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SPUR INVADES THE MANZINI CITY



HOT, CLASSIC AND NEW: The classic new diner in Manzini called Mdzimba Rock Spur which was officially opened last evening by DPM Paul Dlamini. The place is situated next to The George Hotel. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

SOBANTU BANS RECRUITS FROM SEX, BUGANU
 Page 2

E26M STUDY LOANS DEPOSITED INTO GOVT ACCOUNT
 Page 2

LIMKOKWING REOPENS, WIFI SORTED
 Page 6

HIGH COURT LEFT STUNNED...

DRUNK PETROL ATTENDANT SIGNED SIPHO'S COURT PAPERS

STORY ON PAGE 3

...THE FORMER WARDER SAYS HE NEVER READ WHAT HE SIGNED FOR

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2 NATIONAL NEWS

Sobantu bans army recruits from buganu, sex

By Sabelo Majola
Mbabane

ARMY Commander Sobantu Dlamini sent a stern warning to the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) recruits against drinking buganu or engaging in sexual activities prior to the pass-out day tomorrow.

Over 1 000 recruits are expected to pass-out in the ceremony that will be conjoined with the Army Day that was last held in 2015.

Dlamini said this during the army's last rehearsals held at the army's headquarters at Phocweni yesterday.

Dlamini said he does not expect the

recruits to embarrass him and themselves in front of the army's Commander-in-Chief His Majesty King Mswati III, thus they should refrain from buganu and sexual activities until after the event.

"I wish you all the best of luck during the pass-out day but make sure you don't embarrass me and yourselves in front of Their Majesties on Friday (tomorrow)."

"This you will achieve by staying sober and abstaining from sex," he said.

Collapsing of soldiers in events of this nature has been witnessed over the years mainly due to soaring temperatures, not just in Swaziland but other countries.

After the pass-out, the recruits will be posted to different barracks to assume



NO MORE: Army Commander Sobantu Dlamini.

their duties as soldiers.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE USDF:

The army was formed in 1973 and the first recruitment was mainly done from regiments (Lamnyama). That is the reason the USDF has a strong attachment to culture and thus called Umbutfo.

There have been 24 regiments recruited since the founding of the army and they were all given regiment names hence the new group is yet to get theirs.

The USDF has so many professionals who have certificates, diplomas, degrees,

master's degrees and medical doctors. Some of them acquired their qualifications from civilian schools and a majority was trained by the USDF in military universities around the world. All troops are professionals at arms and have done fundamental training. Most USDF members have done advance military courses either at tactical level or operational or strategic level.

ARMY COMMANDERS SINCE THE FOUNDING OF THE USDF ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Commander	Year
Lance Corporal Prince Bhakimphi Dlamini	1973-1976
Major General Maphevu Dlamini	1976-1979
Brigadier General Gideon Rueben Dube	1984-2000
General Sobantu Stanley Dlamini	2000 to date



STUDY LOAN RECOVERY NEWS

E26m STUDY LOANS PAID STRAIGHT INTO GOVT BANK ACCOUNT - PS

Stories by Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

PRINCIPAL Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Social Security Thulani Mkhalihi has come out to clear the air with regards to the financial aspect of the Study Loans Recovery Consortium.

Addressing concerns raised regarding the bank account in which beneficiaries were depositing their repayment funds for the study loans, the principal secretary explained that signatories of the account were government officials as it belonged to government not the consortium.

Some members of the public held the view that the money sat in an account that either belonged to the consortium itself or the lead consultant Sdumo Mdladla.

They further inferred that whosoever owned the account where the funds were deposited, was indirectly benefiting from the interest that accrued.

A report from the ministry of labour tabled in Parliament recently indicated that to date over E26 million has been collected from study loans beneficiaries.

The money was collected from over 10 000 beneficiaries.

However, Mkhalihi clarified this yesterday at a press briefing where he joined the consortium when presenting its progress report thus far at City Court.

"To give a brief background on the subject, sometime back we had an account held with FNB where beneficiaries deposited their study loans repayment funds. However, when we launched

...This is strictly a government owned bank account and it has nothing to do with the consortium. Even signatories to the account are strictly the authorised persons from government. No one from the consortium is a signatory



MONEY TALKS: Ministry of Labour and Social Security Principal Secretary Thulani Mkhalihi.

the consortium we decided to start on a clean slate," said Mkhalihi when addressing journalists.

He said before the start of the process by the consortium, government had an existing account at the First National Bank which people used to repay their loans but a new account was opened with Standard Bank when the consortium came on board to allow a new beginning.

He said those who were already paying back the loans before September were made aware of this new development, hence they now use the Standard Bank account.

Mkhalihi said beneficiaries shouldn't

worry that their money was going into a personal account as the Standard Bank account belonged to government.

"This is strictly a government owned bank account and it has nothing to do with the consortium. Even signatories to the account are strictly the authorised persons from government. No one from the consortium is a signatory," explained Mkhalihi.

He further explained that the bank account was more of a one way street, so to speak.

"I must say that this account operates in its own unique way. It is very easy to deposit the money into it but very difficult to get it out because it is such an involved process. Besides that, one has to do a lot of motivation before accessing money deposited into this account," stated the PS.

He further clarified how the consortium was paid for its work of collecting the study loans.

"I am sure that some people think the consortium pays itself from the collected funds. Things don't work like that. They are not even paid from the money they collect. The consortium is paid the same way other people who have contracts or engaged by government for various jobs are. They are paid monthly and not from what they have collected," he said.

Mkhalihi emphasised that the money collected from beneficiaries is not easily accessible and, therefore, chances of it being misused were slim.

Declaration deadline set for April 1

GOVERNMENT scholarship loan beneficiaries who would not have come forward to acknowledge their debts by April 1 will lose out on the 50 per cent discount.

Addressing journalists yesterday, the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Social Security Thulani Mkhalihi said the decision to implement the 100 per cent was provided for by the Study Loan and Scholarship Agreement Order of 1977. He said while most people thought this was unlawful, it was actually provided for by this order, hence beneficiaries that had not come forward by the beginning of next month would forfeit the 50 per cent rebate.

Leader of the project Sdumo Mdladla

concurred with the principal secretary, stating that they were well within the law.

Mdladla explained that while there was an agreement form that people signed when accepting the scholarship awards, there was also an Order which superseded the agreement which allowed them to use their own discretion on when to uplift the 50 per cent and that is what they were doing.

"Everything that we are doing is governed by the Study Loan and Scholarship Agreement Order of 1977 that was amended. It allows us to implement the 100 per cent in the event people fail to adhere to some of its provisions that include paying back the loan," he said.

Bring all your concerns to the consortium - Mdladla

THE ministry of labour and social security will institute an investigation to deal with inconsistencies with regard to the amounts of money beneficiaries are expected to pay.

This follows complaints from beneficiaries that the amounts they were expected to pay were different from those of their classmates.

Addressing members of the media, Principal Secretary in the Ministry Thulani Mkhalihi said there were many reasons that could lead to these inconsistencies, hence there was need that an investigation be launched to help them explain these inconsistencies.

"We have been made aware of these inconsistencies and we will be instituting an investigation because this could result from many things, so it is important that we get to the bottom of it," he said.

He further said because this was a new project, they were bound

Whilst this is a good suggestion, but it is for government to decide on it," he said.

Mkhalihi stated that in the 41 years the country had provided a scholarship fund.

"Even as we speak, the money that pays out scholarships does not

to make mistakes and it would help if affected people came forward with their varying cases.

"This project will help us reconcile our books as well," he said.

Project leader Sdumo Mdladla encouraged people who were not satisfied with their statements to come forward.

"People who are not satisfied with their statements must come forward and we will help them. However, I must point that in some cases that have been brought to my attention, I discovered that the difference arose in cases where a student applied for another additional course but never attended yet government had already paid. You can do a course with friends in the same period and tuitions but then decide to take an extra course after graduation. Just before you start, you get employed and then forget about the extended course yet government has already paid for you," he said.

come from the money collected from study loans. Like I have said, government will decide on what to do with the money but I must point out that a revolving fund would be a brilliant idea," added Mkhalihi.

NB: More Study Loans news in tomorrow's edition.

...Government to decide on scholarship fund suggestion

GOVERNMENT reserves the right to decide on what do with the study loans money collected by the consortium.

Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Labour and Social Security Thulani Mkhalihi was responding to questions posed by journalists on what the money collected by the consortium would be used for. The question was motivated by

the reckless spending by government with fears that the money could be used to pay public servants salaries or other projects not related to scholarships.

Mkhalihi said the money belonged to government, therefore, she would use her own prerogative on what the money would be used for. He said they were aware that certain quarters believed that government should set up a scholarship

fund.

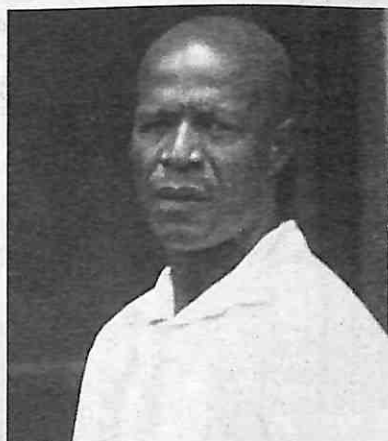
"We acknowledged that there have been suggestions that a revolving scholarship fund must be established. Our duty as a ministry for now is to ensure that people pay back the study loans. The next move on the money is for government to decide on. However, we are aware of suggestions that a revolving scholarship fund must be established.

DRUNK PETROL ATTENDANT SIGNED SIPHO'S COURT PAPERS

COVER STORY

Stories by Observer Reporter
High Court

...My Lord I signed the first document while drunk and did not see its contents, it is true that I was no longer at that prison when (Sipho) Shongwe was released



I WAS DRUNK: Former warder Obadia Makhanza Ndlovu.

being given by CP Shongwe at his house.

On the second affidavit dated March 15, 2018, Ndlovu told the court he was the one who signed same, adding that it reflected the true position to the effect that he was not at Barberton Maximum Prison when Shongwe was released and further that he does not even know Shongwe.

"My Lord I signed the first document while drunk and did not see its contents. It is true that I was no longer at that prison when Shongwe was released," Ndlovu said, much to everyone's surprise. He further told the court that he is now employed as a petrol attendant at a filling station known as Jafira (Puma) but confirmed that he was a warder from 1989 until 2014.

This was confirmed by the Head of the Barberton Correctional Centre Noah Seshason Nkosi who told the court that Ndlovu was not even working at Barberton prison at the time Shongwe is said to have been released.

Judge Nkosi wondered why Ndlovu signed the first affidavit at his house, noting that there is something wrong in the manner the police in South Africa operate.

It was at this point that the Nkosi (Barberton Correctional) used Judge Nkosi's words to the effect that *kunebuufirifiri* (there is something fishy) in the whole issue.

effect that Shongwe (accused) was able to manoeuvre while in jail and has been able to contact his friends in order to manufacture fraudulent documents.

During his evidence, Ndlovu, whom many in the public gallery and lawyers from the bar, including the media, had their eyes glued to him as he gave evidence, further told the court that he was aware of the two affidavits that were both signed by him.

He stated that the first affidavit dated March 8, 2018 which purposed that he was present when Shongwe was released on parole and that other prisoners even cheered as he bade them farewell, was the one he signed while drunk after

Human resources certified copies without verification

BARBERTON Maximum Prison Human Resources certified copies that related to the release by parole of Sipho Shongwe without reading them and verifying if they were original.

Thulani Victor Myeni told the court that he was approached by his boss who told him to stamp and certify the copies and this he did without verifying if they were original.

When quizzed by Judge Nkosi on how he could have used an official stamp and certified documents as original yet they were not, Myeni insisted that he was given same by his boss to certify and did just that.

"Kweta umphatsi kimi watsi ku secretary angu certify lama copies," (my boss approached me and told the secretary that I should certify the copies) Myeni said.

Members of the public were left stunned when Myeni, who was

asked by Justice Nkosi if he knew what he was certifying and if he had seen certified copies before, he replied to the contrary.

He told the court that it was a mistake on his part since he should have gone through the documents and satisfied himself that they were original before certifying them.

Witness

Judge Nkosi noted that this witness was in fact made to make the mistake by his boss.

This was after Myeni had to'd the court that he did not know that stamping the documents would land him in court.

Principal Crown Counsel Absalom Makhanya told the court that Shongwe is in fact able to manoeuvre while inside prison at Matsapha and contacts his friends through a cellphone, hence he was able to communicate with the outside world and manufacture such documents.

Judge Nkosi to make ruling on Shongwe's parole saga

HIGH Court Judge Sipho Nkosi is expected to make a ruling on whether Sipho Shongwe was fraudulently released from Barberton Maximum prison or not.

Judge Nkosi yesterday postponed the matter to next Thursday where he will be in a position to make the ruling

are expected to compile their written submissions and file them by tomorrow and Tuesday.

Justice Nkosi said there was no need in bringing more witnesses as the bail application may end up

Both the crown and the defence are expected to compile their written submissions and file them by tomorrow and Tuesday

taking too long. Should Shongwe's bail application be denied, he is at liber-

and further determine whether Shongwe can be released on bail or remains in custody thereafter.

Both the crown and the defence

ty to approach the Supreme Court, and in the event he succeeds, he will be released from custody as stated by Judge Nkosi.

Vuyiswa missing at the High Court

SIPHO Shongwe's wife was yesterday not seen in court.

Vuyiswa normally gives her husband moral support as she comes along with relatives and friends at the High Court.

However, throughout yesterday's session, she was not seen inside Court B until the matter was postponed to next Thursday for ruling on whether Shongwe fraudulently escaped from prison or not.

Hawks investigating Shongwe's release - Barberton Corrections

THE Hawks in South Africa have now launched active investigations into the alleged fraudulent release of Sipho Shongwe from the Barberton Maximum prison, it has been disclosed.

This was yesterday revealed by the Head of the Barberton Maximum Corrections Noah Seshason Nkosi before Judge Sipho Nkosi.

The head of corrections told the court that due to the fact that indeed there is something fishy (*kunebuufirifiri*) in the manner in which the documents were made, the Hawks have launched investigations into the matter.

This was after Justice Nkosi raised concerns on how a South African Police Service (SAPS) document could be given to someone at home and signed as an affidavit.

Judge Nkosi wondered how the SAPS worked if such things happened and implored the South African authorities to investigate the matter.

Principal Crown Counsel Absalom

Makhanya told the court that already some documents have been taken by the Hawks for investigation.

The Hawks is the Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation, which was established as an independent directorate within the South African Police Service in terms of Section 17c of the South African Police Service Act, 1995 as amended by the South African Police Service Amendment Act, 2008 (Act 57 of 2008).

Responsible

The Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation is now responsible for the combating, investigation and prevention of national priority crimes such as serious organised crime, serious commercial crime and serious corruption in terms of Section 17b and 17d of the South African Police Service Act, 1995 as amended.

The South African Police Service Amendment Act, 2012 (Act 10 of 2012) introduced the reporting procedures as provided in Section 34(1) of the Prevention



ON IT: Head of the Barberton Maximum Corrections Noah Seshason Nkosi was also in court.

and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004 which stipulates that reporting should be made to any police officer.

In terms of the latest amendment, all such offences must now be reported to a member of the Directorate of Priority Crime Investigation.

Sipho's relative manhandled by members of the public

the packed gallery during the 30-minute adjournment by the court that he was asked by the people where he was going since there was no space.

"There is no standing here, *khwesha lapha*," the people in the gallery told him as they shoved him out of the gallery.

Warders immediately reported the incident to the head of the Mbabane police prosecutions Assistant Superintendent Cecilia Ndlovu who sprung into action and approached the

gallery. Ndlovu asked what the problem was and told everyone who cared to listen that this was a court of law and everyone was expected to behave or ship out. Shongwe's lawyer Sipho Mnisi also came along and asked that the relative to Shongwe come with him and it was then that he was allocated a seat somewhere.

From there, the commotion ended and Judge Nkosi, who was on a tea break, came back and resumed proceedings.

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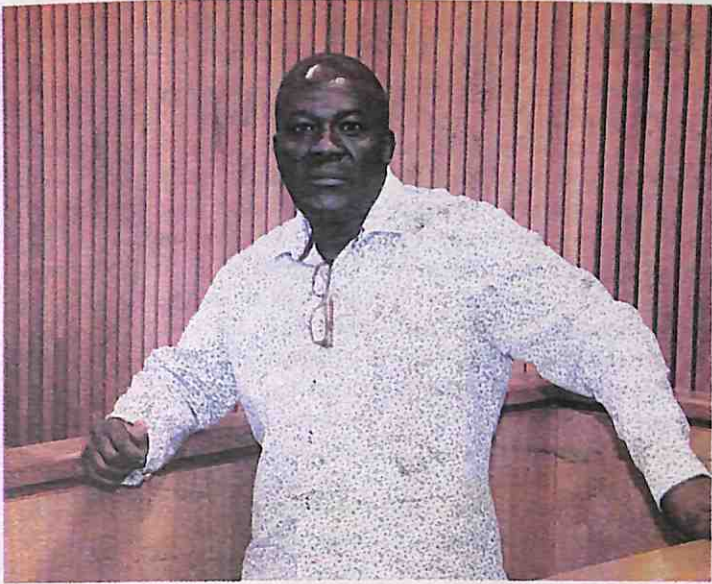
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SIPHO SHONGWE IN COURT AGAIN



PICTURE ME: Businessman Sipho Shongwe during the bail hearing at the High Court yesterday. The case was once again postponed to next Thursday.



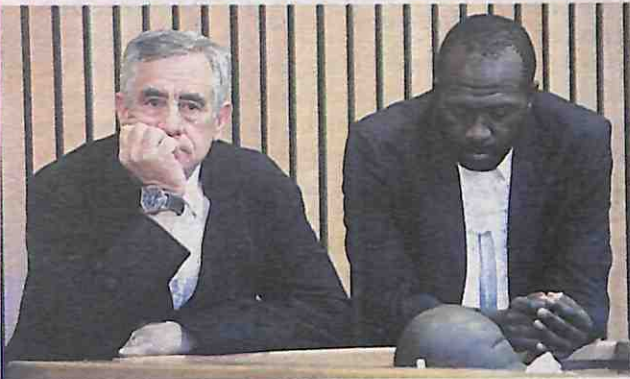
ATTENTIVE: Head of the Barberton Maximum Corrections Noah Seshason Nkosi was also in court.



MY LORD: High Court Judge Sipho Nkosi who is presiding over Sipho Shongwe's case.



CLOSE WATCH: Tight security is always the case during Shongwe's court appearance. A contingent of officers monitoring the situation as Shongwe consults with Advocate Koos Van Vuuren.



PENSIVE: Advocate Koos Van Vuuren thinking hard while lawyer Sipho Mnisi continued with consultations with their client Sipho Shongwe.



CHATTING: Principal Crown Counsel Absalom Makhanya in a conversation with Head of the Barberton Maximum Corrections Noah Seshason Nkosi after the court proceedings.



WAY OUT: Former warder Obadia Makhanya Ndlovu and Head of the Barberton Maximum Corrections Noah Seshason Nkosi as they made their way out.



NO LAUGHING MATTER: Thulani Victor Myeni gestures as he tries to avoid cameras after appearing before the judge.



CONSULTATION: Sipho Shongwe's legal team Sipho Mnisi and Advocate Koos Van Vuuren during a consultation before the trial.



LEGAL MINDS: Lawyers from both parties joined by President of the Law Society Ben Simelane as they deliberate on some issues around the case.



Swaziland Environment Authority
PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMERCIAL TREE PLANTATION AT MHLAMBANYATSI ON FARM R792

A public notice is hereby published in terms of section 52 of the Environmental Management Act, 2002. Mountain Springs Investments has prepared an Environmental Impact Assessment report and formulated a Comprehensive Mitigation Plan for the proposed development of a commercial tree plantation at Mhlambanyatsi on farm R792 Swaziland.

The purpose of the study was to identify environmental impacts that are likely to emerge as a result of the proposed development so that measures are taken to mitigate negative environmental impacts and enhance positive ones. Copies of these reports are available in the following places:

1. Swaziland Environment Authority offices-Rhus Office Park, Mbabane
2. University of Swaziland - Luyengo Campus
3. Bhunya Police Station
4. Lamgabhi Inkhundla
5. Mbabane National Library
6. Manzini National Library
7. Mhlambanyatsi Clinic
8. Bhunya School

Interested and affected parties are requested to submit comments and/or objections as per the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations, 2000. Written submissions should be directed to the Executive Director, Swaziland Environment Authority, P.O. Box 2602, Mbabane. Fax: 2404 1719 Email: ceosec@sea.org.sz

The deadline for submission of comments is 20th April 2018

*20 days from last week of publication of notice.

GOVERNMENT NEEDS E370M PER YEAR FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

By Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT needs a staggering E370 million to pay for Swazi students scholarships annually.

This was revealed by the Principal Secretary on the Ministry of Labour Thulani Mkhalihi during a media briefing on the progress made by the Student Loans Recovery Consortium.

Addressing journalists the PS said government needed at least E370 million to financially support tertiary students.

The PS was responding to a question on whether government would be paying for all tertiary students now that the consortium had started recovering the money due to government.

Government currently prioritises courses and doesn't sponsor those outside priority category.

"Government is currently sponsoring 8 900 locally and about 400 outside the country, students in tertiary

● **Government is currently sponsoring 8 900 students locally and about 400 outside the country, students in tertiary need at least E370 million per annum towards their financial assistance**

need at least E370 million per annum towards their financial assistance," he said.

He said therefore it was impossible for government to sponsor all students going to tertiary for now.

Explained

"The report tabled by the consortium shows that per month they collect about E2 million, so if you do the mathematics it falls far below what we need. The money coming in is great but it is not enough as yet," he explained.

Making his presentation the consortium's Khanya Magagula said per month the consortium was collecting E2 million and by April they were hoping they would be collecting E5 million.

"We are currently making at least E2 million a month and by April we

hope we will be collecting at least E5 million. Our projections show that in three years we will be collecting at least E15 million a month," he said.

Magagula further stated that the response from the people had been great and at least 10 000 had already signed their consent forms and started paying.

"We have identified 28 577 beneficiaries, of which 10 000 have signed consent forms. In our data base we also have 23 804 beneficiaries we haven't been able to identify because of various reasons," he said.

Magagula also pointed out that government was losing at least E45 701 215 24 a month which is money that she would be getting from beneficiaries who had come forward but were unemployed.

MILLIONS:
Principal
Secretary in
the Ministry
of Labour
Thulani
Mkhalihi



HEADING	NUMBER	AMOUNT- FEB
Civil servants	12 981	E510 732 32.67
Private sector	8 368	E391 256 078.25
Retired	143	E642 330.94
Unemployed	824	E45 701 215.24
Deceased	943	E21 135 679.92
SA Beneficiaries	78	E2 715 758.98
Current beneficiaries	2 999	E118 940 140.28
Total identified	28 577	E631 464 437
Total beneficiaries	10 000	E26 000 000.00
Total book value	52 391	E1 091 104 088.30



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- Arrange and keep records of tools, material and equipment.
- Update of data into Ellipse to conform to deliveries and ensure proper documentation of invoices, Delivery notes and Picking slips
- Responsible for issuing of personnel and protective clothing
- Carry out stores audits to maintain accurate inventory and identify obsolete items and scrap
- Responsible for checking and signing contractors bill of materials
- Responsible for offloading and checking Materials Quantities against Delivery Note.
- Responsible for operating lifting equipment while offloading and loading of material (Truck mounted crane and Overhead crane).
- Ensure timely stock counts

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND COMPETENCIES:

- Communication skills
- Basic Accounting skills
- Decision making
- H/D Driver License (Operation of Truck mounted crane Operation of overhead crane)
- Inventory Management
- Problem solving
- Computer skills

APPLICATIONS:

Written applications together with comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, academic qualifications should be directed to The Human Resources Manager, Swaziland Electricity Company, P.O. Box 258 Mbabane or e-mailed to: careers@sec.co.sz

Closing date for applications is on or before the 27th March 2018

If you have not received any feedback within one month of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

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DOC:15972



**MATSAPHA
Municipality**

Corner Police College & Airport Road
P.O. Box 1790 Matsapha, Swaziland

NOTICE OF RATES ASSESSMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1st APRIL 2018- 31st MARCH 2019

TYPE OF USE	YEAR	DEVELOPED LAND	IMPROVEMENT ON LAND	VACANT LAND
a) Family Residence	2018-2019	1.03%	0.37%	2.63%
b) Commercial Residence	2018-2019	1.94%	0.55%	2.63%
c) Staff Houses	2018-2019	1.94%	0.55%	2.63%
d) Industrial Properties	2018-2019	1.31%	0.66%	3.15%
e) Business Area	2018-2019	1.31%	0.66%	3.15%
f) Agricultural Land	2018-2019	0.29%	0.21%	0.37%
g) Small Holdings	2018-2019	0.55%	0.95%	0.52%
h) Government	2018-2019	2.42%	0.84%	3.15%

Rates Due Date

1. The rates are due and payable on the 30th April 2018 and rates bills (assessments) shall be mailed to property owners before this date.
2. Section 30 of the Rating Act of 1995 provides for a penalty at the rate of 15% per annum to be charged for each month or part of a month on rates remaining unpaid after the elapse of two (2) months from the date on which the rates become due and payable.

