to Eswatini Volleyball Association (EVA).

Malkerns derby in Dixies Pool League

By Sibusiso Masilela

POOL - SPARKS will fly this coming Saturday at the Stairs Pool Club during the Malkerns derby between Way Inn and Macembe in the Dixies International Pool League.

The two teams will go into this match with different missions, as Way Inn will be aiming for a win in order to leapfrog current log leaders Garrison at the summit of the log.

Macembe have started the new season on a low as they are currently sitting at position eight with only 15 points after 11 outings.

Way Inn are currently occupying the second spot with 28 points, one point behind early pace setters Garrison, who have 29 points.

Other weekend fixtures will see the on form Garrison wel-

The full fixtures:

All games on Saturday at 2pm

Stairs Pool Club		
Way Inn	vs	Macembe
Correctional Pool Club		
Correctional	vs	Figaredo
Garrison Pool Club		
Garrison	vs	Eagles

The log standings:

Team	P	W	L	FF	FA	FD	PTS
1. Garrison	10	8	2	151	99	52	29
2. Way Inn	10	8	2	145	111	34	28
3. Mankayane	11	8	3	138	132	6	28
4. Figaredo	10	6	4	133	117	16	23
5. Bhunya	11	6	5	142	133	9	23
6. Anka Eagles	10	5	5	126	124	2	19
7. Nicks	11	4	7	126	152	-26	17
8. Macembe	10	3	7	116	134	-18	15
9. Figaredo 5	11	3	8	120	155	-35	15
10. Correctional	10	2	8	101	149	-48	11

come Mankayane Eagles at the Garrison Pool Club in their quest to consolidate the top spot.



Scara Thindwa tournament finals on Friday

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCER - The Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC) Scara Thindwa Soccer Tournament finals will be held on Friday at the Manzini Club.

The tournament was launched last month and sponsored to the tune of E208 000 by SRIC. After about three weeks of action, the tournament will come to a close on Friday, according to Swaziland Schools Sports Association (SSSA) PRO Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini. "We will have our finals on Friday at Manzini Club beginning at 9am. We have had a wonderful tournament so far and we hope that even on Friday, everything will go well. We would like to invite people from Manzini and surrounding areas to come in their numbers. They won't regret it," Dlamini said. The SSSA PRO further invited local clubs to come and scout for talent during the finals. "We have seen a lot of talent during the games and we invite clubs in the country to come in their numbers to see for themselves.

We further urge all the participants to keep time and be on their best behaviour," Dlamini concluded.

Friday schedule:

U-13 category

Losers' final:

Hlutse Primary vs Nhlanguano C Primary 9am

Final:

Matsapha G vs Mangwaneni 10am

Ladies category:

Losers' final:

Hlutse vs Ngwane Park 11.15am

Final:

Langeni High vs Makhosini 12noon

MATSAPHA UNITED DISSOLVE THEIR MC

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER – IT looks like Matsapha United are on the brink of collapsing following the club's decision to dissolve its Management Committee (MC).

The dissolution of the management committee comes just a week after the club announced the transfer of its nine key players to capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders.

The dissolved MC comprises estranged Chief Executive Officer Victor

'Mavikane' Dlamini, Sifiso Shongwe (Manager), Sifiso Mnisi (logistics manager) and former Royal Leopard player Morris Dlamini, who was the team's finance manager.

Other members of the committee were Celeste Ferreira (Marketing) and Muzi 'Squash' Sibandze who was the committee member.

The club's interim Secretary Sifiso Shongwe confirmed the developments when contacted yesterday afternoon.

"The MC has been dissolved based on the Premier League of Swaziland requirements of submitting a new

executive committee towards the beginning of each new season.

"We are still going to announce other developments in the team in due course," he said.

When asked about the reported resignation of their CEO 'Mavikane', Shongwe said they only learnt about the news within the local media circles.

"We never received any letter from Dlamini and we are still in the dark about his future with the team. We still hope he will come to us to give a formal feedback," he said.



BLUE SEA: Matsapha United are on the brink of collapsing following the club's decision to dissolve its Management Committee.

When reached, Dlamini politely declined to comment on the matter.