Payment by Installments

- a. The Rating Act of 1995 permits payments of rates by installments. Ratepayers who wish to take advantage of this facility must contact the Town Treasurer as soon as they receive their rates notices.
- b. No request to enter into an agreement for installments shall be entertained after the 30th of June 2018.

Notification of Addresses

- i. The attention of all property owners in the Matsapha urban area is drawn to Section 37 (4) and (5) of the Rating Act which reads as follows: "The owner/ owners of any immovable property shown in the valuation roll shall notify the local authority of their postal address within two weeks of acquiring such property and, thereafter, within two weeks of any change of their postal address".
- ii. An owner who fails to comply with subsection (4) shall be guilty of an offence.

Please Note

All property owners who by the 20th of April 2018 would have failed to furnish the Council with their postal addresses where their bills should be sent will have their names and the rates balances published on the local newspaper.

LUCKY SUKATI
TOWN CLERK

Matsapha Town Council

@MatsaphaSD

matsapha_sd

DOC:16003

6 NATIONAL NEWS

1 000 MORE SWAZI MOBILE SUBSCRIBERS QUALIFY FOR SHARES

Stories by Observer Reporter
Mbabane

SWAZI Mobile knows how to look after its customers. Swaziland's fastest growing mobile company has announced that it will give 1 000 users the surprise of their lifetime by giving them Swazi Mobile shares.

These are customers who missed out on the shares programme at the end of December 2017, when the shares offer programme ended. A total of 1 000 additional users have qualified to be shareholders in the company as they purchased over E500 airtime during the Shares Offer Programme which ended in December.

"Those who were unable to meet the target of loading a minimum of E600 Swazi Mobile airtime should not be deterred as they have not lost out on being part of the #79 family of shareholders," said Swazi Mobile CEO Jeff Penberton, who said this was done in the spirit of inclusiveness.

"The company has seen it fit to reward those who were E100 short of reaching the target," he announced.

Having gone through their data, the mobile network company has identified 1 000 people who will join the

● now brings the number of those who have qualified to 15 000



14 000 who have already been confirmed eligible for shares, pending registration through the submission of know-your-customer (KYC) details.

The shares offer programme commenced last year when Swazi Mobile went live, with the qualification criteria calling for customers to purchase E600 airtime and receive 30 unique calls from August to November and December as per the extensions that followed to give more Swazis an opportunity to own shares in a 100 per cent Swazi company.

The idea of the Swazi Mobile Shares Offer Programme was introduced prior to the company going live last year,

as a means of ensuring that ownership remains vested with the ordinary Swazi.

The programme was open to 100 000 shareholders from bona fide Swazi citizens to take advantage of getting free shares and when the period to qualify ended, 14 000 – and now an additional 1 000 – qualified.

Swazi Mobile has invited those who have qualified for the shares to expect their call centre agents to be in contact to notify them of the process to register for the shares. "They can expect to receive calls from us, to be notified officially that they have qualified for the shares," Penberton added.

Expectations on shareholders

BEING active on the Swazi Mobile network means the company will make profits which will translate to dividends down the line.

Those who qualified for shares are expected to be high users as they are

important customers who own the company. Swazi Mobile has also emphasised that even though only those over 16 years of age are eligible for the Swazi Mobile Shares Offer Programme, parents can also act as

proxies. This calls for the parents to register their own particulars as well as the child's, which should state that the shares are held in trust for the minor. This is valid for those parents who bought SIM cards for their children who then qualified for the shares offer programme when it ended in December 2017.

Limkokwing re-opens, Wi-Fi issue resolved

By Sabelo Majola
Mbabane

THE Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT) will resume classes today after it was closed over a week ago due to a class boycott that turned ugly, resulting in police being called to disperse violent students.

The school's management and students representative council (SRC) met for the first time since the class boycott that occurred on March 14, where students aggressively protested on the streets of Sidwashini because of dysfunctional Wi-Fi that was making it difficult for them to do their assignments.

Police had to be called to calm the situation and rubber bullets were fired to disperse the rowdy students.

A memo was released yesterday alerting the students to report back to school today. "Following the closure of the university on March 14th 2018, students are advised that management and the SRC have met and the following decisions were reached:

the issue of Wi-Fi has been resolved and the University will re-open on Thursday (today)," reads part of the memo.

The memo advised students that today and tomorrow will be dedicated to consultations with lecturers, research and submission of assignments for those students who have their work ready for submission. Normal classes will resume on Monday. Furthermore, the academic calendar will be resuming on Week six next week. The memo also clarifies that all outstanding lectures for week five will be covered in the course of the semester and further clarification on academic matters will be communicated to the students through the relevant faculty structures. SRC President Benele Simelane said they were assured that the Wi-Fi was sorted and it was running well at the time they met with the school management.

However, the SRC didn't approve of the signing of the affidavit that serves as a ticket to gain entry into the school, which forbids them from engaging in aggression of any fashion.

Masimula surety issue turned into circus – Judge Nkosi

By Observer Reporter
High Court

IN a sudden turn of events, murder suspect Themba Masimula whose uncle had offered to be his surety says he is shocked that the old man says they are not on good terms now, yet they still live together.

Masimula told High Court Judge Sipho Nkosi that his uncle even offered to accompany him to court yesterday morning and that he only learnt of the said bitter relationship through the media.

"My Lord, I am shocked at this as we are living happily together, there is nothing wrong and he is here today as he offered to accompany me to court," Masimula said.

Judge Nkosi noted that the issue has now become a circus and ordered that Masimula and his uncle should deal with the matter at family level and see how they will cope.

Judge Nkosi further made Masimula aware that the social welfare report from the deputy prime minister's office is negative to Masimula as it suggests that he cannot see his children and should be sent back to Sidwashini Correctional facility pending his trial.

Lawyer Noncedo Ndlangamandla, who is representing Masimula, said her client is behaved outside prison and that he should be allowed to remain so.

Judge Nkosi postponed the matter for the next two weeks as Masimula and his uncle are yet to deliberate on the issue.

Masimula's uncle Mveli Masimula had told the court that when he offered to stand in as surety for Themba, little did he know that he was inviting trouble.

He had told Judge Nkosi two weeks ago that Masimula was too much to handle as he can no longer share the same roof with him in fear of the unknown. Mveli said he now fears the worst as the murder suspect who was placed under his care was no longer predictable and his family was now living in fear of the unknown.

This was after an application by the old man to withdraw his surety was postponed to the next two weeks as the social welfare office is yet to file reports regarding the murder suspect's children.

The old man who had offered to

● murder suspect tells court he is in good terms with his uncle

take care of the suspect told the court that he and his family could not take it anymore as the suspect was now acting strangely and would at times escape and sneak out of the homestead, a concern that was even raised by the Pigg's Peak Police.

Judge Nkosi ordered the police to keep a close eye on Masimula and monitor his every move and that he does not harm Masimula senior's family within the next two weeks pending the postponement and outcome of the application.

He is charged with murder in that he allegedly killed his wife Funekile Mdluli while travelling in their family car before burning her lifeless body near Nkhamba whilst on their way home.

Before he was released on bail and house arrest, Masimula who is also a pastor, expressed his desire to see his children whom he said he hadn't seen for a long time.

However, the court also dealt with his maintenance issue as the guardian to his children had raised same and the court ordered that he contribute a sum of E3000 monthly from his income. He is paid both as a teacher and a pastor and also owns a block of flats in Nhlanguano.

His church as per the Church Superintendent Pat Nxumalo, in his last submission before court, suspended Masimula pending finalisation of the matter, while the Teaching Service Commission (TSC) has also put him on ice.

In his bail application, he argued that he did not kill his wife Funekile, stating that they were on their way to Pigg's Peak after attending to a family meeting in preparation for the death of his father in Manzini, when his wife decided that they should leave for Pigg's Peak, where they reside.

He said since he was tired and it was night, he drove until they reached Nkhamba, where his wife took over the wheel and he later slept while his wife drove.

However, minutes later Masimula said he woke up to find his wife dead and does not know what happened since he was asleep and tired. He was later arrested by the police and after investigations, charged with the murder of his wife.



CONSULTATION: Lawyer Noncedo Ndlangamandla in consultation with her murder suspect client Themba Masimula after appearing before court for a bail hearing. He was joined by his paternal uncle Samuel Mveli Masimula. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL CONSENT IN TERMS OF THE MANZINI TOWN PLANNING SCHEME OF 2013

I, TOMMY ORWOTHWUN, the owner of the property in question, hereby make a Public Notice in terms of Clause 1.5 of the 2013 Manzini Town Planning Scheme, that I wish to apply for SPECIAL CONSENT to establish a GUEST HOUSE on Plot 457, Manzini.

Any one having an objection to this application may lodge their objections, in writing, with the Municipal Council of Manzini at P.O. Box 418, MANZINI M200, Swaziland not later than 11th April 2018, that is, 21 days from the late publication of the Notice, namely, on 22nd March 2018.

CONSERVATIVE SENATORS MIGHT DELAY SODV BILL - MINISTER

Stories by Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

THE Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Bill might take longer to be passed into law since senators are said to be too conservative.

Speaking during the launch of the 'It takes Swaziland to End Sexual Violence Against Children Campaign' at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre yesterday, Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza said he was hoping the bill would be passed into law soon.

The campaign is spearheaded by World Vision Swaziland.

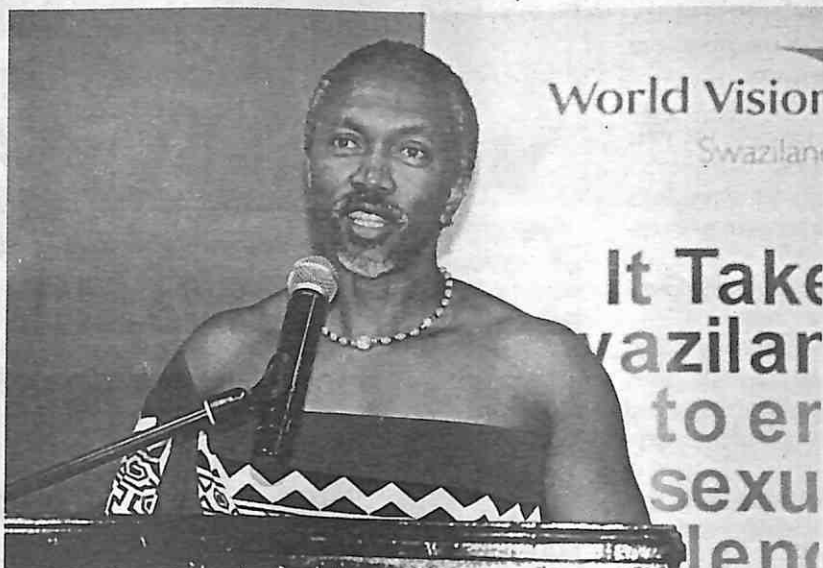
However, Mabuza clearly stated that it might take a bit longer to be passed into law since senators were very traditionalist and would have to analyse each clause of the bill.

"Even though I hope the bill will be passed into law soon, it might take longer since senators still have questions on some clauses and paragraphs," he said.

Mabuza further encouraged members of the public to vote wisely in the upcoming elections.

He said as the national elections would be held this year, members of the public should elect coherent young people

...Speaking during the launch of the 'It takes Swaziland to End Sexual Violence Against Children Campaign' at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre yesterday, Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza said he was hoping the Bill would be passed into law soon



LET'S FIGHT FOR OUR CHILDREN: Minister of Housing Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza addressing the gathering at the official launch of 'It takes Swaziland to end sexual violence against children' at Royal Swazi Spa.

who are still energetic.

Meanwhile, Human Rights and Public

Administration Commission Executive Secretary Linda Nxumalo, who was



SUPPORT: Bishop Elinah Wamukoya and Alliance Church's Reverend J.V Mazibuko were also spotted at the event.

representing the chairperson of the commission, said they would endorse a number of instruments that would create a friendlier environment for children.

She said the SODV Bill should be passed into law before Parliament is dissolved.

"Resources are there, just that we cannot be able to use them.

Government lacks knowledge about sexual offences and the long-term implications; they rely a lot on non-governmental organisations," she explained.

She said the state should support and engage with all stakeholders dealing with issues of children in the country. She applauded the ministry of health and the Royal Swaziland Police Service for taking the lead in the issue of sexual violence.

"As the commission we will ensure that rights of children are respected and we hold government accountable," she stated. She said the Bill was there to protect citizens of the country, especially women and children.

St Joseph's High pupil; jail sexual offenders for life

ST. Joseph's High pupil has appealed to the Judiciary to introduce hefty fines and even life sentences for people who sexually violate people living with disability and the girl child.

Sihle Mdziniso, who is living with a disability, asked the justice system in the country introduce life sentences for sexual offenders. He said these people impose long-term psychological conditions that include anxiety and severe depression to their victims. "It exposes children to risks of contracting sexually transmitted infections including HIV and they further experience unwanted pregnancies, which is a burden to the girls and their families," he explained. Sihle said it was very stressful to see a person who sexually violated an individual enjoying life again after he had paid a fine. "The survivor becomes insecure and this can cause a lot of fear to the survivor and her family members," he said, further requesting parents with chil-

dren with disabilities to make sure they are under the guidance of an elderly person always.

He said children with disabilities were the most vulnerable group and need special care always.

On the other hand, High Court Judge Maxine Langwenya, who was standing in for the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala, said passing the SODV Bill into could go a long way in helping the courts of the country understand the concept of rape as common law. She said the judicial system would prioritise cases of sexual abuse in courts and they would ensure that sentences were passed as soon as possible to enable justice to be served. She said they would allow courts to open from 8am to 5pm so that they enable a smooth running of cases and sentences be passed as soon as possible.

Furthermore, Langwenya said in her personal capacity, she would speak softly and consistently on the issues of sexual violence.

DPM condemns brutal murder of children with albinism

DEPUTY Prime Minister Paul Dlamini says the brutal murder of innocent children (those with albinism), cannot give people powers or blessings to perform certain things.

Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza, who was speaking on behalf of the DPM, implored the spirit of care, love and national solidarity. He said Their Majesties repeated calls requesting for peace from the nation.

"At 38 per cent, the prevalence on Childhood Sexual Violence Cases (National Study for Drivers of Violence 2016), puts Swaziland at a worrying lead in the SADC region," he said. The DPM also stated that the numerous reports detailing graphic acts of violence and violated children are not acceptable.

"The same report points at one important matter, the growing degradation of the 'Family Unit', this institution of care, protection, and platform for instilling life-values to our young is rapidly failing. For the nation to allow this

trend to continue would be disastrous," he explained.

He said most importantly, all stakeholders and individuals should come together as a nation, united in the recognition of World Vision who have taken the initiative to remind them once again of the collective responsibility to stand as one.

"We have to fight and unite in our fight on violence against children," he said.

Dlamini said his office was pleased to note the tremendous efforts and sacrifice made in protecting, caring and fulfilling children basic needs and rights.

"We, therefore, need to dialogue and change our mindset. Let us all endure and unite in our resolve to leave no stone unturned not just to fight, but to totally eradicate violence against our children."

Dlamini urged the nation to turn the tide against violence and restore their dignity, values and legacy of a caring and loving nation.

SNAT National Burial Scheme

with the teachers



interest at heart

SNAT MEDICAL AID ANNOUNCEMENT

All teachers who are **SNAT MEMBERS** are hereby notified that the **SNAT MEDICAL AID** will be at Nhlanguano, Buhleni and Dvokolwako on **Friday 23 March 2018** and **Saturday 24 March 2018** will be at Siphofaneni, Siteki and Big Bend. Teachers who are interested in joining are expected to bring the following documents;

Current pay slip
National identity card
Birth Certificate for dependants

Note: Burial Services will be available. For more information you can call the office number at

25056391 or 76476858 / 76067330.

By: SNAT BURIAL SCHEME SECRETARY

Agnes S. Mazibuko

8 NATIONAL NEWS

Mayor urges shisanyamas not to use indigenous trees in city

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

THE Manzini Municipal Council Mayor Mxolisi Mabuza has urged operators of shisanyamas not to provide a market for indigenous trees in the city as such encourages people to cut down these precious trees.

He was speaking during the commemoration of the International Day of Forests held at the Manzini Municipality.

Mabuza urged residents to plant some trees in their homes, so that they do not only beautify their homes and enjoy the shelter, but also help reduce the impact of climate change.

The mayor said not long ago, council took a decision to cut down some of the trees in the city centre because they were old, and a risk to both life and property during storms.

Mabuza said the exercise attracted a huge outcry in the city, with residents seeking an explanation on what necessitated it.

He said it is only after an explanation was given, wherein council also made an undertaking that she would replace the trees, that they appreci-

ated the move.

He said the good thing about all this misunderstanding was that a lesson has been learnt.

"The people of Manzini are enlightened about the importance of trees and forests in the urban space. That is why we are excited and appreciative of the ministry's gesture to donate yet another batch of trees to the city of Manzini. Indeed, it will help us deliver on our promise to replace those trees," said the mayor.

Mabuza said the ministry's donation of over 1000 indigenous trees to council in the year 2016, is still fresh in their minds.

He said the trees were distributed to residents of Manzini and they (residents) were so excited to receive them.

The mayor said the existence of trees was very important in any city.

Besides the improvement in the city's aesthetics, he said they removed the toxic gases (such as carbon dioxide) that pollute the air and ensured that citizens enjoy a supply of fresh oxygen.

He added that experts noted that one large tree could provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people.



LET'S KEEP MANZINI GREEN: Manzini Mayor Mxolisi Mabuza planting a Mkhanyakudze tree at Somhlolo Park in Manzini.



HAPPY RATEPAYER: Ratepayers representative, Inalda Jorge-Antonio, participated in the tree planting exercise on behalf of ratepayers.

Adding, Mabuza said trees do not only provide shelter to citizens and animals, but also help reduce the potential of flooding and to also shield the city's buildings from disasters such as wind storms.

On that note, Under Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, John Hlophe said they were proud to donate 105 indigenous tree seedlings which would be used

for enrichment planting in the parks around the city.

He said they believed that such a donation would go a long way towards beautifying the city in readiness for hosting the 50/50 celebrations in April. Hlophe then appealed to the people in the city to take care of the trees and refrain from uprooting them as they would benefit them in the long run.



Terms of Reference for Life Skills Education Mid-Term Evaluation

I. Project Profile

Project Name	Global Fund-New Funding Model
Project Aim	Reduction of HIV infections among adolescents
Project Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the MoE in rolling out the Life skills curriculum targeting adolescent girls and boys in secondary and high school. 2. Improve access to essential hygiene necessities to adolescent girls in school. 3. Support parents to play an active role in adolescent socialization process.
Routine Project Indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of in-school young people aged 15-19 reached with SBC programmes. 2. Number of in-school adolescent girls (15-19) who received 9 dignity packs (1 pack per month over 9 months) in the reporting period. 3. Number of parents /guardians reached through the parenting support programme.
Location	109 LSE schools and 29 Dignity Pack schools across the country
Project Period	Jan 2016 to Sep 2018
Target Population	44 000 LES students and 4500 girls receiving Dignity Packs
Implementing Partner	Bantwana Initiative - LSE and CANGO - Dignity Packs

II. Mid Term Evaluation Objectives

The mid-term evaluation will focus on the collection of data from students, former students, parents and teachers to test knowledge, attitude and perceptions of boys and girls attending Life Skills Education in the 109 schools supported by CANGO through the Global Fund grant. Data will be collected through one-on-one interviews as well as focus group discussions. This exercise is meant to inform the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) and CANGO on the impact of Life Skills Education in secondary schools.

This assignment aims to respond to the following questions:

1. Establish availability of life skills education in a sample of the 109 schools under the 20 selected Tinkhundla centres;
2. Assess young people's knowledge about sexual reproductive health, HIV and AIDS, and menstrual hygiene management;
3. Identify sources of information including the role played by peers, teachers, and parents/guardians in transmission of information;
4. Identify sexual and other risk behaviors among the in-school young people
5. Identify the existing and potential opportunities for better implementation of comprehensive sexual reproductive health education, HIV and AIDS and menstrual hygiene management interventions in the 109 schools under the 20 selected Tinkhundla centres.
6. Establish information and data on comprehensive sexuality education, HIV and AIDS, and menstrual hygiene management among in-school young people.
7. Assess parent's support towards their children on sexual reproductive health issues.
8. Ascertain accessibility and or challenges towards accessing sexual reproductive health services like; HTC, VMMC, etc.

III. Scope of Work

The Consultant is expected to conduct a mid-term evaluation for the Life Skills Education and Dignity Pack program using the objectives and indicators that test knowledge, attitude and perceptions of young people around HIV prevention. A protocol for guiding this evaluation has already been developed and approved by the Ethics Committee.

IV. Duration and timeline

The assignment shall be completed within 40 working days beginning soon after the inception meeting.

V. Consultant Competencies, Experience and Skill requirements

- Post graduate qualification in social sciences, public health or any other related field
- Experience in behavioral research, HIV/AIDS research
- Ability to write clearly and concisely in English
- Clear understanding of the HIV landscape in Swaziland

VI. Communications

For additional information on the consultancy please contact
Ms. Nqobile Tsabedze, GMU Coordinator
Email: programs@cango.org.sz
Phone: 2404 4721 / 7608 2610

To apply

Consultants are requested to show interest by submitting a comprehensive proposal and budget addressed to the Executive Director through email: programs@cango.org.sz no later than 30 March 2018

DOC-14194



SISEKELO HIGH SCHOOL INVITES ALL INTERESTED PARENTS & PUPILS TO AN INFORMATION EVENING AT 6:00PM

**THE HIVE (MBABANE) - 28 March 2018
SIMUNYE COUNTRY CLUB - 03 April 2018
THE GEORGE HOTEL (MANZINI) - 05 April 2018**

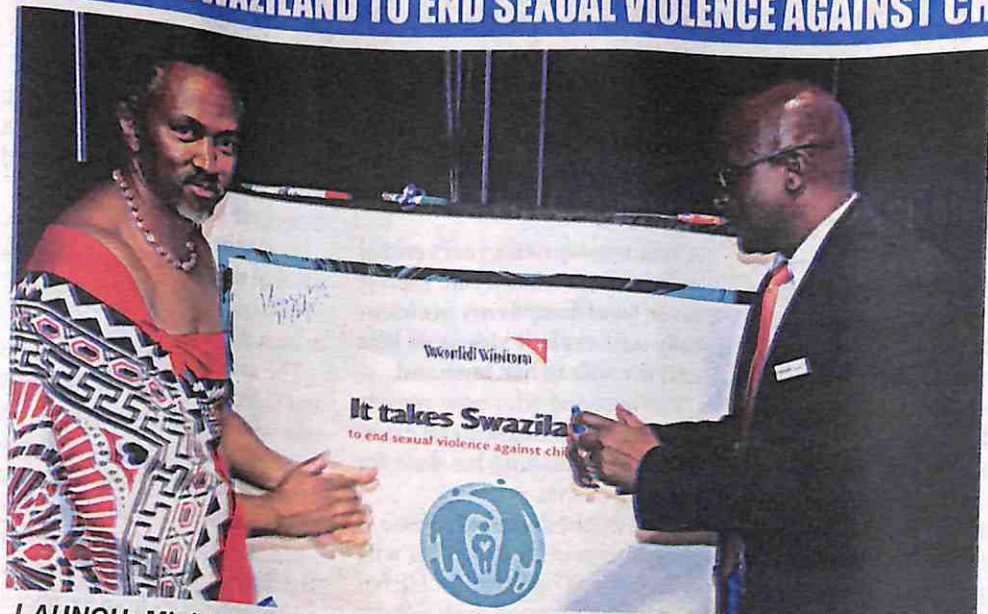


**ENTRANCE TEST GRADE 8-11
SATURDAY 07 APRIL 2018 AT 8:00AM**

For more information contact +268 23636268
E-mail: administration@sisekelo.ac.sz

DOC15917

'IT TAKES SWAZILAND TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN'



LAUNCH: Minister of Housing Phwayinkhosi Mabuza representing DPM Paul Dlamini with World Vision Swaziland Country Programme Director Francis Dube after cutting the ribbon marking the official launch of *It takes Swaziland to end sexual violence against children* at Royal Swazi Sun yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



UNITED: UNICEF Resident Representative Alice Akunga flanked by US Ambassador Lisa Peterson and High Court Judge Maxine LaNgwenya were the panelists.



STOP: St Joseph's pupil Sihle Mdziniso making his presentation.



NO TO VIOLENCE: Lindelwa Khumalo from Swazi National also had something to say.



IT HAS TO END NOW: Some of the people who attended the event.



Employment Opportunity Legal Officer

Promulgated under the Financial Services Regulatory Authority Act 2010, the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) is responsible for the regulation of non-bank financial institutions in Swaziland. The FSRA seeks to recruit an individual who prides himself or herself on delivering quality work, has the highest levels of integrity and confidentiality, and a strong desire to learn. The position reports to the General Manager - Legal Services.

Key areas of responsibility

- Assist with the enforcement of legislation and good business practice of financial services providers
- Provide sound legal advice and opinion on appropriate interventions and corrective measures to be taken on non-complying financial services providers
- Participate and advise during offsite monitoring and onsite inspections of financial services providers including AML/CFT supervision
- Promote compliance by regulated entities with the Insurance Act, Retirement Funds Act, AML/CFT legal framework, and any other laws
- Contribute to the amendment of existing legislation and make proposals for new legislation, as well as assist with drafting legislation and industry guidelines
- Contribute to consumer protection and education initiatives and processes which includes participating in the preparation of presentations and workshops for industry training
- Participate in the establishment and development of the overall regulatory framework for the supervision of financial services industry including the development of legislative framework such as the Act, regulations, circulars, notices, guidelines, standards, policies, procedures and strategies

Experience and skill requirements

- LLB degree
- A minimum of 2 years working experience in a similar position preferably working in a financial services environment
- Working knowledge of the Financial Services Regulatory Authority Act 2010, financial services laws under the FSRA Act and the Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (Prevention) Act 2011
- Have the ability to understand and interpret legislation
- Have the ability to communicate verbally and in writing on legal matters
- Have strong inter-personal and analytical skills
- Be computer literate

Written applications must be submitted together with a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, certified copies of academic certificates and three recent professional referees. Late applications shall not be accepted. All applications will be acknowledged. Should you not receive further correspondence within one month of the closing date, please consider your application to be unsuccessful.

Please apply in writing to:
The Recruitment Manager
KPMG Advisory (Sw) (Pty) Ltd
Umkhwa House, Lot 195, Kal Grant Street, Mbabane
Email: recruitment@kpmg.co.sz

Closing date for applications is 30 March 2018.



Doc.15849

VACANCY

GROUP LIFE & PENSIONS OFFICER- BENEFICIARY FUND POSITION

Main Purpose of the Job

- Administration of the Beneficiary Fund
- Administration of Retirement Funds & Risk Benefit Scheme.
- Administration of the Managed Funds
- To market products and source new business
- To prepare financial reports for Beneficiary and Managed Funds
- To ensure Compliance of the Beneficiary Fund to Legislation.
- Group Life and Retirement Funds Administration

Key Responsibilities

- Ensuring continued statutory compliance of the Beneficiary and Managed Funds
- Prepare and make presentations of Proposals.
- Ensure that proper Member records are kept & monthly updates on Retirement
- Ensure proper accounting records for the Funds are kept.
- Process all claims within set turnaround times.
- Prepare Quarterly and Annual Reports on the Fund's activities/performance
- Prepare Monthly and Quarterly financial reports and reconciliation statements
- Coordinate and attend Quarterly Report Back meetings with the various Management Boards.
- Co-ordinate Annual Audits and ensure all audit queries are satisfactorily resolved
- Prepare Valuation data for the Fund.
- Process of all claims within the stipulated turnaround times.
- Prepare and dispatch benefit statements to Members on an annual basis.
- Ensure up-to-date Service Level Agreements are in place.

Key Competencies

- Interpersonal Relationship skills
- Organisation and Planning Skills
- Attention to Detail
- Collaboration
- Accountability
- Adaptability
- Good analytical and problem solving skills
- Customer orientation
- Financial skills and Computer Literacy
- Ability to work under pressure
- Requires minimal supervision and self-driven
- Ability of continuous learning and development

Qualifications and Experience

- A Bachelor's degree in Commerce - majoring in accounting
- At least 5 years of experience in insurance business

Applications should be addressed to **The Human Resources & Admin. Manager;** P.O. Box 917, Mbabane, Swaziland or **hand delivered** at Insika House, 3rd Floor, Somhlolo Road.

Please note, only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Closing date for applications is the 27th March 2018.



Doc.16265

MOZA MAN STRIPS, ASSAULTS WOMAN FOR ENDING RELATIONSHIP

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

IN one of the worse forms of gender based violence, a woman of Malindza narrated before the court on how she had endured public humiliation at the hands of her former boyfriend who would strip her.

She said, he would assault her and further drag her to his house, where he would proceed to abuse her sexually.

*Mary (20) made this revelation at the Swazi National Court where she had laid a charge of assault against Peter Naivis who originates from Mozambique.

The complainant first told the court that she ended her relationship with Naivis some several months ago, after realising that he was abusive as he would assault her whenever they had minor



misunderstandings. The accused person is said to have however refused to accept that the relationship was over and continued to demand an audience with the complainant. She stated that on several occasions, the accused would strip her naked when they met on the street, claiming that he was the one who bought her the clothes.

She said the recent incident occurred while she was at her new boyfriend's rented flat. The accused person is said to have invaded the flat and started

assaulting the woman while her boyfriend was away at work.

When asked to plead to the charge, the accused pleaded guilty. He admitted to having assaulted the complainant, adding that she was being wayward.

"I did beat her for having too many boyfriends," he said.

The accused further stated that he had gone to the said house to see where she was now staying after leaving him. He claimed that he was known by the complainant's parents, hence they would question him if she disappeared.

When making judgement, Court President Makhuluma Ndwandwe pointed out that the accused committed a serious crime which was based on gender violence. He subsequently sentenced the accused person to 10 months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E1 000 fine.

First health post to be opened at Gege

By Sabelo Majola
Mbabane

THE ministry of health has taken a step further in ensuring that every Swazi receives health care services without financial hardships by establishing health posts in different communities around the country.

The establishment of health posts, follow a World Health Organisation (WHO) supported benchmarking mission which was done in Ethiopia in 2016.

Their main purpose is to bring primary health care services closer to the communities in order to maximise access as the world strives for universal health coverage.

The Shiselweni region is the luckiest as plans are at an advanced stage for the opening of the first health post at Dudusini area under Gege Inkhundla, which will also be a pilot for the health posts project.

The area was chosen because it already had a fully equipped structure built by World Vision. Currently, people from Dudusini travel 14 kilometres to the nearest clinic which is Gege Clinic.

The ministry of health provides outreach services to the area but sometimes, due to flooding, the team is unable to bring health services to the people.

Visit

The Chief Nursing Officer Thembisile Khumalo and WHO Health Systems Officer Dr Khosi Mthethwa paid a courtesy visit to the area last Friday where they were shown the structure earmarked for the health post.

The team was met by the area's development headmen and rural health motivators.

Addressing community members, the chief nursing officer said all Swazis belonged to the King, hence they all had a right to access quality health services.

She said the ministry of health was

mandated to ensure that everybody receives health care.

Khumalo said she was happy that a structure has already been erected and further assured the community that the ministry would send a healthcare provider to help the community.

"We will post a nurse soon to provide health care services in this structure and we as a ministry are going to support that person. Looking at the remoteness of a clinic in this area, we understand that we need to open this health post as soon as possible," she said.

Leader of the Rural Health Motivators Nomsa Kunene said they were grateful to the ministry of health and World Vision for bringing health services closer to the people.

She promised that they would soon work on housing for the nurse which will be sent by the ministry of health. Kunene stated that World Vision had also promised to build a house as soon as a nurse is available.



WORKING TOGETHER: Chief Nursing Officer Thembisile Khumalo and WHO Health Systems Officer Dr Khosi Mthethwa posing for a group photo with the community development leaders and rural health motivators outside the health post in Dudusini last Friday.

Suspect denied bail for string of theft offences

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

IN the interest of justice, Magistrates are not giving bail to suspects as it seems unfair to those who are victims of the crimes allegedly committed by

the accused persons.

On Tuesday, a suspect Makhosonke Dlamini appeared before Manzini Magistrate Phathaphatha Mdluli where he was facing a series of theft charges.

During his court appearance, the accused was informed of his rights to legal representation, and he informed the court

that he would be representing himself.

The crown applied that the accused be remanded back to police custody, pending finalisation of investigations.

However, the accused insisted on getting bail.

Mdluli informed the accused person 'it would not be in the best interest

WhatsApp sex video ends six-year long relationship

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

A relationship of six years ended on a sour note when a wife's secret lover (makhwapheni) accidentally sent explicit videos of him and the wife to her husband.

The husband who now regrets allowing his wife to use social media ended up assaulting his wife for cheating on him.

Boy Hlophe from Ndzevane is alleged to have assaulted his wife with fists and open hands. He has since been charged with assault

with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

During his court appearance before Magistrate Lucia Lukhele, Hlophe pleaded guilty as charged.

When asked why he ended up assaulting the complainant, he shared his sad story with the court. The accused said he was so sad that he had finally fallen victim of being one of those whose relationships had been destroyed by social media.

The accused said he had been in love with the complainant for about six years and he then decided to buy her a phone, which was compatible with WhatsApp and other social media platforms.

Hlophe said he had no problem

with the complainant using these social networks, however, since it was a phone he bought, he would from time to time also use it.

He said he was shocked one day when he received pictures and videos of his wife having sex with another man via WhatsApp.

The accused said these pictures and videos were sent by the same man who is cheating with his wife.

The accused said he was devastated after discovering this and when he confronted his wife she apologised and they reached a decision that they would delete all social media applications from the phone.

The accused said since he is someone who comes back to the house on Fridays due to work commitments, he was shocked when he came back

The accused said he is so sad that he has finally fallen amongst one of those whose relationships that have been destroyed by social media

and found that his wife was continuing with the relationship. He said this led to him assaulting her.

The Magistrate warned the accused about staying in such a relationship, saying it is incidents such as these that led to people killing their better halves. The Magistrate said it was clear that there would be similar occurrences in the near future.

Hlophe was sentenced to two years imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.

Another suspect assaulted, injured by police

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Matsapha

A suspect alleged to have been heavily assaulted by the police failed to attend court yesterday due to his injuries.

Bafana Gama was supposed to appear before Magistrate Lucia Lukhele at the Matsapha Circuit Court yesterday, but the court was informed that the accused couldn't make it to court as he was in hospital following injuries he sustained during an assault by police officers.

The accused person's attorney informed the court that when he visited his client, he discovered that he had a visible scar near his eye. He said the accused informed him that he sustained the injury as a result of being assaulted by police officers.

When asked when the accused was assaulted the attorney said he

was informed that it was on Saturday. He said he has since been informed by his client that his eye is not working properly.

The Magistrate wondered as to why the police assaulted the accused person but his attorney informed the court that it was not clear as to why the assault took place.

Arrest

Since the accused person failed to show up in court the prosecutor, Fakazi Mngomezulu applied for a warrant of arrest, he however asked that may the warrant be stayed until March 27, where the accused will come with proof that indeed he was injured and went to hospital.

Worth noting is that just recently an accused person asked that he be remanded at His Majesty's correctional facility instead of police custody for fear that police officers were going to kill him after he was heavily assaulted which resulted in him bleeding through his ears.

of society to grant the accused person bail.

Charges

The Magistrate informed the accused person that due to the seriousness of the charges, which included three theft offences, he does not intend giving the accused person bail.

Mdluli stated that if he gives the accused bail while he is facing a

string of offences involving the theft of large amounts of property, the interest of justice would not served because the victims may feel like justice is failing them.

Worth noting is that ever since the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala issued a directive for Magistrates to get tough on bail for serious criminal offences suspects are not having it easy when they apply for bail.



UNITED FOR A GOOD CAUSE: Some of the junior pastors assisting in the distribution of the blankets to the elderly.



TEARS OF JOY: Some of the elderly people were overcome by emotions after receiving their gifts were comforted by the bishop.

BISHOP NASH SHOWERS ELDERLY WITH FOOD, CASH, BLANKETS

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

BISHOP Nash Shongwe presented food parcels and blankets worth over E10 000 to elderly people who were part of a service held at the Nhlangano Divine Healing Ministries branch last Saturday.

The bishop also topped that by splashing out almost the same amount in cash which was shared between the elderly who were identified as deserving to benefit from the bishop's generosity.

It was indeed 'Christmas before Christmas' for the elderly as some were seen literally shedding tears of joy as the bishop assisted by other pastors from other branches distributed the goodies. As if that was not enough, the bishop who seemed to have come to entertain all those who were present, after the service everyone was treated to delicious meals that had been prepared.

It is estimated that the total amount of money that the bishop spent on all the expenses, could be in the region of E20 000 if not more.

The bishop's intention was to visit



KIND: Bishop Nash Shongwe seen presenting blankets to elderly people.

Nhlangano again to listen to testimonies on how they were blessed after the revivals held last month.

An elder who is said to be from another church after receiving her gift declared her interest in joining Divine Healing Ministries.

"The bishop does not only feed his flock spiritually but also in the

flesh. Look what he has done for us and he did not mind that some of us are from other churches but he catered for us all with the food and blankets.

We know of many church leaders who are only interested in making money and never bother themselves with catering for the needy.

Bishop Nash (Shongwe) is different as he is showing that he is not selfish," said one of the elderly people.

Others said they were surprised when the bishop presented them with blankets and had thought that was all they would receive, only to see the bishop splashing out money.



WHO IS NEXT?: The bishop looking for the next recipient.



BE WARM: A Mafutseni-based pastor seen assisting one of the elderly presented with blankets.



FOR ALL: Some of the elderly people seen lining up with goodies presented to them by the bishop.



LET US CELEBRATE: This was the mood after the service where the crowd danced with the bishop.



WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT

WORLD WATER DAY 2018 - "NATURE FOR WATER"

The newspaper takes this time to remind both residential and industrial customers about the following Bylaws that serve as guidelines on what should and should not be discharged into SWSC sewer:



WORLD WATER DAY
22 MARCH 2017

"Nature for water"

As the world celebrates World Water Day under the theme *"Nature for Water"*, the Swaziland Water Services Corporation pledges to continue operating its business in an environmentally sustainable manner, safeguarding nature and water resources.



UN WATER
22 MARCH
WORLD
WATER
DAY

Emtfonjeni Building, Corner MR 103 and Cultural Village Drive, Ezulwini.
Tel: 2416 9000, Fax: 2416 3616
Visit: www.swsc.co.sz



WWW.SWSC.CO.SZ



@SWSC_Water



/swscswaziland

BY LAWS:

No person shall, except with the written consent of SWSC and subject to such conditions as it may impose:

a) Construct, erect or lay any building, structure or other thing over or in such a position or in such a manner so as to interfere with or endanger any SWSC sewer;

b) Excavate, open up or remove the ground above, next to, under or near any SWSC sewer;

c) Damage, endanger or destroy or do any act likely to damage, endanger or destroy any SWSC sewer;

d) Make any opening in any SWSC sewer, or abstract, divert or cause to be abstracted or diverted any sewage therefrom;

e) Discharge, permit to enter or put into any SWSC sewer:

i. Any stormwater;

ii. Medical waste

iii. Any gas or steam

iv. Any liquid (not being domestic wastewater) with a temperature higher than 35°C;

v. Any petrol, oil, greases, waxes, fat or pesticides, insecticides or paints;

vi. Any refuse or waste resulting from any industrial, trade, manufacturing or chemical process;

vii. Any liquid which has a pH value outside the range of 5.5 - 9.5;

viii. Any substance which gives off or is liable to give off explosive, poisonous or inflammable gases or vapours;

ix. Any substance which has an Abel's open cup flashpoint of less than 60°C;

x. Any substance which contains volatile flammable solvents or solvents immiscible with water;

No person may, except with the written consent of SWSC, and subject to such conditions as it may impose:

a) Discharge or permit the discharge of industrial effluent directly or indirectly into any wastewater system;

b) Increase, or permit to be increased, the quantity or vary, or permit to be varied, the nature, content or composition of any industrial effluent in contravention of the conditions imposed by SWSC, or

c) Contravene, or permit to be contravened, any other condition imposed by SWSC when consent was granted to discharge industrial effluent.





WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT

Why should the public sit up and take notice of water affairs?

"Water is a scarce resource in this region which is why we construct infrastructure such as dams to act as reservoirs for use especially during the dry seasons. We all have a responsibility to protect this resource and to use it as efficiently as possible."

Where are we as the Swazi nation with regards to awareness of the importance of water affairs and management of water as a resource?

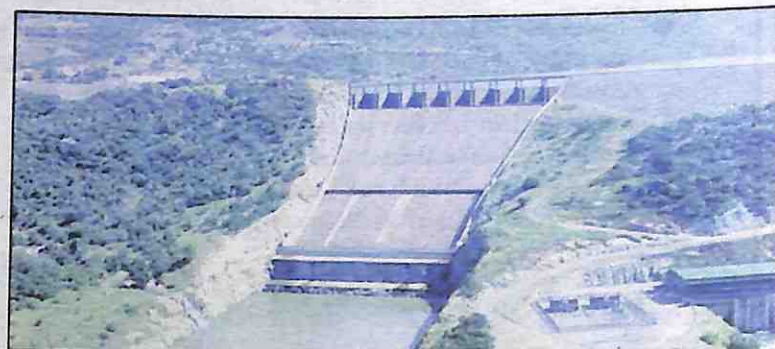
"At a national level, the Ministry of Water Affairs is doing great work to ensure that the people of Swaziland are well informed on ways in which they could use water sparingly and responsibly. The construction of infrastructure doesn't only preserves water but maintains certain standards of water quality, Swaziland is on par with this mandate"

"Through the engagement of all stakeholders and processes undergone to monitor progress, days of significance such as World Water Day become a constant cycle"


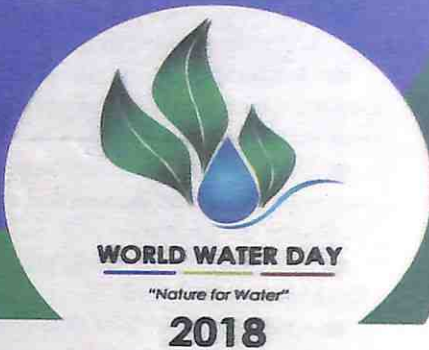
Beyond WWD, what does KOBWA seek to achieve with regards to water management?

"As KOBWA we will continue to ensure that our practices remain sustainable to ensure that those that benefit from our work; farmers, communities and companies which drive the Swazi economy such as RSSC, continue to receive this scarce and precious resource. We would like to urge the public to take the scarcity of water into account by using it sparingly even at a time like this where we are blessed with rains. We will continue to engage with stakeholders in positive upstream practices such as stopping the dumping of waste in the system which could harm those downstream. We will also continue to manage our infrastructure to ensure that it remains ready to handle both floods and droughts because water management is a never ending cycle."

WATER AFFAIRS



● "At a national level, the Ministry of Water Affairs is doing great work to ensure that the people of Swaziland are well informed on ways in which they could use water sparingly and responsibly. The construction of infrastructure doesn't only preserves water but maintains certain standards of water quality, Swaziland is on par with this mandate"

2018 WORLD WATER WEEK SWAZILAND

JSR waziland

20 - 21 **March** 2018

JOINT SECTOR REVIEW
Happy Valley Hotel, Ezulwini

2nd JSR Meeting 2018

JSR JOINT SECTOR REVIEW

JSR Theme: Sustainable financing of the water and Sanitation sector-attaining vision 2022

SUB THEMES:

- Sector financing.
- Enabling environment.
- Sector legislation / policy.
- Sector strategies.
- Institutional.

WORLD WATER DAY: COMMEMORATION Theme *Nature for Water*

22 **March** 2018

World Water Day Commemoration
Out Door Event,
Mantenga Nature Reserve

There will be a **MARCH** from Happy Valley car park to Mantenga Cultural Village. Starting at 08:30am





WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT

To mark World Water Day 2018, here are some mind-blowing and alarming facts.

- According to the U.N., 2.1 billion people don't have safe drinking water at home.

- Of those, 844 million don't have access to a basic drinking water service, including 263 million people who travel for over 30 minutes per trip to collect water.

- And 159 million still drink untreated water—a serious health risk—from surface water sources, such as streams or lakes.

- There are 663 million people who live without a safe water supply close to home.

- About 71% of the Earth's surface is water-covered, according to The United States Geological Survey Water Science School.

- The world's total water supply equates to 332.5 million cubic miles.

- Oceans hold around 97% of all Earth's water, which means all but about 3% of our water is saline.

- Of the world's total freshwater, 69% is frozen in ice and glaciers and another 30% is in the ground.

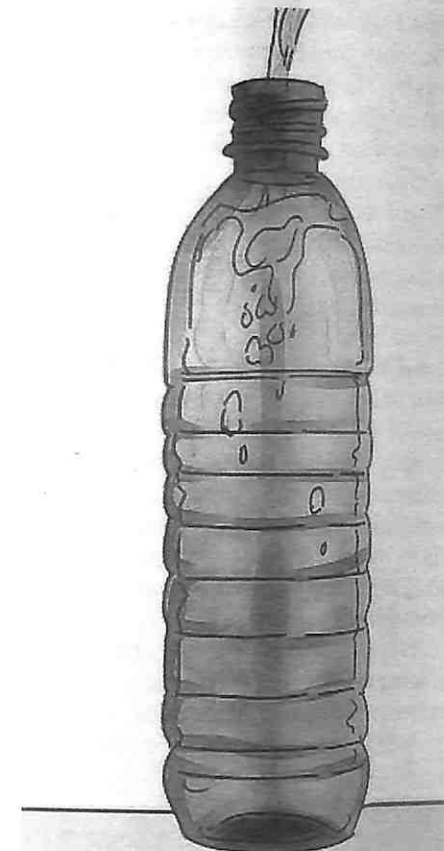
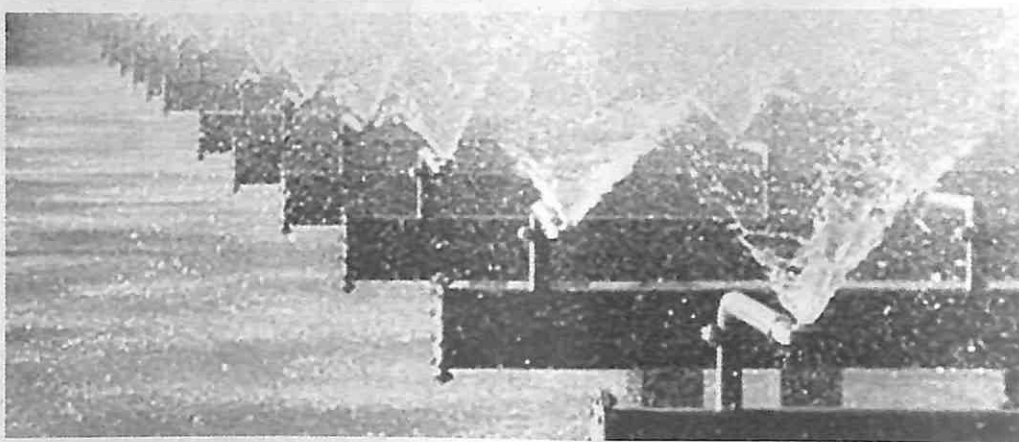
- Just 0.26% of the world's water is in freshwater lakes.

- And only 0.001% of all our water is in the atmosphere.

- By 2050, the world's population will have grown by an estimated 2 billion people—nearing 10 billion—increasing demand for water by up to 30%, predicts the U.N.

- Over 80% of society's dirty wastewater flows back into the environment without treatment or reuse.

WATER EVERYWHERE BUT LESS THAN 0.5% OF THE EARTH'S RESERVES ARE DRINKABLE



The reliable ways we access clean water, the faucets and flush toilets we take for granted every hour of every day, are science fiction to a third of the world's population.

For farmers and families in many underdeveloped countries around the world, here's what's missing:

- A kitchen sink to wash dishes
- A faucet to drink clean water
- A place to wash clothes that doesn't double as a drinking pond and toilet for animals

- An indoor bathroom or outhouse
- A crop irrigation system

Who Is Affected Most by Contaminated Water and Poor Sanitation?

Mothers:

They can't cook, wash clothes or bathe their children.

Children:

They contract diarrhea and cholera, two waterborne diseases that are the leading cause of death for children under 5 in Cameroon.

Women and Girls:

They risk being attacked on their way to retrieving water for basic needs that's up to 10 miles away.

Farmers:

They contract waterborne diseases from drinking contaminated water and suffer failed crops from no irrigation. Farmers who can't earn a living wage are unable to feed or shelter

their families.

Impoverished millions:

They lack the money to buy the most basic hygiene supplies; they have no health education system to teach them the elementary hygiene habits and disease prevention methods that could extend their lives.

The Person Most Essential to Our

Lifesaving Work: You

We're making an impact in Cameroon, Syria and many other areas around the world in desperate need of conditions that meet the most basic living standards.

The clean water we all need to survive—to drink, to bathe, to grow food without risking disease—is an essen-

tial human necessity.