The dissolved MC
Chief Executive Officer: Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini
Manager: Sifiso Shongwe

Logistics Manager: Sifiso Mnisi
Marketing Manager: Celeste Ferreira
Finance Manager: Morris Dlamini
Secretary: Mcebiso Dlamini
Head of Publicity: Noel Muzambwa
Member: Muzi Sibandze



MOVE: Darren 'Dazza' Christie.

'DAZZA' LINKED WITH SEA BIRDS

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER – FORGOTTEN dribbling wizard Darren 'Dazza' Christie looks set to find a new home at MTN Premier League returnees Manzini Sea Birds.

The former Mbabane Swallows and Manzini Sundowns player is said to have attended training sessions with the reigning MTN National First Division champions.

A source close to the matter revealed that Christie was currently involved in contractual talks with Sea Birds.

"He is in negotiation with Sea Birds and talks might be concluded before the end of the week. He has attended some of their training sessions," the source said.

Christie spent the previous season on the sidelines following the dispute between him and his former side, Swallows, over his ownership.

Matter

The matter was resolved by the Eswatini Football Association Players Status Committee, which eventually cleared the player to join a team of his choice.

Sea Birds Director Peter 'Samora'

Simelane refuted claims linking them with the skillful player when contacted yesterday.

"The player you are talking about is not with us and you can even come to check him at our training ground," he said.

The former Sihlangu player intended to join Matsapha United last season, but the deal couldn't materialise.

Sea Birds are also on the verge of signing former player and forgotten Royal Leopard defender Sicelo Mavimbela, who is already training with the coach Sibusiso Dlamini-led side.

Sports unite people better than other activity

By Jongile Xuba

SPORTS – THE JM Busha54 Races competitions were held over the weekend with different sporting codes on show.

Speaking during the gala dinner after the completion of the various competitions, the JM Busha Organisation's founder Joseph Makamba Busha said 'he was happy with the participation in the various activities that had been on during the day.

"It was very pleasing to see a variety of sporting codes represented.

We had the seniors' tennis, half marathon, a walk and golf tournament as well as other entertainment activities.

Promoting

Our primary focus as an organisation is promoting peace and unity. Sports unite people better than other forms of interaction and also keep the body healthy."

Busha went on to say that

the champions on the day were being celebrated and that they should take sport as a profession.

"The dinner is about celebrating the champions in the various games and I encourage them to take sport as a profession, they can make a living out of.

This can only be possible if they work hard," said Busha.

Goal

Swaziland National Sports and Recreation Council (SNSRC) Business Development Manager Zama Tsabedze echoed Busha's sentiments and said that the two organisations had a common goal.

"The SNSRC is proud to give support to such projects as both organisations have a common goal; promoting sports and keeping the nation of Eswatini healthy. It is companies like JM Busha Organisation that we look up to and will continue to praise for the efforts they are making to develop sport in the country," said Tsabedze.

We will compete in the Premier League - Citizens new coach Mlwane

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER – MTN Premier League rookies Mbabane Citizens have vowed to compete effectively in all competitions in the upcoming season of 2018/19 season.

The newly promoted Premier League side will not just be adding numbers, but will maintain their stay in top flight football and further fight for silverware.

This was said by the club's newly-appointed South African head coach Humphrey Mlwane during his official unveiling at the club's offices at Sidwashini yesterday.

"I am very happy to be part of such an ambitious side like Citizens and I want to help the team compete in all local competitions, but most importantly consolidate our Premier League status. I believe unity can help the team achieve the desired results. I will oversee the other development structures within the team in order to ensure we produce talented players from the youth ranks," he said.

The club's interim Secretary, Mandla Simelane, said they were happy to have a coach of Mlwane's calibre.

"We are very grateful to have an experienced coach in Mlwane to help us compete in the Premier League. We have offered the coach a one-year renewable contract and we will announce our full



NEW HOME: Mbabane Citizens head coach Humphrey Mlwane.

technical bench and new signings before the end of the week.

"We will maintain a majority of our players, but also bring in some new signings in order to have enough depth. We will have our pre-season training in Mpumalanga (South Africa) from next week in our quest to intensify our preparations ahead of the new season," he said.

Also present during the press conference was the club official, Sifiso Magagula.

Mlwane spent the previous season at Malanti Chiefs and now replaces Zimbabwean coach Ikabort Masocha, who parted ways with Citizens at the end of the previous campaign.