Here's what we're accomplishing thanks to your support:

- Installing new wells and rebuilding damaged water and sewer lines
- Building and repairing safe and sanitary school bathrooms
- Implementing lifesaving water purification systems

- Teaching the right way to wash hands after using the bathroom and before eating and preparing food
- Training the people who benefit from installed wells, water and sewer lines and rainwater harvesting systems to keep those systems functioning and do minor repairs with existing or donated tools

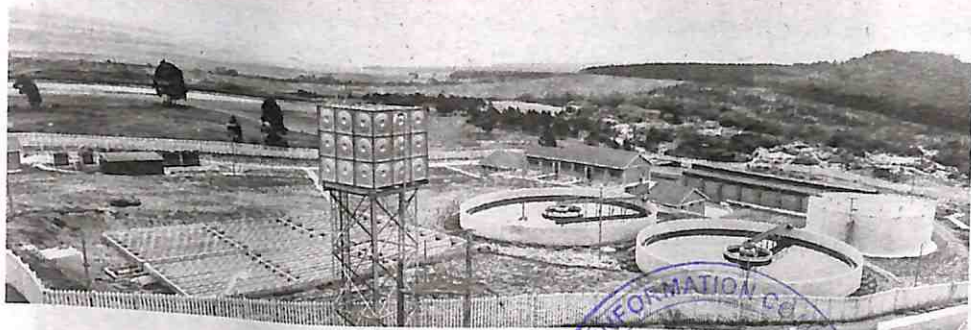
CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION: KEYS TO HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT



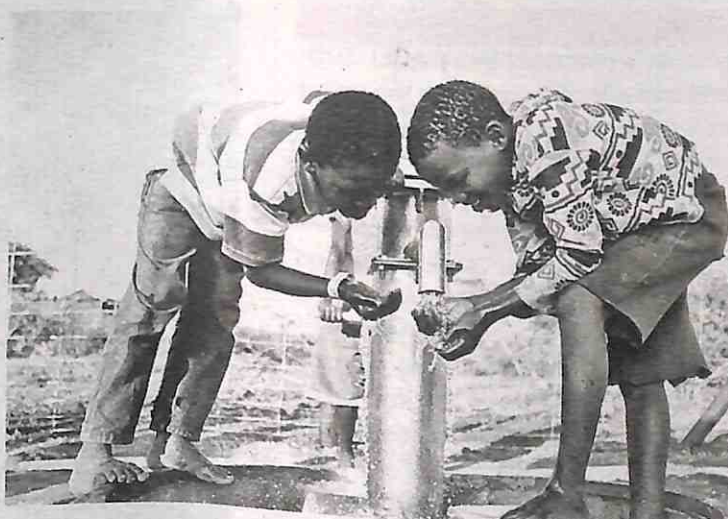
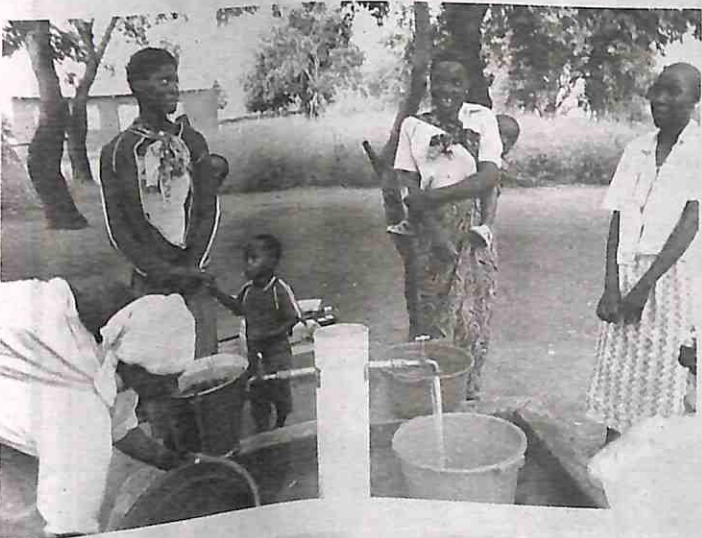
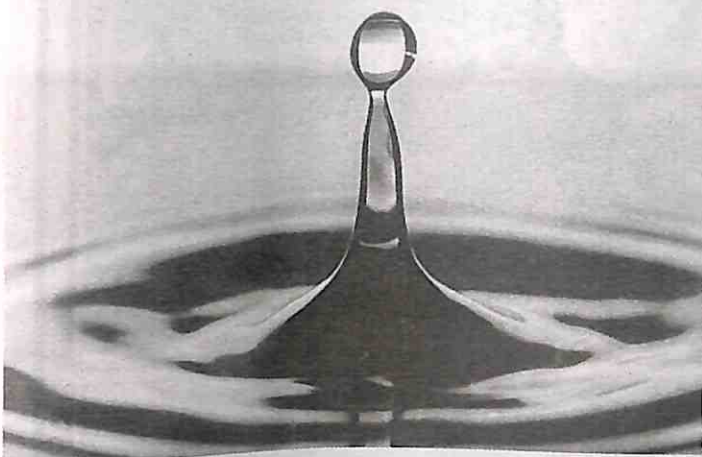
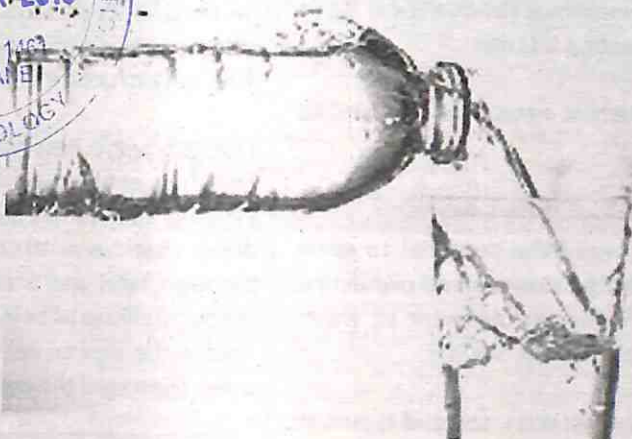


WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT

CELEBRATING WORLD WATER DAY



TAKE
SIMPLE
SMALL
STEPS EACH DAY TO
SAVE WATER





WORLD WATER DAY

THEME: NATURE FOR WATER

22 MARCH 2018



SWADE continues to be the leading water and agricultural development investment implementation agent of the Government. SWADE continues to focus on mobilising people, development of Swazi Nation land and constructive use of water resources to stimulate food security, poverty alleviation and social invigoration in disadvantaged parts of the country.

With the prevailing situation of climate change, the country faces a huge challenge of diminishing water resources. Due to the changes in dietary needs the virtual water per commodity continues to increase thus straining water resources. The choices of food that we eat require more water as opposed to the previous diets

SWADE has a number of projects dealing with water to ensure that communities have adequate water resources and supply hence the reason why the organisation takes the World Water day as a crucial event. Commemorated annually on 22nd March, the country joins the rest of the world in celebrating this day.

This year's theme is "Nature for water" and it explores how nature can be used to overcome water challenges in society.

Environmental

The theme focuses on nature-based solutions which have the potential to solve many water challenges faced in the country and worldwide. Creating and protecting buffers of vegetation along water courses helps with the management of water availability and quality and is one nature-based solution used by SWADE.

Floods and drought are all made worse by degraded vegetation, soil and rivers. In this regard the project strives to avoid environmental degradation and promote conservation thus promoting environmental management.

Through Lusip 1, SWADE has made a substantial contribution towards achievement of the sustainable development goals (i.e. Goal 6 "clean Water and Sanitation") in the provision of potable water supply to rural communities within the chiefdoms where her projects are based. SWADE project goals and purposes recognizes that water scarcity, poor water quality and inadequate sanitation negatively impact food security, livelihood choices and educational opportunities for poor families in the project development areas.

The observance of stream, river, waterways buffer zones and avoiding wetlands during development is another essential approach towards protection of water resources. This is because protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems such as forests, wetlands and rivers is essential if we are to mitigate water scarcity.

Land and water Management:

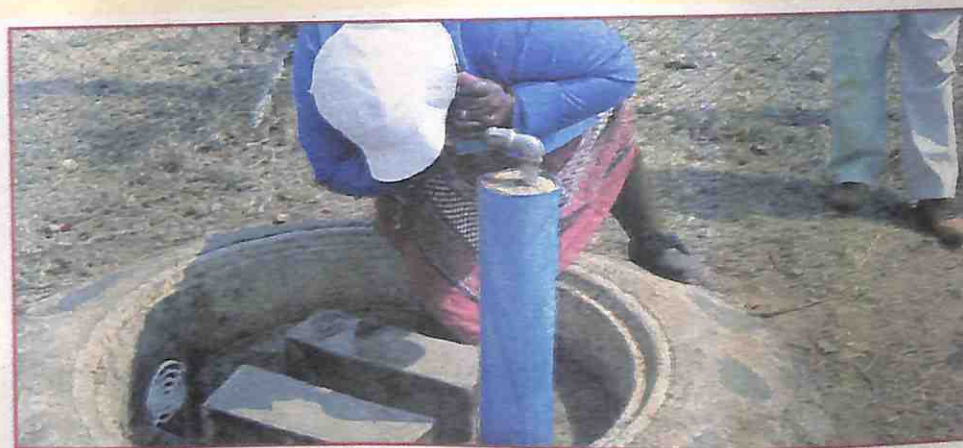
Land and water management is another aspect that is promoted by SWADE. Such approaches provide nature based, innovative and cost-effective options to the water crisis. Sustainable land and water management is simply about people looking after the land – for the present and for the future. The main objective is to integrate people's coexistence with nature over the long-term, so that the provisioning, regulating, cultural and supporting services of ecosystems are ensured. These are nature-based solutions that help in the management of water availability and quality. Sustainable land and water management plays a role in the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Sustainable land and water management includes soil, water, vegetation and animal resources. It includes nature-based solutions such as increasing land productivity, improving livelihoods and improving ecosystems. In order to increase production from the land, water use efficiency and productivity need to be improved. SWADE, through the Smallholder Market led project ensures that this is achieved by reducing high water loss through run off and unperceived evaporation from unprotected soil; harvesting water; improving infiltration; maximizing water storage and managing surplus water. Activities include improved water management and water use efficiency and effectiveness and coping with water scarcity through water harvesting and protection against evaporation loss and runoff, by adopting conservation agriculture, agroforestry or improved grazing land management. Some practices increase the amount of rainfall that infiltrates the soil such as mulching, improved plant cover as well as improving its capacity to store water such as increased soil organic matter content.

Water Management

The Lubovane Reservoir and its bulk infrastructure is the heart of the LUSIP 1 project. The Lubovane Reservoir comprises of three dams which allows irrigation to project. The Lubovane Reservoir regulates the river flow of the Mhlathuzane River. The over fifty farmer schemes and regulates the river flow of the Mhlathuzane River. The project has also enabled job opportunities and improved the livelihoods of the people. It has also managed to address Sustainable Development Goals such as, Goal 1: No poverty, Goal 2: Zero Hunger, Goal 3: Good health, Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure and Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities.

The Project has managed to execute its goal which is the reduction of poverty and sustained improvement in the standard of living of the population in the Project Area through commercialization and intensification of agriculture. As one of the supporting units to the project, the water management has also managed to succeed in its mission. Which is to supply water to LUSIP water users in order to advance their economic development goals while preserving the asset value of the bulk infrastructure in a participatory approach.

The Lubovane Reservoir has also been kept in an almost unspoiled environment. This has enabled existing ecosystems and natural habitats to continue existing. Wildlife species has also been preserved since there are no human activities being done that harm their inhabitations. SWADE has been able to engage farmers through talks and trainings on the importance of water as a natural address the responsibilities of being a water user. The bulk infrastructure has also played a huge role in the service delivery of the water to the users. Floods and spillages have also been managed through the canal system and supporting structure such as drains.



HEAD OFFICE

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WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT

Residents from five communities within the Hhohho and the Lubombo region sing praises to the FNB Foundation for partnering with the National Disaster Management Agency and bringing clean water closer to their communities through the construction of boreholes that are accessible to all residents.

The proverb "Water is Life" proved to be true for residents within Nsingizini, Lomahasha, Mnjoli and Sweni amongst others as the installation of water boreholes during a season where all water sources had dried up came at the right time.

According to the Chairperson of the committee that manages the operation of the Borehole, Mr Abraham Magagula, also from Mnjoli community echoed similar sentiments saying that no words can express the gratitude they have to both The Foundation and the NDMA. He says the most significant role they played after the installation was to take them through a training course to help equip them with skills on how to effectively manage the use of the borehole by the community. He emphasised that life has changed for the better and the water pressure from the boreholes is still running at the same speed which makes collecting water an easy task when compared to the challenges experienced.

The FNB Foundation's role, as Chairman Dennis Tikhalo Mbingo, said was to identify key stakeholders that have structures in place to address issues

affecting livelihood of the Swazis. He further expressed sincere appreciation in learning that the Boreholes are managed efficiently by the beneficiary communities. He said in celebration of world water day his hopes are that all beneficiary communities use water wisely and save as much water as possible.

Meanwhile, the Chief Executive Officer of the National Disaster Management agency, Mr Russel Dlamini says the 2015/2016 El Niño induced Drought,

accounted for food and water shortages for many households in the country especially in communities located on the dry middleveld and Lowveld ecological zones.

Generally, the people of Swaziland, especially small holder farmers that depend on rainfall to irrigate their crops had become accustomed to food shortages, due to numerous episodes of dry spells and extreme heatwaves that has over time resulted in poor crop performance, poor harvests and poor

water availability at household level. Areas in the Lowveld have already been classified Chronic Drought Areas (CDA) due to arid conditions that are not suitable for maize production and other drought resistant crops such as sorghum, cotton and sunflower.

The FNB foundation in 2017 became a significant partner in funding a water project for rural communities in Ntfontjeni, Hlane, Lomahasha and Hosea. A total of 2,034 people benefitted from this project with clean water, sanitation

and hygiene. Prior to these interventions, members of the beneficiary communities had to walk an average of two (2) kilometers to the nearest water source, despite that a stipulated minimum walking distance to a nearest water source is 500 meters and minimum queuing period of 30 minutes.

Water is life and Sanitation is dignity. As we celebrate the World Water day, let us all remember to use water sparingly handle water sources with great care and diligence.



Respect water and it's preservation.



You don't have to queue to ensure you have running water. Pay your water bill using FNB Online Banking, the FNB App and FNB Cellphone Banking.

@ getmore@fnb.co.sz

www.fnbswaziland.co.sz

FNB App v5.0

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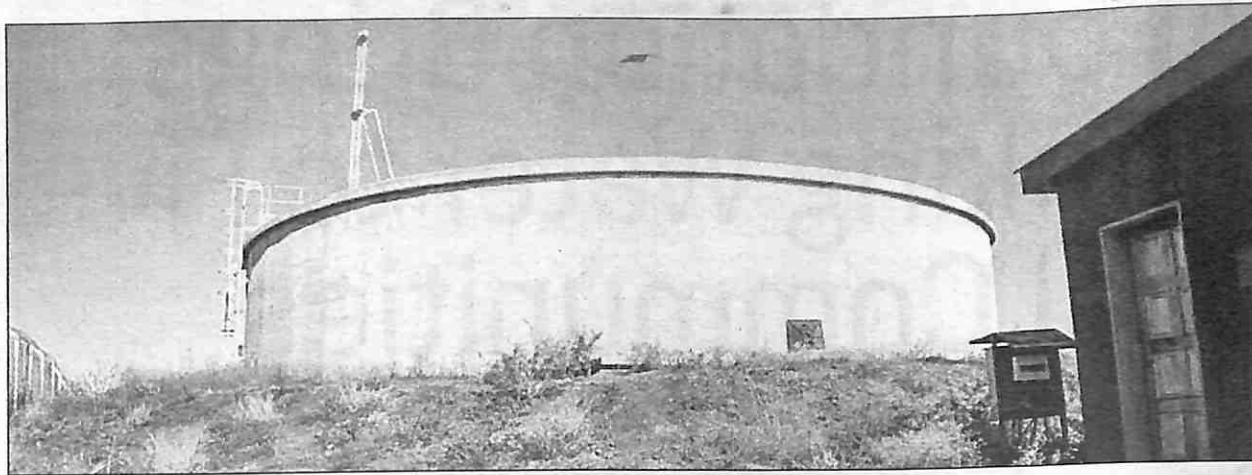
FNB
First National Bank

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How can we help you?



WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT



Bringing clean water and sanitation to rural Swaziland

The aim of this project is to provide safe drinking water and sanitation to an additional 61,000 people in the poor and dry south-eastern areas of Swaziland. The existing network of water was expanded. Twenty water selling points (water kiosks) were built, each with a toilet and sink next to them. This 'Support to Water And Sanitation Swaziland' (SWASS) pro-

ject was funded by the European Union. It was implemented by Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) and World Vision Swaziland, together with the government of Swaziland. The project was made possible thanks to the 'Upgrading of Potable Water Supply in Siphofaneni, Somntongo and Matsanjeni - Swaziland' (SISOMA Water) programme. *By Usaid*

ENHANCED WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION IN SWAZILAND

Swaziland's children are plagued with food insecurity and poverty, fueled in part by insufficient access to clean water and poor sanitation.

Schools are working to become support centers where students can drink clean water, eat locally grown food, wash hands, and

learn about proper sanitation.

APPROACH

USAID supports the Palms for Life Fund, working closely with the Swazi Ministry of Education and Training, to lead a \$2.2 million project to provide one hundred and twenty schools with clean drinking water and sanitation facilities.

Education programs focus on proper maintenance of the new or refurbished water and sanitation systems and also link to school vegetable gardening programs to improve student nutrition. Running from October 2010 until



December 2013, this project will reach 42,000 students and their families, calling on parents and community members to assist with the construction and up keep of rain water harvesting systems, latrines, fences, gardens and plumbing.

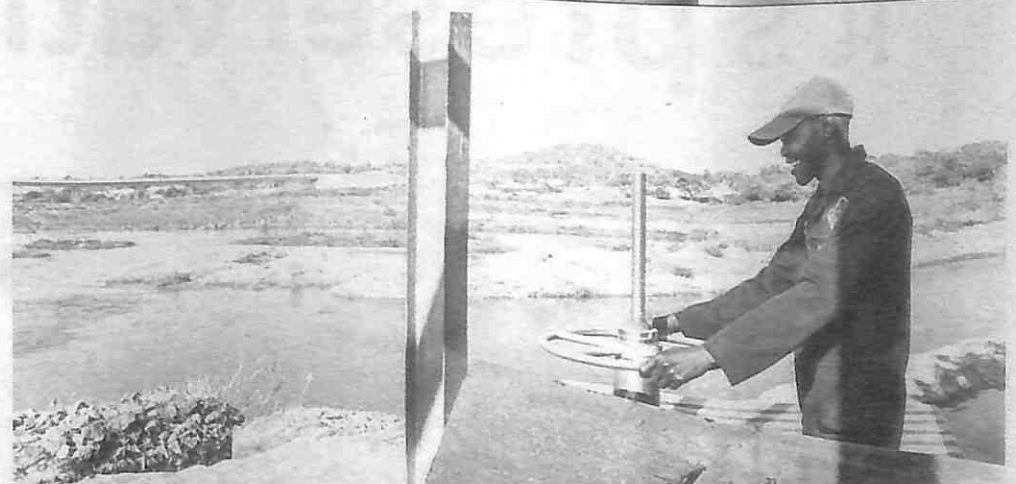
OBJECTIVES

1. To install water harvesting, water

storage and sanitation systems in 120 schools,

2. To establish productive, sustainable gardens of about 0.5 acres per school,

3. To ensure the dissemination of best sustainable practices to pupils and surrounding communities with extensive education and training on water harvesting, garden management, and sanitation. *By WaterAid*





WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT



Sustainable water security will not be achieved through business-as-usual, and NBS provide an essential means of moving beyond conventional approaches.

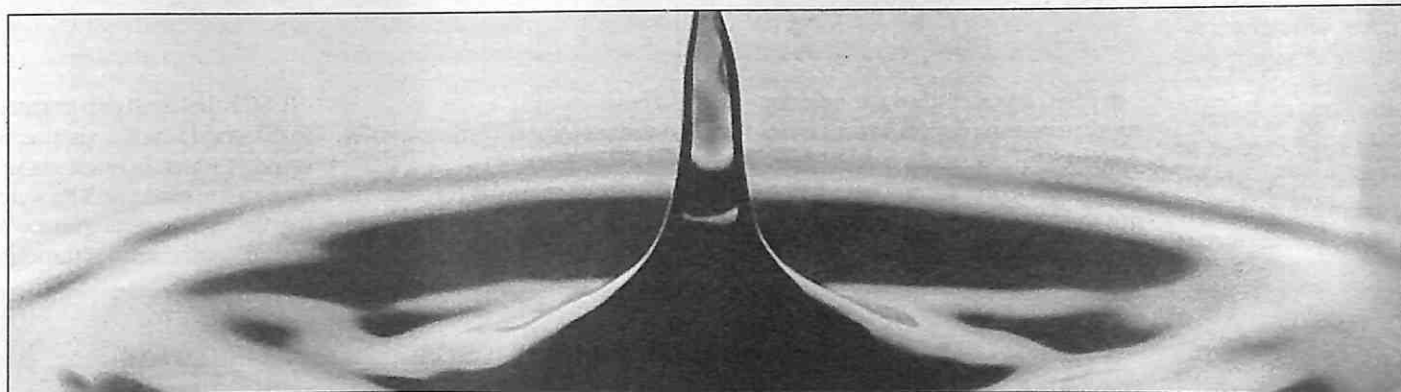
According to worldwater-day.org

"World Water Day, on 22 March every year, is about focusing attention on the importance of water. The theme for World Water Day 2018 is 'Nature for Water' – exploring nature-based solutions to the water challenges we face in the 21st century.

Damaged ecosystems affect the quantity and quality of water available for human consumption. Today, 2.1 billion people live without safe drinking water at home; affecting their health, education and livelihoods.

Sustainable Development Goal 6 commits the world to ensuring that everyone has access to safe water by 2030, and includes targets on protecting the natural environment and reducing pollution. Environmental damage, together with climate

WHAT IS WORLD WATER DAY?



change, is driving the water-related crises we see around the world.

Floods, drought and water pollution are all made worse by degraded vegetation, soil, rivers and lakes. When we neglect our ecosystems, we make it harder to provide everyone with the water we need to survive and thrive.

Nature-based solutions have the potential to solve many of our water challenges.

We need to do so much more with 'green' infrastructure and harmonize it with 'grey' infrastructure wherever possible.

Planting new forests, reconnecting rivers to floodplains, and restoring wetlands will rebalance the water cycle and improve human health and livelihoods.

According to the UNITED NATIONS WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2018 (WWDR)

We need to learn from nature how to achieve water security through solutions inspired and supported by nature ("nature-based solutions") use, or mimic, natural processes to address contemporary water management challenges, improve water security

and deliver co-benefits vital to all aspects of sustainable development.

● Nature-based solutions (NBS) are central to achieving the water-related Goal and Targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

● NBS generates social, economic and environmental co-benefits, including human health and livelihoods, food and energy security, sustainable economic growth, ecosystem rehabilitation and biodiversity.

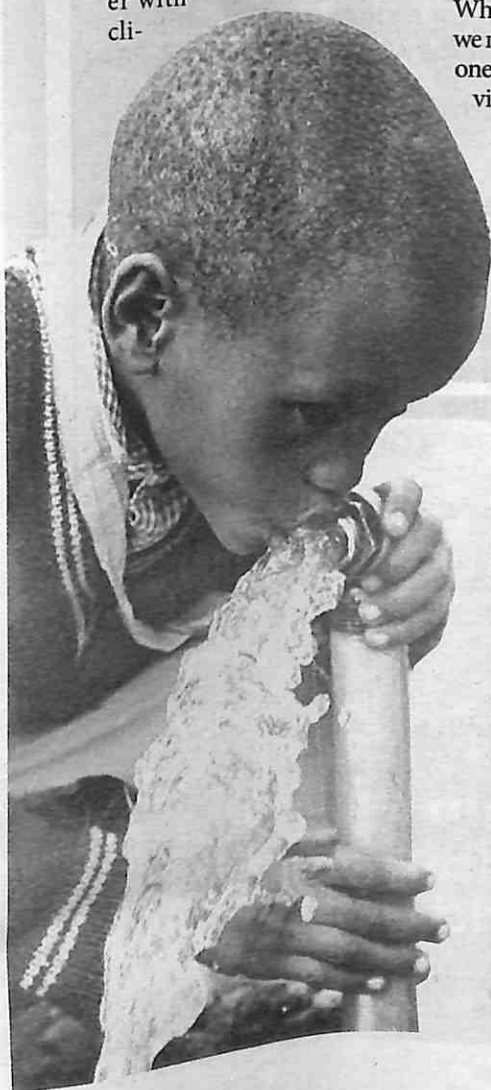
● Water management is still largely dominated by human-built (i.e. 'grey') infrastructure, where-

as the enormous potential for NBS remains under-utilized.

The goal is to find a better balance between green and grey solutions that improve efficiency while minimizing costs.

● Eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights depend on our ability to meet development needs while protecting and preserving the environment upon which all life depends.

● Sustainable water security will not be achieved through business-as-usual, and NBS provide an essential means of moving beyond conventional approaches.





WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT



At RSSC water is our business! We know that it is a scarce natural resource and we have just survived the severest drought which has never been experienced in the past three decades, subsequently we explored approaches to overcome the water challenges of the 21st century.

This year's theme – Nature for Water – comes in time for us since we have modified the measures below as we thrive to conserve water;

RSSC water conservation measures;

- Conversion of less efficient irrigation systems to more efficient systems such as drip irrigation

- Employing deficit irrigation strategies that ensure the application of enough water for optimum crop growth while taking into account and conserving the available water resources

WATER IS OUR BUSINESS!

- RSSC has identified the need for more measuring devices across a wider spectrum to better and accurately determine fields' water status. These devices are the base information for prioritizing irrigation requirement on a field

by field basis

- Re-usage of water (Effluent water used for irrigation)

- Rainwater harvesting through the construction of on-farm ponds to store runoff from rainfall

RSSC is the largest drip irrigated farm in the world which is another way to conserve water. In numbers we have managed to conserve: 30% water savings through converting furrow to drip and 20% water savings through con-

verting sprinkler to drip.

Environmental damage, together with climate change, is driving the water-related crises we see around the world. Floods, drought and water pollution are all made worse by degraded vegetation, soil, rivers and lakes.

When we neglect our ecosystems, we make it harder to provide everyone with the water we need to survive and thrive. Nature-based solutions have the potential to solve many of our water challenges. We need to do so much more with 'green' infrastructure and harmonize it with 'grey' infrastructure wherever possible. Planting new forests, reconnecting rivers to floodplains, and restoring wetlands will rebalance the water cycle and improve human health and livelihoods.

WORLD WATER DAY

RSSC WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

Conversion of less efficient irrigation systems to more efficient systems such as drip irrigation

Employing deficit irrigation strategies that ensure the application of enough water for optimum crop growth while taking into account and conserving the available water resources

RSSC has identified the need for more measuring devices across a wider spectrum to better and accurately determine fields' water status. These devices are the base information for prioritizing irrigation requirement on a field by field basis.

Re-usage of water (Effluent water used for irrigation)

Rainwater harvesting through the construction of on-farm ponds to store runoff from rainfall

*Nature
for Water*
WATER IS OUR BUSINESS

**We're the
biggest drip
irrigated Estate
in the world
so far**





WORLD WATER DAY SUPPLEMENT

KOBWA is a bi-national entity formed in 1993 through the Treaty on the Development and Utilization of the Water Resources of the KOMATI River Basin which was signed in 1992.

The agreement was between the Kingdom of Swaziland and the Republic of South Africa.

The Purpose of KOBWA was to implement Phase 1 of the Komati River Basin Development Project. Phase 1 comprises; the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the Driekoppies Dam in South Africa (Phase 1a) and the Maguga Dam in Swaziland (Phase 1b). The construction of Maguga Dam marked the end of phase 1 of the Komati River Basin Development Project.

World Water Day is a very important day for KOBWA as they are at the forefront of bi-national water management within the basin which is their core business.

We spoke to Collin Zwane, CEO of KOBWA, about what World Water Day means to the entity and the importance of the sustainable and efficient use of this essential resource.

What does WWD (World Water Day) mean to KOBWA?

"Water management is our core business and through the management of water infrastructure like the Maguga

in the Kingdom of Swaziland and Driekoppies Dam in South Africa we play a big role in ensuring that farmers and communities upstream and downstream of the Komati basin receive their fair share of water.

Therefor WWD is a great opportunity for stakeholders to come together and come up with a number of solutions to existing challenges and themes that drive awareness. We make use of

WWD to engage with communities, farmers and corporations who are dependent on the work that we do and continue to do within the basin. Through various strategies to highlight ways in which we can prepare and reduce vulnerability during droughts, land zoning for flood line protection, the removal of invasive plant species which consume more water than indigenous species and the adoption of water con-

scious farming practices.

"This year's theme is 'Nature for Water' calls for everybody to look to nature to find solutions to the challenges we face with the efficient and sustainable use of water. As KOBWA we want to bring awareness to the public at different parts of the basin that what happens upstream affects those downstream; if there's an alarming rate of soil erosion and land degrada-

tion upstream sediment flows downstream and collects at the reservoir such as Maguga dam and therefor compromises the dam's capacity and therefor limiting the amount of water accessible to those downstream. We also support both Swazi and South African governments in their efforts to bring awareness to the importance of sustainable and efficient use of water within their borders."

THE KOMATI BASIN WATER AUTHORITY (KOBWA)



Komati Basin Water Authority

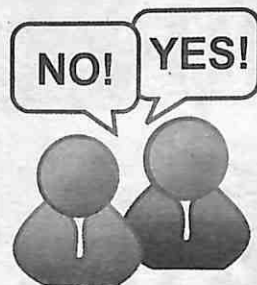
KOBWA
WATER FOR EVER

WORLD WATER DAY

22 MARCH 2018

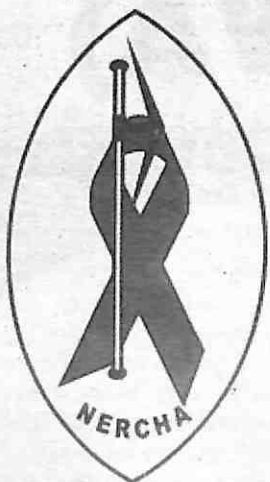
"Nature-based solutions can solve our water challenges"

THEME:
NATURE
FOR
WATER



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...



VIRAL SUPPRESSION FOR VIRTUALLY ALL PLHIV THE KEY TREATMENT TARGET FOR 2022

In 2016, the World Health Organisation (WHO) adopted a new Global Health Sector Strategy on HIV for 2016-2021.

The strategy establishes 15 ambitious targets, including the 90-90-90 target which calls on health systems to reduce under-diagnosis of HIV, treat a greater number of those diagnosed, and ensure that those being treated achieve viral suppression. This gave birth to the test and start HIV treatment approach, to enroll all PLHIV on treatment upon diagnosis of HIV positive status. Swaziland rolled out the test and start approach in June 2016. A year later, in July 2017, good news pertaining to the strategy was received by Swaziland and the global community, when the results from the second Swaziland HIV Incidence Measurement Survey (SHIMS) were released in the country and at an International AIDS Society conference in Paris.

The SHIMS 2 showed significant increases in the annual number of HIV tests which had increased three-fold, from 180 433 to 410 947; indicated that over 90 000 males had engaged in voluntary medical circumcisions; that the country had enrolled over 150 000 PLHIV on ARVs; and that the number of people on treatment was rising and viral loads declining. Compared to the first survey in 2011, the summary data showed a 44 per cent decrease in HIV incidence (which measures the number of new infections); falling from 2.5 per cent to 1.4 per cent; Prevalence (which measures the percentage of infected people in a population) had stabilised as from 30.5 per cent in 2011 to 32.1 per cent in 2016. As described in the theory of treatment as prevention, the percentage of PLHIV with suppressed viral load had doubled from 34.8 per cent to 71.4 per cent. Available data also showed that in 2016, 91.9 per cent of those who self-report use of ART were virally suppressed. - 92 per cent females and 91 per cent males - an indication that most people accessing ART obtain excellent clinical outcomes.

At the beginning of this month, Khanyakwezwe Mabuza, the National Emergency Response Council on HIV/AIDS (NERCHA) Executive

Director while providing an update of the on-going process of developing a new national strategic framework (The Last Lap) said there are two (2) main targets set for the period 2018-2022: Ensuring that 95 per cent of people on treatment should not die of AIDS; and further ensuring that 95 per cent of those on treatment are virally suppressed. The bold new targets announced by Mabuza underscore that for the country, ending the AIDS epidemic by 2022 is an achievable target. Setting new targets drives progress and promotes accountability, meaning that Mabuza has thrown down the gauntlet for all players in the country's HIV response to take up the responsibility to ensure that the new treatment targets are met, in the given timeframe.

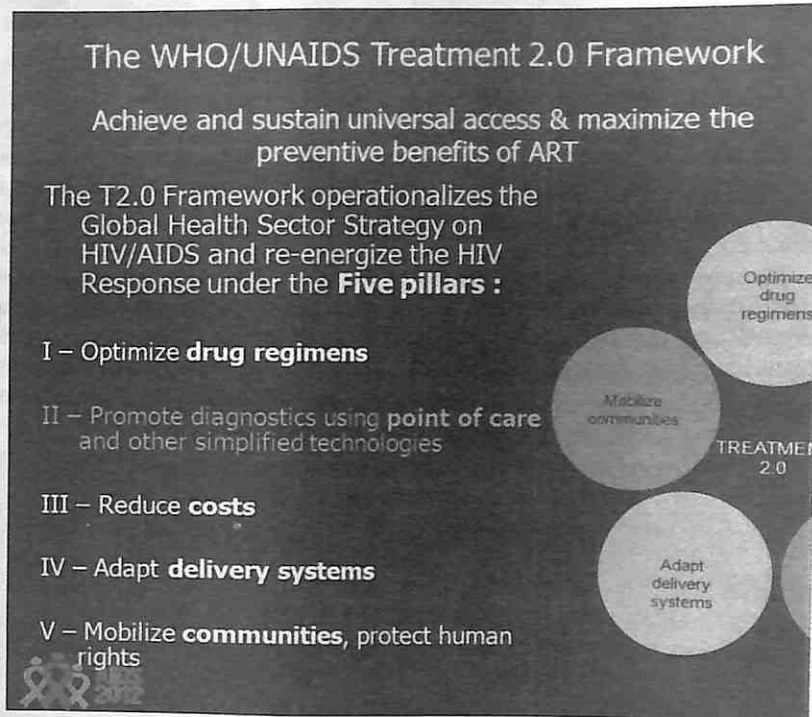
Importance of the new treatment targets

The primary purpose of antiretroviral therapy (ART) is to keep PLHIV in good health. ART is transformative for PLHIV and it enables them to regain their quality of life, return to work, enjoy their families and enjoy a future filled with hope. In addition to the positive impact upon the health of PLHIV, evidence such as that provided by the landmark, randomised controlled trial conducted in 2011, known as the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) 052, validated that early HIV treatment has a profound prevention benefit - that people with undetectable HIV in their blood do not transmit HIV sexually.

In Swaziland, where over 90 per cent of HIV transmission is through heterosexual activity, this consensus is very encouraging and challenges the HIV response to put in added effort for the attainment of a higher percentage of PLHIV on treatment that reach viral suppression. This consensus has resulted in the national ART programme shifting focus from just keeping PLHIV alive, to ensuring that a majority of PLHIV on ART are provided with correct medicines to reduce the amount of HIV in their blood to levels that are undetectable by a standard laboratory.

Importance of viral suppression

The term 'viral load' refers to the number of copies of HIV per milli-



liter of blood or simply, the amount of virus in the blood. In terms of HIV, viral suppression is defined as literally suppressing or reducing the function and replication of HIV such that the level of the circulating virus in the blood remain quite low or undetectable. However, when test results indicate that HIV levels in the blood are undetectable, it is not the same as being told you have been cured of the virus. There is currently no known cure for HIV. HIV can mutate when a single drug is used, therefore to attain viral suppression, there is need all the medical practitioner to prescribe the correct combination antiretroviral therapy. It is more difficult for HIV to become drug-resistant in the presence of a multi-drug regimen - which is true even if the drugs are contained in a single pill. But it is possible for a person to become resistant to drugs as they progress with disease and as well because of poor adherence to medicines.

In PLHIV, the CD4 test measure show well the immune system - the body's natural defense system against pathogens, infections and illnesses - is working. Blood viral load is monitored as part of routine clinical care for PLHIV to track HIV disease progression and determine whether the ARVs are working, once started. A low viral load indicates that treatment

is effective, while a high viral load indicates that either the medication is not being taken properly or that the virus is becoming resistant to current medication. Importantly, a high viral load will usually - but not always - mean a low CD4 count (the number of CD4 T lymphocytes (VD4 cells) in a sample of blood) and vice-versa. A high viral load results in higher probability of transmission of HIV to an uninfected partner or infant during pregnancy or breastfeeding.

In as much as viral load monitoring is important for all PLHIV on ART, it is more valuable to HIV-positive pregnant and lactating women for whom there are added benefits in terms of the prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV. Continuous viral load testing is also important to the prevention of mother-to-child transmission services because HIV-related infant mortality peaks at 2-3 months of age, hence early diagnosis and immediate treatment are imperative to prevent illness and death.

Need to scale-up viral load testing

In the country, CD4 count testing is now well established so the challenge remains that of expanding routine viral load tests as it is the next game changer to improve treatment quality and individual health out-

comes for PLHIV. This will potentially reduce resources needed for costly second and third line HIV medicines as viral load testing is the gold standard for HIV treatment monitoring and is superior in diagnosing treatment failure. Though, enhanced adherence counseling (EAC) based on careful assessment of all the factors that may be impeding a client's ability to take ART regularly is an effective way of dealing with those PLHIV that do not reach viral suppression, there may be need for the country to invest in viral resistance testing.

Currently, viral load is measured every six (6) months after ART initiation to confirm virological response to ART. After two consecutive suppressed viral load results, six months apart, viral load monitoring is done annually. An undetectable viral load not only means that the PLHIV can live a healthier and longer life but has positive connotations for HIV prevention.

The country is well on its way to reaching the WHO strategy's central goal of "Ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030, within the context of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages", eight (8) years earlier than the world as set in our Vision 2022. Therefore, as the development of the next national strategic framework approaches its final stages, it is hoped that it will also provide for the needs of the PLHIV who reach viral suppression but still contend with other intense challenges such as non-communicable diseases, depression, anxiety, financial and economic stress (including poverty), and experiences of or apprehension about HIV-related stigma and discrimination.

For the PLHIV who are on treatment but present with unsuppressed viral load results, the new national strategic framework needs to look at means to address the social needs which may be impacting treatment outcomes negatively. Prevention through stronger condom programming is also essential to ensure sexual and reproductive health of PLHIV to benefit their sexual partners who are both negative and positive.

MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH: WHY IT REALLY MATTERS

● The first PSYCHTalk will be held on the 6th of April 6pm at Sibane Hotel. Tickets are available at E150 from the Hive Mbabane, (opposite Woolworths). The theme is: Men's Mental Health – Towards healthy masculinities



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Mthetho Tshemese, a South African Clinical Psychologist, artist and activist will be the keynote speaker at the PSYCHTalk to be held at Sibane Hotel.

predicament. In a country where the HIV prevalence is amongst the highest in the world, men's poor health seeking behaviours are proving counterproductive for HIV/AIDS prevention efforts.

Over the last decade, Swaziland has made great efforts to turn around its epidemic with improved access to HIV testing services and the provision of free antiretroviral treatment to those who need it. Dr Nkululeko Dube, the Medical Director at AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) Swaziland lamented the fact that that men were still reluctant to access HIV testing facilities (relying on their partner's results as a proxy for their own status), and that clinics around the country were enrolling and retaining more women than men for HIV treatment and care.

Moreover, more men presented with adherence issues in terms of treatment than women do and the HIV infection rate among men in Swaziland remains unabated. The issue of men's poor health seeking behaviour cannot be limited to issues of HIV/AIDS and general medical care only but to mental healthcare as well.

Men generally do not seek mental health services more especially psychotherapy and counselling.

Being the leaders in households, workplaces and at overall community level, men withstand great amounts of pressure and stressors that contribute to mental health issues. Seeking help for men is perceived as "being weak" and "not being in control of your problems" and all other toxic perceptions.

This has translated to more men being admitted to the Swaziland National Psychiatric Hospital and there are increased cases of suicide amongst men. On a more positive note, Mdluli mentioned that more people are warming up to the idea of going to see a professional to cope with trauma or life difficulties compared to previous years. However,

limited resources make this service that is critical to human and social development quite inaccessible to a large portion of the Swazi population.

This often means that often the cases that access help are quite critical. Surely issues of mental health need to go beyond damage control and responding to crises.

If our society is to benefit, we need to go beyond that.

Part of what needs to happen is raising awareness, and starting to have healthy conversations with one another. So we can think about ourselves and who we are, what inform the status quo and we can ask questions; and as such we will become aware of our own bias and blind spots. The PSYCHTalk series by Kushamiri Human Capital and Wellness seeks to create a platform where part of these difficult but enlightening conversations around constructions of masculinity and their effects of men's health seeking behaviour, nation building and social cohesion can be discussed.

Mdluli extended an open invitation to the public and said the event aimed to provide a safe space where people could learn, reflect, question and hopefully consider a different way of thinking and doing where need be. The first PSYCHTalk will be held on the 6th of April, 6pm at Sibane Hotel. Tickets are available at E150 from the Hive Mbabane, (opposite Woolworths). The theme is: Men's Mental Health – Towards healthy masculinities. "Because men's mental health matters to all of us and men should be comfortable enough to express all their humanity, strengths and vulnerabilities. They are parents, partners, brothers and leaders," she added. The keynote speaker will be Mthetho Tshemese, a South African Clinical Psychologist, artist and activist who has a particular interest in the areas of masculinity and the provision of psychological services to marginalised societies.

MBABANE - "Any society that does not take the time to think about itself, to critically reflect on where it is, may struggle to grow, learn, and transcend its own limitations."

This is the assertion of Senele Mdluli, Counselling Psychologist, who is convinced it is imperative to consider a new national discourse in our way of thinking, behaving and seeing things differently.

There is barely a week that passes in the country where a news story or headline does not make reference to a case of sexual or gender based violence (GBV), an attempted or completed suicide, homicide, substance abuse leading to violent behaviour or a child being abused by someone who is supposed to take care of them.

With all this information being given almost daily, Mdluli wondered if as a nation we were really listening to what it is saying to us and if we heard the message, what were we going to do about what it is telling us.

This then raises more questions as to whether we are able to cope, adapt in a healthy manner to life challenges and external stressors and how we also choose to express our frustrations and anger.

Is it made appropriately or is it carried out in a way that becomes harmful to others and our own selves? We act on

this as a function of our unique personalities, what we see around and our given social identities.

From a mental health perspective it then becomes important to address these issues. To deal with the psychological impact of how certain external events may affect us and how we respond to them. It is therefore critical to address this at curative and preventative levels.

The challenges in our society today are the manifestations of a deeper problem, wherein discussion on mental health is still at an elementary level or not at a topic of choice in many a conversation.

There is a growing body of research worldwide to suggest that men are less likely than women to seek help from health professionals for diverse problems such as depression, substance abuse,

physical ailments, and sexual reproductive health services including HIV.

Zanele Dube, Clinical Psychologist, explained that this has steadfastly resulted in a generally lower life expectancy and higher death rates for men compared to women, as many of the health problems that men face could be prevented or even cured with early medical intervention or a change in lifestyle. "Boys who were brought up to believe that "real men don't get sick" are more likely to perceive themselves as invulnerable to illness or risk". She added that the narratives about health being "women's business" lead to expectations that men would not seek help early on, and would be strong, stoical and often silent in matters relating to health and well-being.

Swaziland is no exception to this



Women and Law

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YINYANDZALEYO

Inyandzaleyo... Inyandzaleyo our women and children are perishing.

Women are dying at the hands of their loved ones, children are being abused by the people they trust the most. It is very heart-shattering to learn that reported cases of violence are rising. These include rape, murder and assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm amongst others. Violence against women and girls is a grave violation of human rights. It negatively affects women's general well-being and prevents women from fully participating in society.

As we are in the 16 days of activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, it's a time to startle action to end violence against women and girls around the world. Violence against women is the most shameful human rights violation, and as long as it continues, we cannot claim to be making real progress towards equality, development and peace.

This is a very serious issue, which is why we call upon all people, male and female to work together to eradicate this grave violation. The United Nations state that violence not only has negative consequences for women but also their families, the community and the country at large.

Gender-based violence is any act of violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats such as coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. In our local newspapers we always read about stories related to GBV.

People die at the hands of their loved ones; they are assaulted, their murdered and they are abused. Many women, victims of domestic violence, live in fear of pain and death. Some are isolated, often lacking in self-esteem. They may suffer depression and anxiety; some turn to drugs or alcohol and

attempt suicide. Even children have become victims, they are raped and their virginity taken away by the people they call family. As a country we need to stand against this form of violence. It has negative effects on the victims, on children, the society and the economy at large.

Intimate partner and/or sexual violence can lead to physical (Injuries, permanent disabilities), psychological (Depression, fear, low self-esteem), health (Alcohol and drug use, smoking, sexual risk taking), reproductive (Unwanted pregnancies, STIs) and somatic consequences (Urinary tract

infections, chronic pain syndrome). In fatal cases GBV can lead to fatal injuries, murder, homicide and suicide to name a few. It is for such reasons that we need to campaign for an end of violence against women. Children need to be taught about it, men need to be discouraged from abusing women, government needs to debate and pass the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill which is aimed at imposing stiffer sentences on perpetrators, and for society to advocate to make violence against women unacceptable. On the other note, violence against children also has to be addressed,

as the local theme for the 16 days of Activism against Gender Violence states 'LET US ALL UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN: YINYANDZALEYO'. Violence against children takes many forms and occurs in places that should be havens for children; whether school, community or at home. The painful part is that children experience violence most commonly from people who are part of their lives, and in most cases is often shrouded in secrecy dubbed (*TibiTendlu*). Violence against children is a human rights violation, and as Swazis we need to unite and stand against this violation. Let us say no to forced and underage marriage, let us stop hiding and report cases of violence and rape against children, let us protect our children at all costs. The traumatic impact of violence on children is very bad. Most survive (often at great physical and emotional cost), others do poorly at school, drop out or runaway, and some grow up to be violent as well. Violence against women and children is preventable if we all unite and work together. To achieve lasting change it is important to enact and enforce legislation that will deal with perpetrators. The Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill needs to be passed into law so it can be used to impose stiffer sentences on the perpetrators. Also, we need to raise more awareness about violence, people need to be able to identify and report it. Also, the community and families, have to unite and work together to stop violence by discouraging it and also empowering women.

STOP WOMEN ABUSE NOW



BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	4.7%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	9.75%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E12.80 per litre
Replacement	E12.85 per litre
Diesel	E12.00 per litre
Paraffin	E 8.95 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 21 March 2018

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	11.9400	11.9900
British Pound/SZL	16.7220	16.7920
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.8766	8.9129
Swiss France/SZL	12.5052	12.5510
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.2346	1.2518
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.1878	9.2299
Canadian Dollar/SZL	9.1684	9.2061
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	14.6420	14.7033
Gold	1,312.8100	
Oil	65.24	

For more information contact:
Standard Bank Global Markets Department
Direct Lines: +258 2404 1543 / 1544
Email: gmswaziland@stanbic.com



Standard Bank

SWAZI MTN HELPS REVAMP UNISWA'S PROGRAMMES

By Majaha Nkonyane

SWAZI MTN has taken the leading role in helping the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) revamp their programmes to produce relevant ones for the industry.

This was revealed during the graduate development forum that was held at Sibane Hotel.

"This programme is designed to positively influence training curriculum by industry as this plays a key role in the supply of top quality talent, not only for MTN but the country as a whole.

The second pillar of the programme is to help the business identify young Swazi talent from high schools, local and international tertiary institutions," Swazi MTN Chief Executive Officer Ambrose Dlamini said. The programme was welcomed by UNISWA as they highlighted the need to re-engineer their approach to be aligned with the times.

"There is no better time than this. As an institution, we felt it was time we strengthen the relationship with the industry. Where our students are absorbed, it is time we face reality and tackle all concerns and re-engineer our approach as an institution to be aligned with the times," Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Mgidi Dlamini said.

The programme is relying on the industry to give feedback to the institution where they are able to raise issues that students may be bringing from the university.

Meanwhile, IPM Deputy Presi-



EDUCATIONAL: Acting UNISWA Vice-Chancellor Professor Mgidi Dlamini addressing the gathering. (Courtesy pics)



CLARITY: IPM Deputy President Lomkhosi Magagula delivering her speech.

dent Lomkhosi Magagula noted that there was a point where the country in 2010 was short of mechanical engineers.

This was noted as a challenge that UNISWA could easily tackle through their engineering programme. "Tertiary institutions play a significant role in ensuring that the skills required by the industry are produced to meet the needs of the labour force with the advancement in technology and the emergence of critical and specialised skills in the labour force.

It is indeed prudent that universities establish strong links with the

industry so they can produce the skills required by our industries," she said.

The Swazi MTN CEO further noted that the programme is also meant to bring collaboration between the university and the corporate sector.

It was also noted that in countries where tertiary institutions are doing well, in terms of producing quality talent, there is a close partnership between training institutions and industry. Adding, Dlamini said academia and industry players need to forge deliberate and impactful

partnerships because of the inherent complimentary nature of their existence, and the value that this could potentially add to skills building and talent management. Furthermore, the relationship between training institutions and the industry was noted to be beneficial to students.

"The relations between training institutions and the industry provide the opportunity to establish links where graduates can practice in a real practical situation the skills that they have acquired during their training," Dlamini said.

SNAU keen to win despite challenges in sector

By Majaha Nkonyane

The Swaziland National Agricultural Union (SNAU) is keen on employing a more vibrant strategy despite numerous challenges that they face.

This was revealed by Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Emmanuel Mbingo who was speaking during the strategic plan review that was held at Bethel Court in Ezulwini.

"I cannot over emphasise on how agriculture is the main driver of our economy and contributes significantly in terms of income generation and employment creation directly and indirectly.

Farmers all over the world are facing numerous challenges such as decreasing land, climate change, and inadequate access to equipment, resources and others," he said.

The union was noted to be a good vehicle for donors and government to reach the smallholder farmers, which generally is a group that is difficult to reach and target for the donor as they usually live in sparsely populated rural areas with weak infrastructure.

In addition, the organisation's successes are associated with collaborations with different ministries and organisations offering sustainable livelihood options for farmers in the country.

In the past years, SNAU collaborated with the ministry of agriculture, SwaziBank, COSPE, and MFU.