'Mavura' new Red Lions CEO

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCER – IN preparation for the new season, Red Lions have announced a new Management Committee (MC) that will lead the club in the upcoming campaign.

Red Lions were relegated from the MTN Premier League last season after finishing second bottom and are set to partake in the National First Division (NFD) in the new season.

The Manzini based side faced a series of administrative problems last season, which ultimately culminated in the resignation of MC Chairman Ngudze Mamba.

Elvis Dube replaced Mamba and will again lead the side in the new season. However, there are changes in the rest of the management structure with long time manager Vusi 'Mavura' Hall elevated to the position of CEO and former player Bongiswa 'Romario' Nhlabatsi drafted in as a member. Former goalkeeper coach Knowledge Dlamini is now the side's manager.

"These are changes that will help the team perform better this coming season. All these people are Red Lions people through and through and we believe that together with them, we will achieve a lot," Dube said in an interview yesterday.

Meanwhile, former Moyeni United coach Mandla Shabalala has also joined the club and will assist Dumsani Mhlanga in the first team. Mhlanga will remain the first team head coach.

New Red Lions MC:

Chairman: Elvis Dube
CEO: Vusi 'Mavura' Hall
Manager: Knowledge Dlamini
Secretary: Lusekwane Dlamini
Members: Bongiswa 'Romario' Nhlabatsi, Nhlanhla Silindza





RESULT:

France 1 0 Belgium

FIXTURES:

TONIGHT

8pm Croatia vs England

Umtiti heads France into World Cup final

ST PETERSBURG - Samuel Umtiti was the unlikely hero as France reached the World Cup final for the third time in 20 years courtesy of a 1-0 win over Belgium in St Petersburg last night.

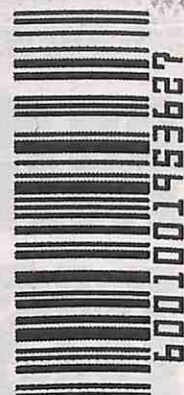
Defender Umtiti headed home a corner from Antoine Griezmann in the 51st minute to settle the all-European tie, booking Les Bleus a trip to Moscow and a clash against either Croatia or England. Goalkeepers Hugo Lloris and Thibaut Courtois both made smart saves to make sure an intriguing game remained scoreless at the interval. However, Umtiti popped up with the game's telling moment early in the second half, nodding the ball home to score his third international goal. Belgium pushed hard for an equaliser but Roberto Martinez watched on as his team suffered their first defeat in 25 outings, ending their hopes of winning the tournament for the first time in history as their so-called golden generation came up short. Beaten finalists at Euro 2016 on home soil, France will aim to go one better in Russia and emulate the successful squad of 1998 which included Didier Deschamps, who could emulate Mario Zagallo and Franz Beckenbauer by winning the World Cup as both a player and manager. With Thomas Meunier suspended, Belgium shifted to a back four as Martinez selected Nacer Chadli on the right. Still, the change in shape did not appear to bother the tournament's top-scorers in an absorbing first half, both teams threatening a breakthrough as they refused to be overawed by the occasion. Eden Hazard twice went close, narrowly missing the target with a low, left-footed drive before seeing a curler with his right deflected over by the head of centre-back Raphael Varane.

Goal

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Wednesday July 11, 2018



HUGE BOOST FOR SWALLOWS AS...

FELIX, 'NKOMISHI' BACK FOR BIRDS!

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCER - MBABANE Swallows' preparations for the CAF Champions League have been boosted by the return to training of talisman Felix Badenhorst and goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza.

Swallows have been hard at work preparing for next Tuesday's Champions League clash against Tunisian giants Etoile Du Sahel. But the Birds' preparations have been hampered by the absence of the two stars, who have been boycotting training since early last week.



- Star players return to training after week long boycott
- Birds call a media briefing today

Badenhorst, it is understood, had been boycotting because the club hadn't paid him his signing on fee. Ginindza, meanwhile, is said to have been unhappy that the club had not paid for his rentals. However, the two stars returned to training yesterday afternoon at the Prince of Wales as the Mbabane giants recorded a full house at training for the first time since returning from their break.