Furthermore, it was also noted that national farmer organisations like SNAU are expected to play significant roles in the development of smallholder agriculture.

They can also mobilise local institutional support towards the implementation of government and donor assisted programme, such as facilitating service delivery, mobilisation of resources for farmers and collective marketing.

The union also has plans to revive their work in the next three years as they are planning to liaise with their stakeholders in order to get a clear

line of their operations. "We have engaged a consultant to help us in reviewing the strategy to have a neutral feedback before we start praising ourselves.

A number of stakeholders here have been consulted and a draft strategic plan has been developed with the help of a local consultant from November 2017," SNAU Executive Director Lwazi Mamba said. The strategic plan was further meant to guide implementation of programmes for the next three years (2019-2021).

It is also meant to give SNAU an important opportunity to mainstream and align its strategies and programmes towards agricultural development and vision 2022.

STA lures European market at ITB Berlin 2018

Stories by Majaha Nkonyane

THE Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) continues to push destination Swaziland in the European Market; with the latest trade show STA attended being the 52nd Internationale Tourismus-Börse Berlin (ITB Berlin).

ITB Berlin was held between March 7 and 11, in Germany, and was attended by over 10 000 exhibitors and over 100 000 consumers.

STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini described the fair as among the biggest in the world.

"ITB Berlin continues to grow each year, attracting high quality tourism buyers from all over the world.

Destinations like Swaziland have benefitted immensely over the years from attending these shows, as we have successfully reached out and influenced renowned international operators to package and sell Swaziland in their tour packages," said Dlamini.



PROMOTING SD: STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini.

Dlamini revealed that ITB Berlin presented the STA with an opportunity of meeting German and Dutch tour operators, most of whom were keen to send tours to Swaziland.

Dlamini said STA had a long term strategy for using the trade and consumer shows as a marketing platform.

He said these shows provided access to travel trade: tour operators and marketing agencies, who act as mediators between destinations and source markets in selling and brokering holiday deals.

"The value sum of attending these shows, apart from luring

potential tourists to visit Swaziland, is that STA gets an opportunity to see and learn from advanced competitors, while figuring out the latest trends in tourism marketing and development.

These shows also strengthen relationships with existing partners, and facilitate the forging of new partnerships towards the promotion of destination Swaziland," explained Dlamini.

Marketing paraphernalia was distributed by the STA to visitors to the Swaziland stand at the show. Also exhibiting at the stand was Foresters Arms Hotel.

STA MEETS INTERNATIONAL BUYERS AT ITB BERLIN

MEANWHILE, the STA successfully held scheduled meetings with several tourism buyers from the entire world.

These meetings were held at the just ended ITB Berlin show where over 10 000 exhibitors participated.

Some of the buyers that the STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini met included tour operators who were interested in selling Swaziland.

Some of them were already sending tours to Southern Africa, including Swaziland.

Dlamini met Warfare Travel's James Wilkinson, who already sells Swaziland packages. He was given the latest Swaziland Discovery brochures, among other resources.

He also met with Abacus Tours' Brigitte Combrink, a German operator.

Combrink revealed that her company was

already planning sending a group for an adventure tour in Swaziland later this year.

Dlamini also met George Randall from Worldwide Events – a London-based company, who expressed keenness to send groups to Swaziland for adventure, safari, and entertainment. He also met Fiona Anderson, also from the UK, who specialises in travel and lifestyle.

Most of these tour operators, according to Dlamini, were keen to explore Swaziland as a destination for their clients and collected as much information as possible to assess the viability of sending tours to Swaziland.

He said the diversity in the industry's product offering stood to benefit the country, as the country boasted of cultural, historical, adventure, leisure, luxury, and business tourism, among other broad and sub-type.



SWAZILAND FOR ADVENTURE: Foresters Arms Hotel's Ruth Buck (left) at the Swaziland stand at ITB Berlin 2018.

Newly designed ENACTUS SANU reflector cow belts on sale soon



COLUMN

ENACTUS SANU Faculty of Education students have a new and improved design for their reflector belts for cattle in a bid to reduce road accidents.

The students began working on the project to provide an innovative solution to reduce accidents caused by cattle on the road.

The belts now have an improved design and will go on sale from the first week of April at Khuba Traders in Manzini. As ENACTUS projects seek to empower people in need, the team engaged eight women from Ngculwini to develop reflector belts to warn oncoming traffic and provide a source of income as well.

"Statistics from the MVA Fund indicate that approximately 17 per cent of road accidents are caused by stray cattle and in the process property is damaged and even lives lost," said a student from ENACTUS about the reasoning for developing the reflector belts.

The team began working with the women last year to design the belts. After going through a pilot phase, the belts were redesigned to withstand chemicals that the cows come in contact with when going through the dip tank.

The belts are safe for the cattle to wear around their necks and are lined with a highly reflective material that can be seen from a 100 metre

distance at night, similar to the reflective material used on cyclers clothing.

The women are currently manufacturing the newly designed belts to prepare for their product launch at Khuba Traders next month.

"We view our reflector cow belts as a method of reducing road accidents and in the process preserving our wealth, property, and lives of Swazi people. We're excited to see this project progress to the next level in the country," said the ENACTUS students.

They noted that the belts will not only help farmers but also their cattle from being hit by cars, as well as protect drivers and passengers from getting injured, a win-win solution for everyone.

ENACTUS is an international organisation dedicated to inspiring students to improve the world through entrepreneurial action.

The ENACTUS experience transforms both the lives of the people the projects serve, and in turn, the lives of ENACTUS students as they develop into more effective, values-driven leaders.

ENACTUS Swaziland is proudly sponsored by the Government of Swaziland, Coca-Cola Swaziland, Harmony Gold Mining Company, Nedbank Swaziland, MTN Swaziland, Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC), Swazi Bank, Standard Bank, Swaziland Beverages (SB), Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC), Central Bank of Swaziland, Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA), SEDCO, DD Williamson, Swazi Observer, Letshego, Ngwenya Glass, Destiny Music, Strengths Inc, Swaziland Tourism Authority, Achieve Success, TransMagnific, Swaziland Posts & Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) and KPMG.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING INFORMATION SYSTEM

www.amis.co.sz



The Agricultural Marketing Information System of Swaziland is a hub for all important information in the Agribusiness sector. The information provided covers various value chain stakeholders in the Agriculture Sector.

TARGET AUDIENCE: All Agricultural Stakeholders (Students, retailers, farmers and researchers). AMIS provides relevant information on the National Agricultural business, and trends on International Markets.

REGISTER AND START USING THE SYSTEM ON
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PURPOSE

To provide relevant information to all Agricultural stakeholders for them to take informed decisions by analysing National Agricultural Statistics



ESTABLISHED BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Doc:14181

LABOUR WELCOMES MOYANE SUSPENSION

JOHANNESBURG - Trade unions broadly welcomed the suspension of South African Revenue Services (SARS) Commissioner Tom Moyane on Tuesday saying that his tenure directly affected the "economy and the people as a whole".

"This action was long overdue, after 42-months in which this vital public institution was captured by people milking the [state] of billions of Rand and dodging paying tax", the South African Federation of Trade Unions (SAFTU) said in a statement.

The Federation of Unions of South Africa (FEDUSA) commented that the revenue shortfall this financial year, estimated to be approximately R48bn, should be blamed on Moyane. "SARS's reputation as a world class tax collection deteriorated so severely under Moyane's watch to the point where the country started to suffer revenue shortfalls running into billions of Rand and tax morality took a nosedive."

Moyane was suspended in a scathing letter by President Cyril Ramaphosa on Tuesday night in which he accused him of bringing SARS and the entire

...calling it long overdue

SUSPENDED:
South African
Revenue
Services (SARS)
Commissioner
Tom Moyane.



government into disrepute.

In an earlier letter to Ramaphosa, Moyane threatened to take legal action against his suspension or dismissal, but by noon on Tuesday, he was yet

to confirm whether he'd proceed with this.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) welcomed Moyane being placed on suspension,

pending a disciplinary process. "This action is what we needed, we hope that this man knows he is dealing with the money of the people of South Africa" COSATU Deputy General Secretary Solly Phetoe commented to Fin24.

FEDUSA's General Secretary Dennis George said that the suspension of Moyane, "who is also widely seen as a close ally of former president Jacob Zuma and the notorious Gupta family" was long overdue. "It will pave the way for rebuilding SARS's tarnished image in the eyes of the South African public and restoring it to its former glory as one of the most trusted institutions of democracy in the country."

George gave the thumbs up to acting SARS Commissioner Mark Kingon, who has worked at the revenue agency for 34 years as he has "many years of experience".

Tax practitioners welcome 'veteran' Kingon as new acting SARS head SAFTU wished Kingon well for his "formidable task" and called on him to rehire numerous senior executives who were dismissed or resigned since Moyane was appointed commissioner in September 2014.

The federation said that it would continue to demand that government change its tax policy to shift the burden "from the poor to the rich" and reverse the looming increase to a 15 per cent Value Added Tax (VAT) rate, which will become effective on April. **Fin24**

Low investor confidence because of state capture

CAPE TOWN - The current low investor confidence in South Africa is due to matters like state capture and investors would want to know that something is being done about it, Minister of Tourism Derek Hanekom said on Tuesday.

He was the keynote speaker at an event hosted by Wesgro.

He said there are already indications of the issue of state capture is being dealt with, something which should have a positive impact on economic growth.

"There is a kind of new dawn happening, but it will require a huge effort from all of us to establish," he added.

The key element for the future success of the tourism industry, in his view, is collaboration between the private and public sector.

"If the private sector is doing well, it will help us with the marketing of our SA product and if we as the public sector do a good job, it will help the private sector too."

He pointed out that President Cyril Ramaphosa has already indicated that tourism has a very important role to play in SA's economic future, mainly due to its job creation potential.

It is estimated that about 1.5 million people are employed in SA's tourism industry - directly and indirectly. Currently tourism contributes about R150bn to SA's gross domestic product (GDP) and this could be doubled, in his view, if the right steps are taken.

At the same time, he cautioned that although the tourism sector is a rapid-growth sector, it can very quickly be negatively impacted by things like the current drought in the Western Cape or the listeriosis outbreak.

"We, therefore, have to be very careful about the messages we send out so we do not turn people away," he said.

The latest statistics he saw shows that in 2017 visitor numbers from the UK, SA's biggest source market - hardly grew at all. Even more alarming for him is that in January this year the number of tourists from China to SA was almost half that of January last year.

"We would have to analyse the reasons for this decrease and improve our tourism product and experience and market and sell it well," said Hanekom. "We also have to make it easy for people to come to our country. President Ramaphosa has already spoken about the regulatory barriers."

He regards the visa issue as very important and one of his priorities to address "if I am not kicked out again". In his view, the notion of implementing reciprocal visas in "retaliation" to other countries - like New Zealand - having implemented visas for South Africans, is "national stupidity" as one must rather do what is in the best interest of SA in attracting visitors.

"We will have robust discussions with the department of home affairs. We have a meeting set up with them already. Minister of Home Affairs Malusi Gigaba sees things differently now since he was minister of finance. I think he was able to look at the economy and know that unless we do all sorts of smart things, we will not get economic growth," said Hanekom.

Air access is another important aspect for Hanekom and he praised Wesgro's Cape Air Access for its great work in getting more direct flights to the Mother City. "We will also have further engagement with SAA." **Fin24**

Inquiry looms for VBS bank

JOHANNESBURG - A commission of inquiry and forensic investigation into the collapse of VBS Mutual Bank could be on the cards.

That's according to South African Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Kuben Naidoo who serves as the Registrar of Banks.

Naidoo assured Parliament that action would be taken against those found responsible for malfeasance or fraud.

He also admitted the challenges faced by VBS are as a result of its lack of liquidity, but promised that the curator was working to resolve this issue quickly. **eNCA**



Parly raises deeper concerns over Capitec

PARLIAMENT - Members of Parliament's standing committee on finance on Tuesday said they were not convinced by assurances that allegations against CAPITEC are unfounded and called for a proper investigation to protect the bank's clients.

The committee received a briefing from, among others, the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB's) Registrar of Banks Kuben Naidoo. He said allegations of questionable loan practices made against the bank by United States short seller Viceroy, including that it artificially rescheduled loans, had been found not to be correct.

"In our opinion the key allegations are not correct, CAPITEC is well regulated and they have adequate capital," Naidoo said, noting that the bank had a good cost-to-income ratio of 34 per cent.

Viceroy has deemed CAPITEC "uninvestable" and called for it to be placed under curator-



ship. The bank's CEO Gerrie Fourie hit back at Viceroy by challenging its research practices and accusing it of engaging with the bank through the media, instead of directly.

"They are playing the media game. We have asked them to engage with us," he said.

"On a regular basis, the regulators are going through our numbers so we are quite convinced we have nothing to hide."

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) have accused

the SARB of going easy on CAPITEC and rushing to place VSB Mutual Bank under curatorship. But Naidoo said the bank had failed because its management had repeatedly failed to heed the Reserve Bank's advice. It had told VSB in August last year to seek alternative liquidity contingency plans in the event of total municipality deposit outflow.

"Banks succeed or fail because of their own strategic decisions," he said. **African News Agency**

NUMSA to march against proposed new labour laws

JOHANNESBURG - The National Union of Metal Workers plans to use Human Rights Day to march against proposed new labour laws.

The labour department is considering making changes to the Labour Relations Act and Basic Conditions of Employment Act,

but NUMSA believes the proposed amendments will make it impossible for workers to go on strike.

The march will start at Mary Fitzgerald Square in Johannesburg, before heading to the labour department in Braamfontein, where workers will hand over a

memorandum.

The National Union of Metal Workers is rejecting government's proposed new labour laws.

The labour department is making changes to the Labour Relations Act and Basic Conditions of Employment Act.

eNCA

Moza debt proposal is a non-starter

LONDON - A group representing the holders of a Mozambique Eurobond earmarked for debt restructuring rejected a proposal tabled by Maputo at a meeting in London on Tuesday.

"This is a non-starter for the Eurobond holders," said Thomas Laryea at Cooke Robotham LLC, legal adviser to the Global Group of Mozambique Bondholders (GGBM). The GGBM says its members and bondholders supporting the group continue to hold over 80 per cent of the issue. **Reuters**

World News

BRIEFS

Suspect thought it was prank

SHAM ALAM - A lawyer says the Vietnamese woman accused of killing the North Korean leader's half-brother told police she realised she had been used to murder him after she was detained. Doan Thi Huong and co-defendant Siti Aisyah from Indonesia were charged with murder after Kim Jong Nam died at Kuala Lumpur's airport last year. They could face the death penalty if convicted, but not if they lacked intent to kill. Lawyer Hisyam Teh Poh Teik said Huong told police she didn't know the oily liquid given to her by a Korean man was VX nerve agent and she washed her hands after smearing Kim's face because the substance was smelly and uncomfortable. **AP**

Two wounded, shooter dead

WASHINGTON - A 17-year-old student armed with a handgun shot and critically wounded a female classmate at a Maryland high school on Tuesday, officials said, in an outburst of violence just days before a student-organised nationwide march for gun control. St. Mary's County Sheriff Tim Cameron said the assailant, identified as Austin Rollins, died of a gunshot wound after a school security officer "engaged" with him at Great Mills High School in southern Maryland. Cameron said the security officer fired a shot at Rollins, but it was not immediately clear if the officer struck the gunman or whether he had committed suicide. **AFP**

Investigators left baffled

AUSTIN/SCHERTZ - A parcel packed with nails and shrapnel blew up on Tuesday at a FedEx Corp centre near San Antonio, Texas, injuring a worker, before a second booby-trapped package was intercepted in Austin - the latest in a chain of bombings that have killed two people. The two FedEx bomb incidents hours apart on Tuesday morning brought to six the number of explosive devices - five of them detonated - that have come under investigation in Texas this month as the work of a suspected serial bomber. **Reuters**

Deaths of 39 confirmed

NEW DELHI - The bodies of 39 Indian construction workers kidnapped in Iraq in 2014 by the Islamic State (ISIS) group have been found in a mass grave, India's foreign minister said. Sushma Swaraj told the Upper House of Parliament the workers had been murdered by ISIS. Their bodies had been found in the grave in the village of Badush north-west of the city of Mosul and taken to a local organisation for DNA testing. "Yesterday they told us that 38 samples had matched. **AFP**

Courts violate minors' rights

JERUSALEM - Reform of Israel's Military Court system in the occupied West Bank has failed to stop "systematic violation" of Palestinian minors' rights, an Israeli NGO said. Human Rights group B'Tselem said that the 2009 launch of a designated Military Juvenile Court with the stated aim of "improving the protection of minors' rights" had failed to deliver. It said that introduction of the juvenile court rather resulted in only "technical changes (which) have not improved the protection of minors' rights". **AFP**

DONALD TRUMP CALLS PUTIN TO CONGRATULATE HIM ON RE-ELECTION

MOSCOW - US President Donald Trump called Russian President Vladimir Putin to congratulate him on his re-election on Tuesday and the leaders discussed arranging a possible bilateral meeting, the Kremlin and Trump said.

White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders confirmed that Trump spoke with Putin on Tuesday morning. She said a summary of the call would be released later.

The Kremlin said in a statement that the two presidents also spoke about the need to "coordinate efforts to limit the arms race" and closer cooperation on strategic stability and counter-terrorism.

"A special attention was given to considering the issue of a possible bilateral summit," the Kremlin statement said. In addition, Trump and Putin expressed satisfaction with the apparent easing of tensions over North Korea's weapons programme,



ALL THE BEST: US President Donald Trump called Russian President Vladimir Putin to congratulate him on his re-election.

according to the Kremlin.

Putin's spokesperson, Dmitry Peskov, was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying that the two leaders didn't discuss the poison-

ing of Russian ex-spy Sergei Skripal in Britain.

British officials have blamed the nerve agent attack on Skripal and his adult daughter on Russia. Russia

has denied the accusations.

Trump offered highlights from what he called a "very good call" with Putin. He said he wants to meet with Putin in the "not too distant future" to discuss the "arms race" between Russia and the US.

Trump said he also wants to discuss Ukraine, North Korea, and Syria with the Russian leader.

The Kremlin said Putin and Trump also discussed the Ukrainian crisis and the seven-year Syrian war, talked about expanding economic ties and discussed energy issues.

The presidents "agreed to develop further bilateral contacts, taking into account changes in the US State Department," the Kremlin statement said in a reference to Trump's decision to replace Secretary of State Rex Tillerson with CIA Director Mike Pompeo.

Moscow has repeatedly said it hoped for better ties with the US under Trump. **AP**

Zuckerberg asked to testify in UK

LONDON - A British parliamentary committee on Tuesday summoned Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg to answer questions as authorities stepped up efforts to determine if the personal data of social media users has been used improperly to influence elections.

The request comes amid allegations that a data mining firm based in the UK used information from more than 50 million Facebook accounts to help Donald Trump win the 2016 presidential election. The company, Cambridge Analytica, has denied wrongdoing.

However, the firm's board of directors announced on Tuesday evening that it had suspended CEO



SUMMONED: Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg.

Alexander Nix pending an independent investigation of his actions. Nix made comments to an undercover reporter for Britain's Channel 4 News about various unsavoury services Cambridge Analytica

provided its clients.

"In the view of the board, Mr. Nix's recent comments secretly recorded by Channel 4 and other allegations do not represent the values or operations of the firm and his suspension reflects the seriousness with which we view this violation," the board said in a statement posted on the firm's website.

Facebook also drew continued criticism for its alleged inaction to protect users' privacy. Earlier Tuesday, the Chairperson of the UK parliamentary media committee, Damian Collins, said his group has repeatedly asked Facebook how it uses data and that Facebook officials "have been misleading to the committee". **AP**

Russia's foreign minister threatens to retaliate against Britain

TOKYO, Japan - Russia's foreign minister threatened yesterday to retaliate against Britain for "anti-Russian measures", with the two countries at loggerheads over the poisoning of a spy in southern England.

Speaking after a meeting with Japanese counterpart Taro Kono, Sergey Viktorovich Lavrov said: "If the British government continues taking some anti-Russian measures, we will hit back under the principle of reciprocity." Lavrov urged the British government to "respond calmly" over the March 4 attack on former spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia, who remain in critical condition. Britain says only Russia had the capability, motive and intent to be behind the attack, which used the nerve agent Novichok reportedly developed by the former Soviet Union. Russian President Vladimir Putin has dismissed this as "nonsense".

Britain reacted by expelling 23 Russian diplomats and their families - around 80 people in total - and has also cut off high-level contacts. A spokesman for Prime Minister Theresa May said London was "actively considering" other measures. On Tuesday, the head of the OPCW chemical watchdog said it would take two to three weeks to complete laboratory analysis of samples taken from the poisoning. **AFP**

Iran denies Saudi claims of harbouring bin Laden's son

LONDON - Tehran denied on Tuesday allegations made by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman that Iran was harbouring Osama bin Laden's son and supporting him as the new leader of al Qaeda.

Decades-old animosity between Sunni Muslim kingdom of Saudi Arabia and revolutionary Shi'ite Iran has deepened in recent years as the two sides wage proxy wars

in the Middle East and beyond, including in Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Iran's murky and fluid relationship with al Qaeda has contributed to tensions with Riyadh, which previously accused Tehran of backing al Qaeda and sheltering its members.

Prince Mohammed told CBS in an interview that Iran was protecting al Qaeda operatives, including some of bin Laden's relatives.

"This includes the son of Osama bin Laden, the new leader of al Qaeda."

He lives in Iran and works out of Iran. He is supported by Iran," he said. Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi called crown prince's comments a "big lie". Hamza bin Laden was one of several bin Ladens who ended up in Iran after the September 11 attacks on New York in 2001.

Reuters

Focus on SA scene

Land must be **returned** to the landless - Mabuza

CAPE TOWN – Deputy President David Mabuza has told Parliament during his first question session in the National Assembly that land must be returned to the landless.

Mabuza took to the podium for his maiden outing in his new post in Parliament on Tuesday to answer six questions and their follow-ups in the House.

Responding to a question from NFP MP Munzoor Shaik-Emam, Mabuza said the EFF correctly identified economic freedom and emancipation as core problems. "This is the stress that our people are facing, that means we can no longer avoid these questions that are confronting ourselves. "If we want to survive as a nation, we can no longer

protect the status quo.

"Land must be given back to the rightful owners. Land is a means to help people survive." He said South Africans should take the journey together, but also said the country must heed recent calls made by President Cyril Ramaphosa.

"We are going to heed the call made by the president, that we don't seek to push other people away. We don't seek reverse discrimination in this case.

"But for those who have acquired this land, they must be aware that it's time to release it."

Parliament should find mechanisms to manage the process to review Section 25 of the Constitution for the benefit of the country, he said. *News24*



RETURN THE LAND: Deputy President David Mabuza.

More Ngcobo suspects abandon bail as charges added

NGCOBO - Six men appeared in the Ngcobo Magistrate's Court on Tuesday, in connection with the shooting of five police officers.

Five of the men, Lwandiso Phoswa, Zuko Makepula, Thulani Mrwetyana, Loyiso Buhlungu, and Mawande Jijingubo declined to apply for bail.

However, the State requested additional time to complete profiling the suspects. Ephraim Mancoba indicated that he would resume his bail application to bury his brothers. Three of his brothers, Thandazile, Xolisa and Philile were killed during a shootout with police.

The men are charged with conspiracy to commit robbery with aggravating circumstance along

with Banele Mancoba, Siphonathi Mafikwana, Nyameko Mhleli Gemi, Anelani Nobethe, and Luxolo Sixoli.

The State said it was going to add a charge of robbery against the men.

Phoswa, Makepula and Mrwetyana were arrested on Monday last week in Dutywa while Buhlungu was arrested on the same day in Mthatha. They were arrested by the Task team which is investigating the Ngcobo police killings.

Sixoli and Gemi were arrested by the Task team in Butterworth on Friday while Nobethe was arrested in Cape Town.

These arrests are in relation to a December 2017 robbery which occurred in Ngcobo.

African News Agency

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Division summary: Marketing - defining marketing and protecting the Standard Bank brand across our business; including specialist advice and activity for specific country and business unit needs.

Job Title: Officer, Corporate Communications & CSI
Reports to: Head, Marketing

Main Purpose of the Job

- To drive the delivery of the organization's internal & external communication strategy
- To enable the departments of the organization to deliver key communication to staff, customers and other stakeholders in a planned way.
- To develop and over-see implementation of a corporate social investment strategy based on the company's CSI policy, strategy and commitments towards the creation of a sustainable future

Key Responsibilities/Accountabilities

- Responsible for all communication initiatives for Standard Bank Swaziland (Internally and Externally)
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- Crisis management
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- High level of understanding of the financial services industry will be an added advantage
- Professional qualification in communications will be an added advantage
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Competencies

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- Generating ideas
- Articulating information
- Exploring possibilities
- Convincing people
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'Supra must go'

MAHIKENG – North West Premier Supra Mahumapelo must go, public servants from the provincial health department said on Tuesday.