For the duration of the session, the two players worked with physical trainer Etienne Massoye. They

worked on various stomach exercises including sit ups while the rest of the players were drilled by senior Physical Trainer Siyabonga Bhembe. At the end of the session, Badenhorst joined the rest of the players in a short prayer while Ginindza was perfecting his distribution skills. Sought for comment on the two players' return yesterday evening, Swallows GM Sandile 'Beyond 2 000' Zwane said the club would only respond at a media briefing today.

"We won't say anything now. But we have a media day tomorrow (today) at 11 am. That is where we will comment on everything. Right now we can't comment,"

Zwane briefly said.

Badenhorst and Ginindza's return will come as a huge boost for Swallows with both players having played a crucial role in the Birds' run in the Champions League this season. Badenhorst was the side's top goalscorer in the competition with four goals while Ginindza helped Swallows keep a clean sheet in the crucial 1-0 victory over Primeiro De Agosto in the Birds' last Champions League match on May 15.

Also spotted during yesterday's session were veteran wingers Tony Tsabedze and Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko as well as striker Sandile Hlatjwako.



AGREEMENT REACHED

Real Madrid confirm Ronaldo transfer

ITALY - Cristiano Ronaldo has made an astonishing £88m move to Juventus after Real Madrid granted him permission to leave Santiago Bernabeu.

Ronaldo met Juventus club president Andrea Agnelli yesterday afternoon in a hotel in Greece before agreeing on an estimated £500 000-a-week over four years.

It is believed that the transfer was finalised at the meeting with Ronaldo surrounded by his girlfriend and family, who are currently on holiday with him. Real Madrid confirmed the trans-

fer late yesterday afternoon. In a statement, the club admitted that they had granted Ronaldo his wish to leave the club.

It read: "Today, Real Madrid wants to express its gratitude to a player who has proved to be the best in the world and who has marked one of the brightest times in the history of our club and world football."

"Beyond the conquered titles, the trophies achieved and the triumphs achieved in the playing fields during these nine years, Cristiano Ronaldo has been an

example of dedication, work, responsibility, talent and improvement."

Ronaldo thanked Real Madrid for making his time at the club 'possibly the happiest of my life', but added that he felt it was the right decision to move on.

He said: "I believe that the time has come to open a new stage in my life and that is why I have asked the club to accept transferring me. I feel that way and I ask everyone, and especially our followers, to please understand me. An hour after Real Madrid's statement, Juventus confirmed the news of Ronaldo's capture on their website.

The club confirmed that £88m (£100m) will be payable to the Spanish giants, while a further payment of £10m will be made.

"Juventus Football Club announces that it has reached an agreement with the company Real Madrid Club De Fútbol SpA for the definitive acquisition of the right to the sports performances of the player Dos Santos Aveiro Cristiano Ronaldo against a fee €100 million, payable in two years, plus the solidarity contribution provided for by the FIFA regulations and accessory charges for €12million," the statement read.

DailyMail

KOLA TOOK WANDERERS' E55 000 SIGNING ON FEE!

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCER - NIGERIAN striker Kola Aledon signed for and took E55 000 as a signing on fee for the 2018/19 season from his estranged club Manzini Wanderers.

Aledon is in the middle of a serious tug-of-war involving Wanderers, whom he turned out for last season, as well as Mbabane Swallows. Wanderers claim that the player signed a contract extension in May for the upcoming season while, on the other hand, Swallows claim the player has a three month deal with them running from June up until the end of next month.

Meanwhile, the player and his representative only acknowledge the Swallows deal with the matter now in front of the Eswatini Football Association (EFA) Players' Status Committee (PSC). This publication has now been informed that the striker signed for and received a E55 000 signing on fee which

states that it is for the 2018/19 season with Manzini Wanderers. The acknowledgement form, which this publication has a copy of is dated May 25 and bears Aledon's signature as well as that of Wanderers Director Peter Mathaba. According to a source, the player's representative Charles Matsebula also received a fee of E10 000. Reached for comment on this matter yesterday evening, Matsebula declined to commit himself.

"The matter is being handled by the PSC now and we can't, therefore, comment. We will comment once it has been finalised," Matsebula said. Wanderers CEO Pat Mahlalela sang the same tune when also contacted yesterday.

"Let us let the PSC deal with the matter. We can't discuss anything about it now," Mahlalela said.

Meanwhile, the PSC, chaired by Sipho Matse, has reserved passing a judgement on the matter after all parties made presentations last night at Sigwaca house.