Hundreds of National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (NEHAWU), the Democratic Nursing Organisation of SA (DENOSA) and the Health and Other Services Personnel Trade Union of SA (HOSPERSA) marched to the provincial legislature demanding that Mahumapelo must resign from his position as a premier within 14 days. In a memorandum, they said Mahumapelo ran a corruption-infested administration. Congress of SA Trade Unions (COSATU)

Deputy Secretary General Solly Phetoe said the workers have taken a resolution that Mahumapelo must go and said that COSATU supported them.

"We did not vote the (African National Congress) ANC to be oppressed by Supra, if he refuses to resign then President Cyril Ramaphosa must remove Supra. We have had enough of him.

Your days are numbered," he said. "We are not a faction, the reason we are here is due to issues affecting the workers..." Issues raised included companies that were awarded tenders under dubious circumstances. Phetoe blasted Mahumapelo for allegedly rent-

ing a crowd to disrupt the workers' protest. He said it could not be allowed that "hooligans" were used to disrupt events or marches where issues against corruption were raised. This was after a group of youngsters dressed in ANC Youth League (ANCYL) T-shirts wielding sticks, occupied the legislature precinct before the arrival of the NEHAWU-led march. They sang songs supporting Mahumapelo and flashed posters written; 'Hands off Supra' in the air. When the public servants arrived, the group attempted to block them at the entrance but where outnumbered by a sea of red T-shirts, the police managed to isolate the group and used smoke grenades to disperse them. *African News Agency*

'I'm sorry my brother'

CAPE TOWN – EFF Deputy President Floyd Shivambu apologised to *News24* journalist Adrian de Kock for a fracas on Tuesday on the parliamentary

precinct, even though he did not recognise the reporter who has laid an assault charge against him.

"I don't even know [what] he looks like," said Shivambu, when asked if he had anything to say to De Kock, as he entered the Marks Building, where the EFF's offices are.

"A h no, I'm sorry m y brother, if it's y o u .

APOLOGISES: EFF Deputy President Floyd Shivambu.

I'm sorry for the incident. I did not know that you are here.

"If you are offended I am unconditionally sorry. Is that clear?" said Shivambu as he left to enter the building.

De Kock said afterwards: "I accept the apology. But he did what he did.

"I decided to lay charges regardless. I had to shout to get some help."

The complaint with the police would stay in place, he said.

Earlier, Shivambu was caught on camera with his hand around De Kock's throat, while another man had his hands on De Kock and his camera.

De Kock said he went over to Shivambu to get a comment about Cape Town Mayor Patricia de Lille's disciplinary hearing when the scuffle started.

News24

Incredible torpedo speedboat that is part submarine, part Fighter jet

LONDON - Incredible footage has revealed the breathtaking stunts possible in the Seabreacher, a personal torpedo speed boat made out of old fighter jet parts.

The vehicles - which come styled as sharks, killer whales or dolphins - can leap waves in a single bound and carry two passengers underwater.

Prices for the watercraft, which are a combination of jet-ski, racing boat and submarine, vary from around \$80 000 (£56 000) to top-of-the-range models costing upwards of \$100 000 (£71 000).

Seabreachers, created by water sports fanatics Rob Innes and Dan Piazza, based in Redding, California are unlike conventional watercraft that only operate on a two dimensional plane. The Seabreacher operates more like an aircraft

● The vessel can carve left and right, jump over, dive under, and cut through surface waves

● The boats tear through the water at up to 50 mph (80 kmh) or dive below the surface at 25mph (40 kmh)

● Prices vary from around \$80 000 (£56 000) to top-of-the-range models upwards of \$100 000 (£71,000)

with full three axis of control - pitch, roll, and yaw. This allows the vessel to carve left and right, jump over, dive under, and cut through the waves.

It can stay two feet (0.5 metres) below the surface of the water for around 20 seconds at a time. Then, with a yank backwards on the controls, it can breach the surface with a stunning leap, shooting up to 12 feet

(3.5 metres) above the waves.

The latest model is even capable of 360 degree barrel rolls on the water.

Powered by a 230 to 260 horse power supercharged engine as standard, the speed boats tear through the waves at up to 50 mph (80 kmh) or dive below the surface at 25mph (40 kmh).

Daily Mail



LIKE A SHARK: Incredible footage has revealed the breathtaking stunts possible in the Seabreacher, a personal torpedo made out of old fighter jet parts



WAVE BRAKER: The Seabreacher operates more like an aircraft with full three axis of control - pitch, roll, and yaw.



NICE: The vehicles come styled as sharks, killer whales or dolphins.



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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CO., LLC (URC)

URC is a global organization dedicated to improving the quality of health care, social services, and health education worldwide. URC's mission is to provide innovative, evidence-based solutions to health and social challenges worldwide. In Swaziland, URC works with the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders to provide technical assistance for scaling up provision and access to comprehensive, integrated and decentralized HIV/TB services. URC is implementing the CDC-funded Strengthening Local capacity to deliver sustainable quality assured Universal coverage of clinical HIV/TB services in Lubombo region and provision of central level technical assistance to SNAP under PEPFAR. Please join us in carrying out our mission (<http://www.urc-chs.com>).

REGIONAL MONITORING & EVALUATION OFFICER

Hours: 40 hours a week
Location: Lubombo Field Office
Salary: Commensurate with required experience and qualifications
Reports to: Director Monitoring, Evaluation & DQA

Job Summary:

This position is responsible for coordinating data collection, data audits and synthesis of project data to inform improvement areas that are critical for attainment of the PEPFAR targets in Lubombo. The incumbent will be responsible for providing SI mentoring to facilities working with zonal data clerks, ensuring timely reporting of the regional clinical cascade indicators as required by the project team, providing innovative ways of presenting data to increase utilization by the improvement advisors and ensuring full implementation of the regional SOPs on data management for routine health data. The Regional M&E Officer will support the project reporting requirements to ensure project accountability to donors and timeliness in report submissions and maintain up to date monitoring data, build the capacity of zonal data clerks to improve site support and utilization of data.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Implement the Lubombo regional SOPs for routine health data management
- Lead the conduct of monthly facility DQAs in the Central zone
- Support facilities in the Central zone to develop action plans addressing identified DQA weaknesses
- Follow-up on internal Data Quality issues identified in CMIS, HMIS & APMR dashboards in the Central zone for corrective actions
- Work with Zonal Data clerks and Improvement Advisors to support data reviews during MDT meetings in Central zone
- Provide monthly data for the clinical cascade indicators in the project indicator tracker for the Central zone
- Synthesize monthly Central zone reports for the 90-90-90 cascade and provide feedback to Improvement Advisors and Nurse Managers
- Produce monthly performance graphs indicating progress towards meeting facility targets in the Central zone
- Providing supportive supervision to Data Clerks within the Central zone
- Support roll-out of CMIS in facilities within the Central zone and report on progress
- Monitor implementation of ReHSAR, SIMS and MDT quality improvement projects in the zone
- Provide support for data review forums including zonal collaborative learning sessions, ReHSAR and NaHSAR.
- Lead implementation of the RHMT-SI work-plan activities in the Central zone
- Ensure training records are collected from all facilities in the Central zone and submitted to regional SID for capturing
- Work with the Director M&E/DQA to monitor the project PMP and strengthen M&E systems for the project.
- Perform any other work-related duties and responsibilities that may be assigned by the supervisor

Minimum Qualifications, Skills and Attributes:

- Degree in social sciences, epidemiology or related field.
- Two years' relevant work in M&E with HIV/TB projects
- Excellent interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills (in English)
- Professional competency in MS Windows, outlook, Word, Excel, Access
- Excellent one to one and group communication /information presentation skills;
- Valid driving license;

Desired Qualifications:

- Post graduate certificate or diploma in Monitoring & Evaluation an added advantage
- Experience in training and capacity building in M&E mechanisms at various project levels
- Ability to manage conflicting priorities
- Goal oriented with ability to work under pressure, independently and with limited supervision
- Self-motivated, with good judgment and initiative, and the ability to work with others;

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER

Hours: 40 hours a week
Location: Mbabane
Salary: Commensurate with required experience and qualifications
Reports to: Human Resources & Administration Associate Director

Job Summary:

The HR Officer will work with the HR Associate Director in providing human resource and administrative support in the various human resource functions which include recruitment, selection and induction, staffing, training and development, performance management, staff wellness and employee counseling, compensation, employee benefits and services and employee relations.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Within delegated authority, the Human Resources Officer will be responsible for the following duties:

- Provides advice on interpretation and application of policies, rules and regulations
- Explaining and providing information on employee salary, benefits programs, pension and other entitlements
- Actively participate in the recruitment process and administration
- Plans and implements innovative and creative approaches/activities to improve employee health and well-being
- Develop training and development programs for staff
- Assist in the administration of the performance management system
- Manage leave trackers and leave schedule and ensure flow of communication to relevant officers and managers
- Conduct and or assist with any employee disciplinary action as required
- Manage the URC time and effort system for staff
- Enforce the buddy system to minimize interruption of work when officers go on leave
- Manage personnel records and other relevant information
- Knowledge of the URC staff regulations and rules, human resources policies, practices and procedures and apply them in an organizational setting

Minimum Qualifications, Skills and Attributes:

- University degree in human resources management
- A minimum of two years' experience in human resources management, administration or related area is required.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Conscientious and efficient in meeting commitments, observing deadlines and achieving results;
- Ability to communicate effectively and deliver output with accuracy in a timely manner.
- Knowledge of Swaziland Labour and Employment laws
- Attention to detail and customer service orientated.

To Apply:

For immediate consideration, please visit URC's Career Opportunities page at www.urc-chs.com/careers. You must upload your CV/Resumé and your Cover Letter where indicated. Also, please complete your application form and attach a completed USAID Form 1420 Contractor Employee Biographical Data Sheet as well or hand deliver to the URC offices at the Mbabane office Park, Building 1, 3rd floor, North Wing. If you are not contacted within 2 weeks of the closing date please consider your application unsuccessful. However, since we are active around the world in the field of public health, we may wish to retain your CV in our database for other/future opportunities, unless you direct us otherwise.

Closing Date: 28 March 2018

URC is proud to be an equal employment opportunity employer.

We value and seek diversity in our workforce.

BRIEFS

Moti doubles Zim investments

JOHANNESBURG - Moti Group is preparing to double its investments in Zimbabwe to \$500m after the removal of Robert Mugabe as president in November saw the government adopt a more open approach to foreign companies. Emmerson Mnangagwa, 75, who replaced Mugabe after the military briefly took control, has declared that "Zimbabwe is open for business" and has said he will ease the country's local ownership rules and re-engage lenders such as the International Monetary Fund. *News24*

Niger warned ahead abduction

ABUJA - Nigerian security forces were warned about the presence of Boko Haram fighters near the town of Dapchi, but failed to respond, allowing insurgents to kidnap 110 schoolgirls almost unharrassed, Amnesty International said.

The February 19 kidnapping of the girls, aged between 11 and 19, had echoes of the Islamist insurgency's abduction in 2014 of 276 students from the town of Chibok, which shot Nigeria's conflict with Boko Haram, now nine years old, into the global spotlight. It threatens to be a thorn in the side of President Muhammadu Buhari, whose 2015 electoral victory was built on criticism of his predecessor's failure to protect Nigerians, particularly in the wake of Chibok, and his promises to defeat Boko Haram. *Reuters*



Court orders Uber to cease operations

CAIRO - Egypt's Administrative Court issued a ruling on Tuesday stopping the operations of Uber and Careem, state media reported, although both ride-sharing apps said their services were not suspended.

The two services had sparked protests by taxi drivers who complained that their drivers were not required to pay the hefty fees to operate transportation vehicles. *AFP*

Zambia uncovers tax scam

LUSAKA - Zambia's tax agency said on Tuesday it had uncovered \$8 billion tax scam at an unspecified "prominent mining company", nearly double the total amount the country collected in taxes last year.

The Zambian Revenue Authority (ZRA) said in a statement it had issued a preliminary tax assessment of 76.5 billion Zambian Kwacha (\$8.04 billion) to the company for classifying imported goods as mining machinery, which attract no custom duty. *African News Agency*

Tainted food outbreak threatens African nations

JOHANNESBURG - A deadly outbreak linked to tainted food in South Africa is now threatening other African nations, with neighbouring Namibia reporting a confirmed case that might be connected, the World Health Organisation said.

In a statement, WHO said it has reached out to 16 countries to help with preparedness and response to the listeriosis outbreak that has killed nearly 200 people since January 2017. *AP*



Kenya's ruling party reportedly hired firm linked to data breach

NAIROBI - Kenya's ruling Jubilee party said on Tuesday it had paid for "branding" in the 2017 presidential election from SCL, affiliate of consultancy Cambridge Analytica, which is at the centre of an election manipulation scandal involving Facebook.

Best known for helping Donald Trump's US presidential bid in 2016, the London-based consultancy also ran the campaigns of Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta in the 2013 and 2017 elections, according to video secretly recorded and broadcast by Britain's Channel 4 News on Monday.

Commenting on the role of SCL in last year's Kenyan election, an ethnically divisive affair in which about 100 people were killed, Jubilee Vice-Chairman David Murathe said: "They were basically branding and all that but not directly."

It was the first public comment by a senior official of Kenya's ruling party on SCL's involvement in



IMPLICATED: Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta.

the election.

Murathe did not elaborate on the precise nature of the work done by SCL or Cambridge Analytica in Kenya.

Kenyatta came to power in 2013

and won a second and final term last August, defeating opposition leader Raila Odinga by 1.4 million votes. The Supreme Court nullified the vote citing procedural irregularities and ordered a second elec-

tion that Kenyatta also won.

In Channel 4 News's "sting operation", Mark Turnbull, a Managing Director for Cambridge Analytica and SCL Elections, bragged about the extent of his firms' influence in the Kenyan elections in both 2013 and 2017.

Cambridge Analytica denied all allegations made by Channel 4 News, saying it was humouring the undercover reporters and trying to gauge their motives by actively encouraging them "to tease out any unethical or illegal intentions".

The consultancy is currently facing a search of its London office and questions from US state authorities after a whistleblower revealed it had harvested the private information of millions of people to support Trump's presidential bid.

Kenya's opposition reacted angrily to the reports of Cambridge Analytica's involvement in the Kenyan elections.

Reuters

Repression under the Sisi regime - Egypt

CAIRO - The army's ouster of Egypt's first democratically elected civilian President, Mohamed Morsi, in July 2013 led to a general clampdown under the regime of Abdel Fattah al-Sisi.

Here is a summary.

- Carnage in Cairo -

On August 14, 2013 security forces move in on two pro-Morsi protest camps where thousands of Islamists have for six weeks been demanding the reinstatement of the ousted ex-leader, who hails from the Muslim Brotherhood.

Pro-Morsi mobs attacked police stations and Christian properties across the country and more than 40 policemen

were killed.

At least 700 people died in what Human Rights Watch calls "one of the largest killings of demonstrators in a single day in recent history" in Egypt.

A day later the police are authorised to fire live bullets on demonstrators who attack public buildings and security forces.

According to Amnesty International, in seven months at least 1 400 people are killed in the crackdown on protests.

Tens of thousands of Morsi's supporters are arrested.

- Mass trials of Morsi supporters -

In March 2014 mass trials sentence 529 people to death

on charges including murder and attempted murder of police. The United Nations denounces the mass sentencing as a breach of international human rights law.

In April another 683 suspected supporters of Morsi are sentenced to death, including the head of the Muslim Brotherhood, Mohamed Badie.

Hundreds of sentences are later commuted to life in prison.

In June 2015 a court upholds a death sentence handed to Morsi for plotting jailbreaks and attacks on police during the 2011 uprising that unseated longtime president Hosni Mubarak.

AFP

At least 5 000 soldiers deployed to Zim rural areas

HARARE - A former army brigadier, who quit Zimbabwe's ZANU-PF ruling party early this month to protest the removal of former leader Robert Mugabe, has reportedly claimed that at least 5 000 soldiers have been deployed to rural areas ahead of elections in July.

According to Daily News, Ambrose Mutinhiri, who recently formed a new political outfit, the National Patriotic Front (NPF), said this in his com-

munique to the visiting SADC head of delegation, Leshele Thohlane.

Mutinhiri alleged that the number of military personnel, who were deployed in rural areas during the military intervention last year had dramatically increased, thus, raising fears of intimidation and an unfair election.

"The army confirms that by November 15, 2017, it had put over 2 000 of its officers and embedded them in every com-

munity in Zimbabwe, not just for the coup but for the forthcoming election. The number is now over 5 000. Zimbabwe cannot hold free, fair and credible election with over 5 000 army officers embedded in every village and street communities across the country," Mutinhiri was quoted as saying.

He urged SADC to deploy military personnel at every voting station to ensure the "election would not be stolen".

News24

Zambia bans Cabinet minister

LUSAKA - Zambia's Parliament suspended a Cabinet minister on Tuesday from its proceedings for one month for slapping a fellow lawmaker within Parliament grounds.

Verbal abuse is common among members of Parliament in Zambia but physical assault is rare. Speaker of the National Assembly Patrick Matibini said Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo was suspended for slapping outspoken lawmaker Chishimba Kambwili last October.

Kambwili has repeatedly accused government officials of corruption since his dismissal as information and broadcasting minister in November 2016.

The state denies the allegations.

Kambwili complained after the incident. He claimed Lusambo had slapped him twice after accusing him of making false accusations against the government.

Reuters



REVEALED: Speaker of the National Assembly Patrick Matibini.



WITH: Simon Shabangu

CHURCH NEWS



DO NOT FOLLOW MIRACLES BUT THE WORD - CHALIYUMBA

REVEREND David Chaliyumba, the founder of Destiny International Christian Centre, urged Christians not to follow miracles but the Word of God because through it, miracles happen.

He said this when officially opening The Barrier Breakers Conference which started off on a high note at Greyhound Hall on Monday evening. The ongoing conference is hosted by Reverend Chaliyumba and his wife Pastor Bonile.

In his welcoming remarks he told the gathering that 2018 was a year where all barriers must be broken since it is also a double jubilee celebration for the country. He said people must pay attention to the Word of God instead of following miracles because miracles only come through the Word of God. He said the Bible clearly stated that

in the beginning there was the Word. The man of God quoted John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:16.

"This does not mean that there are no miracles, because even Jesus performed miracles which only came through the Word. Anyone can perform miracles just like it happened during the time of Moses when he went to rescue the children of Israel. They also had the miracles from the black magic but real miracles come after the Word" he said.

He said the conference was the right platform where people would have an opportunity to hear God speak through the powerful ministers of God who are speakers at the conference. Apostle Justice kicked off the conference in a special way as he also spoke the Word to the



HEAR THE WORD: Reverend David Chaliyumba among congregants as they listened to the sermon delivered by Bishop Chucks at the ongoing Barrier Breakers Conference. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

brethren. On Tuesday the platform was taken by Bishop Chucks, who was also the speaker last night.

"We still have Reverend Advocate Percy Mngomezulu who will close the conference on Sunday with a powerful message. Tonight we have

Bishop Alex Mwani who is also expected to share a powerful message to the people. I invite people to come in their numbers and join us because this is not for our congregants but all who believe in the Word of God" Chaliyumba added.

Scripture Union commemorates 50 years, hosts youth camp

OVER 500 young people from all schools around the country are expected to converge at Franson Christian High School in the Shiselweni region for the 2018 Scripture Union National Youth Camp.

The camp themed 'Empowered to Prosper' starts on April 20-22 and will be graced by a number of ministers of the Word of God and gospel artists. The guest speaker for the event will be Pastor Noah Mamba from Ngwane Park F.E.A.

The event coordinator, Nombulelo Nyawo, said this would be a big event as they would also be commemorating 50 years this year. She said the camps objective was to equip the youth with knowledge and strategies for financial and academic achievements.

She said they would engage in a number of activities which include

morning Bible engagement, Bible quiz competition, preaching and teaching of the Word and life skills. "We will also have an exposition through a movie, small group reflections talent shows and games," she said.

She said registration is E80 inclusive of meals, boarding and conferencing.

"We also encourage all schools to make a camp contribution of E200 per school to be sent through MTN Mobile Money at 7691 3392. There will be prize incentives for all schools that bring camp contributions. Campers are requested to bring own serving utensils such as plates, spoons and cups. You are urged to confirm participation by April 15 by contacting Scripture Union office at 7668 5065 or 2404 2846, e-mail: suswazi-land@gmail.com" she noted.

Apostle Justice hosts Dominion Gathering

APOSTLE Justice and Pastor Zandile Dlamini of Worship Centre will host four international speakers during the gathering dubbed 'Dominion through Calvary Gathering' starting next week Wednesday until Sunday.

The services will be graced by the likes of Prophet Major Israel from Ghana, Pastor Holymike from South Africa, Prophetess Lungile Thela from South Africa and Pastor Rodney Chipoyera from Zimbabwe.

The man of the house Apostle Justice will also minister to the gathering during one of the sessions.

Apostle Justice invited brethren to come in their numbers and be



HOST: Apostle Justice Dlamini.

part of the services which will surely change their lives. He said the ministers of the Word of God lined up for the services were anointed man of God who will not leave those present the same.

MBABANE ALLIANCE CHURCH

Church services

Mondays
Prayer 6.00pm-7.30pm

Thursdays
Bible Exposition 6.00pm-7.30pm

Fridays
Youth 6.00pm-7.30pm

Saturday
Women 2.00pm-3.30pm

Sundays
English Service 8.30am-10.30am
Siswati Service 11.00am-1.00pm

Children's Ministry 8.30am-10.30am, 11.00am, 1.00pm

Men-Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month 6.00pm-7.30pm

Single Parents-Every 1st Saturday of the month 2.00pm-3.30pm

Contacts 2404 0979

FAITH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

God Can Still Do It Again with Apostle Jeremiah

Venue
Ngwane Park Manzini, Faith Premises

Sundays 11.30am.
In spite of your past, you shall smile again.

Place of miracles where the blind see, lame walk, sick healed, jobless find job, deliverance happens, its your moment to grasp it.

CONTACTS
7671 0029/7631 4007.
Come one come all

CHURCH OF GOD

CHOOSE GENERATION OF JESUS CHRIST

JOIN US ON OUR THURSDAY SERVICES

17:30 HRS - 19:30 HRS

CONTACT:
7659 1921 / 7825 8913

CHUMANA BUILDING UPSTAIRS
(NEXT TO FAMILY CARE CLINIC - MBABANE)

Yonder Worship Centre

with Apostle Bakhe and Mrs. Nokwanda Dlamini

Sundays: 10am-12pm

Venue: Woodlands, Ezulwini

GROWING FAITH Ministries International

Mondays:
Prayer & Transformation 6-8pm

Tuesdays:
Transformation Class at Syney Williams in Manzini 6:30-8pm

Fridays:
Breakthrough Service 6-8pm

Sundays:
Prayer 9am

Main Service 10am - 1pm

(Lobamba, Esitjeni on you way to Mliwane)

JUBILEE WORSHIP HOUSE INTERNATIONAL

THEME:
A Place Where We Celebrate God's Intervention

Church services:

Fridays
Youth summit 6pm - 8pm

Saturdays
Prayer 6pm - 8pm

Sundays
Main Service 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
KaShaliethendeni next to Mtn tower (Emkhweni)

God is changing changers to change the world

Contact: 76158475

GOD'S GLORY ABLAZE CHURCH (NHLANGANO MATHEDELE)

Services

Mondays
6pm-7pm home calls

Wednesdays 6pm-7.30pm

Fridays 6pm-7.30pm

Sundays
Morning prayer 5.45am-6.30am
Main service 10.00am-1.00pm

Contact
76638622/76471717
Host: Pastor N.T Dlamini

ZAKHELE FREE EVANGELICAL ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY English service @9:00am - 10:45am

Siswati Service @11:00am - 1:00pm

Venue:
Zakhele, Nkambule street, Manzini

BY: Rev Msibi

Contacts:
2505 6419 / 7650 3140

VERSE OF THE DAY

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. - John 16:33

MBABANE FREE EVANGELICAL ASSEMBLIES

Rev. Dr. A. M. B & Pastor T. Matsebula

Sunday English service
9.00 am - 10.30am

Main Service
10.45am - 1.00pm

Wednesdays Prayer
6.00pm - 7.30pm

Mondays Couples 6.00pm - 7.30pm

Thursday Bible Study
6.00pm

Mbabane FEA
below Mbabane clinic,
Contacts
24045807/76572977
Email: mbabanefea@swazi.net

GOD IS ABLE

CHURCH SERVICE Times

SUNDAY SERVICES
MBABANE THEATRE CLUB
10.00 AM-1.00 PM

MANZINI SATELLITE
2.30 PM-5.00 PM

CONTACT 7605 3160

CALL: 76774590 / 7605 3160

EVANGELICAL Church - Nhlango

"Distinctively Christian"

Every Sunday
English Service at 0830hrs - 0955hrs

Bible Study - 1000hrs - 1055hrs
Siswati Service - 1100hrs - 1300hrs

Every Monday Prayer:
1800hrs - 2000hrs

Last Tuesdays of the Month
Family Fellowship:
1800hrs - 2000hrs

Every Friday
Youth Services: 1800hrs - 2000hrs

Venue:
Evangelical Church Nhlango Church Hall, Opposite Nhlango Central Primary School

Contacts
22075 020/7603 6628

DIVINE Healing Ministries International

Manzini Branch:
Wednesdays- Prayer 6:00-7:30pm

Thursdays- Mid-week Service 6:30-8:00pm

Sundays- Teachings 9:30-10:30am

Main Service 10:30am - 1pm

Mbabane Branch:
Tuesdays - Prayer 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Sundays- Service 10am - 1pm



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SUN-EL, SPHECTACULA FOR SOLANI'S EASTER WEEKEND

Stories by Ayanda Dlamini

SOLANI'S Shisanyama will be on 'fire' during Easter weekend as South African kings of the weekend; DJ Sphectacula and Naives with 'Akanamali' hit maker Sun-EL Musician will perform there.

According to a statement issued to the Entertainment Desk, the kings of the weekend and Sun-EL Musician will be headlining the show slated for March 31, dubbed 'Easter Weekend Shutdown' alongside Mawat and Macbreezy.

Solani's Shisanyama Entertainment Director Mbekezeli Dlamini confirmed the news.

Dlamini said local spinners in the likes



COMING: DJ Sphectacula and Sun-EL Musician.

of Drum Rhythm, Deal Deal, Tibo DW, Twins of a Kind, Culolam, Dope Deep, Zulu D, Aya City, Bloss, Meugie and Rhythmic Soul, to mention a few, would also feature at the show.

Dlamini continued; "Ciyah and South

African born Lee-Ann will be the MCs of the show. Early bird tickets are available from today till Saturday costing E80 while the general tickets will be available from Sunday till next week Friday at E120.

...Sun-EL Musician confirms show

'AKANAMALI' hitmaker Sun-EL Musician confirmed that he will be in the country for the 'Easter Weekend Shutdown' at Solani's Shisanyama show slated for March 31.

The singer/producer confirmed the news on his Facebook page.

The post on his page read "Sun-EL Musician is officially coming to Swaziland for the 'Easter Weekend Shutdown' show, fans and fun lovers should save the date."

Sun-EL is a music producer and a DJ currently based in the heart of Johannesburg where his music career has progressed. His music has a distinctive sound and

is not just for South Africa but for the world as it can be appreciated in any language.

Akanamali is the first single on his EP, a well-textured African blend of vocals and beats.

Akanamali is not just a house track; it's a song that captures a story, a song that defines a stage in a young man's life and most of all it is a package of Sun-EL's musical experiences and influences.

Sun-EL has worked closely with Demor Skhosana for years.

Through his network, he met many people in the music industry and went

on to produce songs like 'Shela' for Bucie and has also remixed 'Get Over It'.

DJ Sphectacula is a South Africa radio and club DJ, voice artist and television personality best known as a DJ on Metro FM.

He is also the resident DJ and a judge on the SABC1 dance competition series 'Jam Alley Crew vs Crew'.

Born and raised in Durban, Sphectacula obtained an accounting degree from Wits University. While at varsity he worked for the campus radio.

He is also a judge on the SABC1 reality competition '1s and 2s'.

Smallz the comedian for Inselele Theatre Festival

By Lusito Tsela

SMALLZ the comedian will take part on the upcoming Inselele Theatre Festival in South



Africa.

The festival will be a three day event, taking place from June 15 to 17.

This was revealed by Smallz yesterday.

"I received a letter from the Youth Illusion Organisation of South Africa on Monday inviting me to the sixth annual Inselele Theatre Festival.

Having worked with them in 2016, I was ecstatic to be given the opportunity. I feel very honoured because it shows that whenever I am working, people take note of my talent and good work, hence I have been called to perform at the festival once again."

Part of the invitation letter read, "Two years ago, Smallz the comedian, his team and other theatre companies around KwaZulu Natal attended our annual festival and it was a great experience for us. The comedy you presented was amazing and enjoyable; hence we would like to invite you to our sixth annual festival."

Smallz added; "This will not be a paying show; however the organisation will cater for all logistics, in terms of accommodation and transport. Regardless that I will be performing for free, it is still a great platform for me to market the Swazi art industry."

The comedian, who is fast climbing the comedy ladder, is currently touring with South African comedians in the likes of comedienne Khanyisa Bunu, Tsepiso Nzayo, Pelepele Mchunu and Hurricane Percy, to mention a few, in a show dubbed 'Khanyisa Bunu and friends.' He further passed his gratitude to all the people who have played a pivotal role in ensuring that his future in comedy becomes a remarkable one.

"I thank the Almighty God for making everything possible. I know everyone has been praying for me to continue my quest of promoting my brand and Swazi comedy outside the country's borders."

The comedian ascended to fame when he won the LOL comedy competition and since then, he has been making a name for himself in the country and beyond Swaziland's borders.

ASTG SECOND PLAY SLATED FOR APRIL 5-7

Stories by Nomfundo Sifundza

THE Association of Swaziland Theatre Groups (ASTG), in collaboration with the Swaziland Theatre Club and Arterial Network Swaziland, intends bringing back 'The Change' play.

The first installment of the play was held last month but due to popular demand from theatre fanatics, the same play returns on April 5-7.

The play written by Maswati Mdluli tells a story of a Member of Parliament (MP) whom despite being a lawmaker is abusing his wife, to an extent that the wife feels helpless in a family which she loved. She realises that death is imminent and fortunately she finds solace in an incidence of a top secret, which she uses to stop the emotional and physical abuse and revenges, as a way to show her husband how painful it is to be physically, emotionally and sexually abused.

The man realises that it is really painful and it is when he realises the importance of dialogue in the family.

The play touches on elections,

traditional beliefs, child abuse, unequal power relations, breakdown of communication in a family institution and many more.

According to the writer of the play, the sole intention is to create awareness around gender based violence (GBV) in the country.

The writer was inspired by the fact that Swaziland and many developing countries experience many GBV cases.

There is growing evidence that GBV are high due to a number of reasons which include cultural norms and values that legitimise unequal power relations between men and women, stigma, silence around reporting violence, high level of poverty and limited efforts by the national government, civil society and development partners to address the problem which is due to numerous factors, including the lack of willingness to change attitudes, behaviour and practices which for a short term are benefiting the perpetrators.

ASTG, in collaboration with the Swaziland Theatre Club and Arterial Network Swaziland, are inviting the nation to come in numbers to watch the show, which is educational, entertaining and emotionally engaging.



ANOTHER SET: A scene from the play.

Afternoon showcase for pupils

PUPILS from Mbabane and surrounding areas are invited to attend the showcase for two days.

On April 6 at 14:30, the cast will be on stage doing what they know best to entertain and educate the pupils. They say catch them whilst they are still young and so ASTG, in collaboration with the Swaziland Theatre Club and Arterial Network,

aim to lure young lovers of theatre through these plays.

'The Change' play was written by Maswati Mdluli and is directed by Theminkosi Mthethwa.

The cast consists of Samkelo Dlamini, Lokuhle Dlamini, Lwazi Kunene, Bongile Dlamini and Sabatha Masuku. It will be E50 per night and tickets are available at the Swaziland Theatre Club.

Over 180 MTN Bushfire Fire Fly entrants

— Deadline on Sunday

By Ayanda Dlamini

SURVIVAL of the fittest, as over 180 aspiring musicians apply for the MTN Bushfire 2018 Fire stage.

This was revealed by MTN Bushfire Firefly Campaign Communications Specialist Penny Bouwer yesterday.

Bouwer mentioned that this year the response from interested candidates is overwhelming as last year they received less applicants compared to this year's campaign.

Bouwer further stated that the application process will be opened till Sunday 11:59 pm. "Aspiring artists can apply through our Facebook page by sending an inbox. Due to the traffic congestion coming with the applications on our email, we have resorted that applicants must apply through the social media page," she said. She continued, "This year the campaign will come with public voting which will give all the Top 20 an opportunity to have their music listened to by our followers who will vote for their favourite artist and give us the Top 10 finalists."



Our top 10 who will perform at the Sound Storm Finale will also receive performance fees and they will also be given the opportunity to have their music uploaded onto MTN CallerTunez."

The top 20 will be announced on March 30 and the voting period will be open from March 30 to April 13 via mobile SMS. The SMS number will be announced as soon as the voting lines are opened. The highest number of public votes will determine the Top 10 acts to perform at the finale. MTN Bushfire Firefly was created

to provide a music space that has no boundaries or limitations for the youth to share their music creativity, lyrical authenticity, freedom of expression through music and self-belief in their ability to make music worthy of global standards. Last year's Bushfire firefly saw Mandisa, Symphony and Lindz winning the competition and given their own stage called 'The Firefly Stage,' on which they performed the entire Bushfire weekend. As we speak, Mandisa and Symphony will be hosting their own shows this year.

Sibane Hotel to host Emaganu shutdown

By Lusito tsela

SIBANE Hotel will on April 28 shut down the buganu season in style.

The event will begin from 12 noon till late and will see performances from local artists who are yet to be confirmed.

This was revealed by Sibane Hotel Leisure Marketing Samu Ngwenya yesterday.

"The upcoming event will be called 'Emaganu Shutdown.' There will be a lot of artists from around the country as the hotel is sticking to the #loyaltolocal's phenomenon.

Fun lovers will also be treated to amazing culture dances amongst other things," she said.

The hotel is hosting the event in a quest to give fun lovers and people who are passionate about the traditional brew a memorable ending to the marula season.

Ngwenya said there will be a traditional buffet which will also

include *inhloko*.

"The traditional brew, (buganu) will be the order of the day and people should come with their camp chairs and gazebos since it will be an outside event marking the end of a great season of the traditional brew," she added.

Ngwenya said the event will not only cater for people who drink the traditional brew but people drink other flavours or do not drink at all.

"People who do not drink *buganu* can come with their own beer just to have fun at Sibane during the event. The event will also cater for children as there will be games for them to play which will keep them entertained for the duration of the event."

Tickets will be sold at E250 each, however, Ngwenya urged companies to buy tickets for their employees because there will be discounts for them.

Tickets will be out next week at Sibane Hotel and other outlets to be revealed.



REVEALED: Sibane Hotel Leisure Marketing Samu Ngwenya.



Story telling night at Alliance Française a success

By Lusito tsela

THE second event of the Francophonie celebration in the 2018 edition was a success.

On Tuesday night, Alliance Française hosted the story telling night at their premises in Mbabane.

The event slated for 6 pm saw performances from Bongive Dlamini, Emma Pecqueux, Majaha Nkonyane and Mphumelelo Fakudze.

The well attended event, dominated mostly by internationals

was basically to promote both Siswati and French languages.

Telling the stories in Siswati and English were Bongive Dlamini, Mphumelelo Fakudze and Majaha Nkonyane who got a great reaction after telling his stories while Emma Pecqueux told French stories.

Calling

The story telling night was short and brief as all the story tellers told two stories before calling it a night.

Alliance Française Mphumelelo Fakudze said he was happy with the turn up. "A lot of people

attended the story telling night, which was the second story telling event since 2014. The story telling was simply a preparation to the main Francophonie event which promotes the French language and cultural diversity. The Francophonie also promotes the Swazi culture throughout different events, hence there will be a high school event tomorrow," he said.

"Schools will celebrate the French and Siswati language through different performances including drama, poetry, music and more," he added.

DJ SABZ HERE MARCH 31

By Tenele Masango
Intern

SWAZI born but South African based DJ Sabz will bring his series of birthday celebrations to country of origin.

This was revealed by the spinner who said he would not have left out his home country in his series of celebrations as he turned a year older.

The event is slated for March 31 at the new hot and happening chill out spot Ron-Deh-Voo Pub and Grill located in Sdvwashini, Mbabane.

As if the headliner is not big enough, the deep house heavy weight brings

with him a line-up that has deep house fans everywhere speaking in tongues, the line up comes with a mixture of local and South African DJs such as; Trev The Japanese, Thabo Phalatse, June Jazzin, John the Baptist, Otto B, Political Activist 76, Katz, Mase and Motion, Cybos, Tibza, Jazzinsoul and Sooks.

"It is going to be a movie," promised DJ Sabz. Local deep house spinner Jazzinsoul added that having all these DJs on the same stage is more than a chill out session it is a dream come true for all house lovers everywhere.

The show which is presented by Self-Centric Music will cost E100 to witness, which is only payable at

the gate. All house heads need to report to the dance floor by 2pm, the partying will continue until late.

DJ Sabz real name Sabelo Kunene is a Swazi born DJ that is now based in Johannesburg, is signed under Katsaitis Music owned by house music legend DJ Christos.

Kunene has been making moves in the house scene in South Africa, he has been featured in shows such as the Deeper Shades of House, Ol'Tymers Sessions just to mention a few.

While fans of the 'deep' gear up for what seems to be the superbowl of their culture, local spinners urged fans to be safe on the night and remember it is time to invest money in the deep house music movement, create more chill out shows and educate the whole nation about the deep.

Lubombo presents battle of duo DJs

By Ayanda Dlamini

LUBOMBO will once again come alive on Saturday as Phelavele Entertainment will be hosting the 'Battle of Duo DJs'.

Phelavele Entertainment presents the battle of the country's well known duo spinners; Deep Motion and Freestyle battling against Twins of a kind this Saturday at Buckswood Lodge, Siteki.

This was revealed by Phelavele Entertainment Director Kish Dlamini yesterday.

"The spinners will be battling it out and we will see who will take the title of 'Best Duo spinners in Lubombo'. All spinners are well recognised in

the kingdom of Swaziland and have shared the stage with big acts locally and internationally," Dlamini said.

Both DJ duos are from different Lubombo entertainment stables. Twins of a kind are under Phelavele Entertainment and Deepmotin are managed by Kool Swazi Entertainment.

The show is set for Saturday starting at 6pm till the next morning.

"The battle will also feature other Lubombo spinners on the night in the likes of DJ Kish, Mazwelany Manzie, Jam Jam, Kwethu, Speech and GP to mention a few.

Entry fee is E30 before 10 pm and E50 after. We urge fun lovers to come early and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Lubombo Mountain at Buckswood Lodge," he said.

International
Celebrity News

Beyonce, Jay-Z Take Motorcycle ride through Jamaican streets

LOS ANGELES - Beyonce and Jay-Z just proved it again that their day at the office is way better than yours.

TMZ got shots of the couple doing a motorcycle tour through Kingston, Jamaica. Jay's at the wheel, while Bey's hanging on behind him, rocking pink boots and fishnet stockings.

TMZ was told they're shooting a video content that will be used for their upcoming *On the Run II* Tour.



GOOD LIFE:
Beyonce and Jay Z.

The neighbourhood they're cruising around is called Trenchtown, made famous by Bob Marley, who lived there and frequently sang about it.

TMZ was told they will be shooting at Tuff Gong, Bob Marley's home and studio. Jay was on Jamrock just last year when he recorded

with Damian Marley for the 4:44 album. **TMZ**

Khloe Kardashian gears up to give birth in Cleveland

LOS ANGELES - The countdown to another Kardashian baby is on! Mama-to-be Khloe

Kardashian is getting comfortable in Cleveland, where she's long planned to give birth to her first little one. According to a source, that's less than two weeks away. While she and beau Tristan Thompson await their daughter, there's still some last-minute work to be done before the baby's arrival.

"It was a mad rush to get everything to Cleveland and ready," an insider tells E! News. Not to worry. The expectant star is get-



ting help from her assistant as they tend to all of the final details like putting the diapers away and getting all of the baby gear working, the insider explained.

"Been decorating the baby nursery all day! We are so close!" Khloe tweeted last week. "I'm getting more and more anxious and excited with everyday." **Eonline**

GEARS UP:
Khloe
Kardashian.

Brandy skipped Ray J's Baby shower after Fight with Princess

LOS ANGELES - Ray J and Princess Love's baby shower this weekend was missing two key people, Ray's sister Brandy and their mom. The absence is the result of bad blood, TMZ has learned.

Sources told TMZ that Brandy and her mother, Sonja Norwood, skipped Ray J and PL's shower last Saturday after the women got into a war of words the day before. We're told Brandy and Sonja attended a gender reveal party last Friday for Ray and Princess' soon-to-be-born child, who is probably going to be a girl, this got into it with the mother-to-



BAD BLOOD: Ray J
Martin, Princess Love and
Brandy.

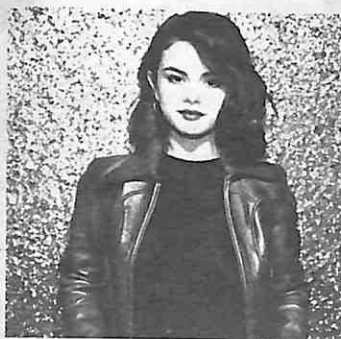
be over what they perceived to be online shade toward Ray J. Apparently, Princess Love had recently tweeted some cryptic messages about cheating and not staying in a relationship just because you have a baby with someone. **TMZ**

Selena Gomez takes a stand against the "Beauty Myth" Trap

LOS ANGELES - Selena Gomez is letting it all float away.

The 25-year-old songstress has been taking some time away in the land down under this week. Since arriving in Sydney, Australia on Monday, the star was spotted soaking up the sun on a yacht with a group of pals as they floated in the Sydney Harbour. "Selena was hugging her friends and very happy," a source told E! News. "They had a lot of laughs together and seem very close."

While photographers got a few shots of the famous visitor, Gomez chronicled the sail with a video she shared with her 134 million Instagram



TAKES STAND: Selena
Gomez.

followers.

In the clip, which was edited to look vintage, Gomez and her friends look carefree and jubilant as they enjoy the sights. **Eonline**

SA Celebrity News

Ayanda Thabethe's glam birthday lunch

JOHANNESBURG - Ayanda Thabethe's loved ones threw her the most special birthday lunch.

The TV personality celebrated her special day recently and was showered with love, pressies and loads of cake.

"God has done great things. Yesterday my birthday greeted me with rain and ended with sunshine much like my story. I count it all joy," Ayanda said.

Ayanda also thanked everyone for the effort and love that went into making her day so special!

Times LIVE



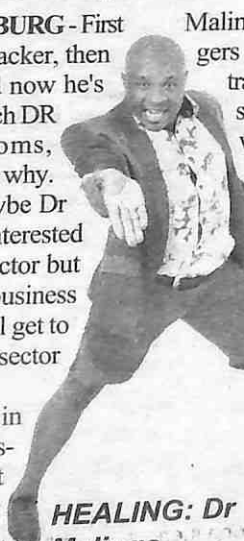
GLAM: Ayanda Thabethe.

Malinga's launching his 'kick it safe' condoms

JOHANNESBURG - First it was a car tracker, then the water and now he's looking to launch DR

Malinga condoms. TshisaLIVE found out why. Maybe, okay not maybe Dr Malinga isn't really interested in being a medical doctor but his next direction in business may be as close as he'll get to helping out the health sector in Mzansi.

The musician, who is in the healing music industry, told TshisaLIVE that his condom project has been in the works since 2015.



HEALING: Dr
Malinga.

Malinga, who already has his fingers in different pies such as car tracking and water distribution, said manufacturing condoms was a logical next step.

So why condoms? "Well, it's quite simple really. I am businessman and there's a need for condoms. I am helping people because I realised that people need a constant reminder to protect themselves against things like HIV."

TshisaLIVE

On a mission to better myself-Bricks

JOHANNESBURG -

Convicted rapist and kwaito artist Sipho 'Brickz' Ndlovu took to the stand at the Roodepoort Magistrate's Court on Tuesday afternoon to convince the Magistrate that he should be granted bail during the appeal of his conviction. Brickz was found guilty of raping a relative and was sentenced to 15 years in prison by Magistrate John Baloyi last year.

Last week his leave to appeal the conviction was granted by the South Gauteng High Court and on Tuesday his legal team brought a bail application pending the appeal.



ON A MISSION: Sipho
'Brickz' Ndlovu.

Brickz told the court that he understood there was a concern that he would abscond and could become a fugitive in another country.

TimesLIVE

Joyce Skefu, Nokuthula Ledwaba and Khanyi Mbau team up

JOHANNESBURG -

New religious TV drama series that sees four women sucked into the criminal underworld and forced to turn their stokvel into a money-laundering scheme features a star-studded cast. Titled *Abomama*, the show stars

Joyce Skefu, Nokuthula Ledwaba, Khanyi Mbau, Kenneth Nkosi and Don Mlangeni Nawa in the lead. Unathi Guma, Kgosi Mongake, Kgosi Mongake, Masechaba Mtolo, Leroy Gopal, Sekoati Tsubane, Gabriel Mini and Jerry Phele complete the cast. **Sunday World**



BIG GUNS: The Star-studded cast of 'Abomama'.

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

In an attempt to subdue tensions between Mandla and Pleasure, Mam'Ntuli catches Mandla in a lie. Siphokazi starts to plan action against an imagined evil. Duma receives help from an unlikely source.



FINDS HELP: Duma.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Kgothalo and Benjamin have had enough of Gabriel and decide to take drastic steps. Mmakgosi's arrival in HD disrupts Kgothalo's life at an inconvenient time. The Haines and the Matabanes reach an amicable resolution regarding the land claim.



**ENOUGH
IS
ENOUGH:**
Benjamin.

Muvhango

TODAY

James is faced with a hard decision. Gugu gives Rashaka and answer to his proposal. Ranthomeng receives shocking news about Thandaza.



SHOCKER:
Thandaza.

RUSTEM CITY

TODAY

Mampho exposes Rene on the radio. Bash confronts Bongi with the baby name tags. Cuba's phone troubles continue.



EXPOSED: Rene.

Side Effects
of Sagging
Your Pants

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19

Should you roll out the welcome mat or roll it up? Mercury turns retrograde in Aries and your domestic sector until April 15, cautioning against an open-door policy at Chateau Goat. Unaddressed issues can erupt with your relatives and roommates, causing major blowouts. Before you reserve that U-Haul, look for the opportunity. Could this be resolved with clearer house rules and agreements?



Aquarius January 20 – February 18

Say what?! Messenger Mercury delivers a bit of a double whammy today, as it turns retrograde in Aries and your third house of communication. For the next three weeks, anything you say, type or tweet could be misconstrued and potentially used against you. If it's the slightest bit questionable, don't share it publicly. Instead, utilise the upside of Mercury's backspin: deep dive into a writing project, learn how to produce your own podcast, get obsessed with crafting. (Macrame planters for everyone!)



Pisces February 19 – March 20

Be mindful with your money, Pisces. Today, as Mercury flips retrograde in your finance house, you could unearth an overdue bill or swipe your debit card only to discover that you've emptied your account. To avoid overdraft charges, parcel out cash for your daily expenses and practice delayed gratification. By the time Mercury corrects course on April 15, you might be surprised to see how much has stacked up in your savings account.



Aries March 21 – April 19

Prepare for the unexpected! Communication planet Mercury turns retrograde in Aries until April 15, flashing the caution signal for your shoot-from-the-hip sign. You may think you're expressing yourself clearly only to notice people staring at you with quizzical looks on their faces. Even your best-laid plans can get messed up through bizarre communication snafus.



Taurus April 20 – May 20

Give it a rest, Taurus—for serenity's sake. Progress could slow to a near standstill starting today as the messenger planet turns retrograde in Aries and your twelfth house of relaxation and closure until April 15. Relax. This isn't the end of the road—more like a much-needed rest stop.



Gemini May 21 – June 21

Give your social butterfly wings a rest, Gemini! Actually, you won't have to do anything—not with your galactic guardian, outgoing Mercury, turning retrograde in your group-activities house until April 15. With the communication planet spinning backward, you might



experience uncharacteristic conflict in your friendships. Or is it all that surprising?

Cancer June 22 – July 22

No one's the boss of you, Cancer, or, erm, are they? Authority issues could flare over the next few weeks as social Mercury turns retrograde in Aries and your tenth house of career. Be mindful of the pecking order between now and April 15. Stepping on the wrong Prada loafers could make an unwanted enemy out of someone you need on your team.



Leo July 23 – August 22

Today, Mercury, planet of communication and technology, goes retrograde in Aries and your ninth house of travel, study and expansion. While you're fired up to for growth and exploration, Mercury flashes a yellow light. Of course, if you've got a big trip on the books, you don't cancel! Just take extra precautions, like double-checking all your reservations, leaving early and buying trip insurance.



Virgo August 23 – September 22

As you freshen up for spring, put "emotional housekeeping" on that master-to-do list. Today, introspective Mercury plunges into a three-week retrograde in Aries and your intimate eighth house, helping you deal with those complex cobwebs in your psyche. A secret you've been harbouring could be eating away at you, or perhaps you're wishing you could be more vulnerable with a certain person.



Libra September 23 – October 23

Love wins! Today, the Sun swings into Aries and your relationship-driven seventh house, beaming the spotlight back onto a Libra's favourite thing: relationships. For the past four weeks, you've had your nose buried in your work, streamlining your schedule and prioritising productivity.



Scorpio October 24 – November 21

Spring-cleaning time! With savvy Mercury turning retrograde in your efficiency zone until April 15, you could scour every forgotten corner of your universe. Shred old papers, donate unworn clothes, and delete and file your way down to inbox zero. Just make sure you aren't chucking any essential documents or family heirlooms during this downsizing spree!



Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

Spring fever or a pesky virus? Mercury spins retrograde in your fifth house of amour, scrambling signals in the game of love. Between now and April 15, single Archers should keep a level-headed wingperson by your side and tap your reserve tanks of willpower. Animal attractions, while hot, may be fiercely misguided.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



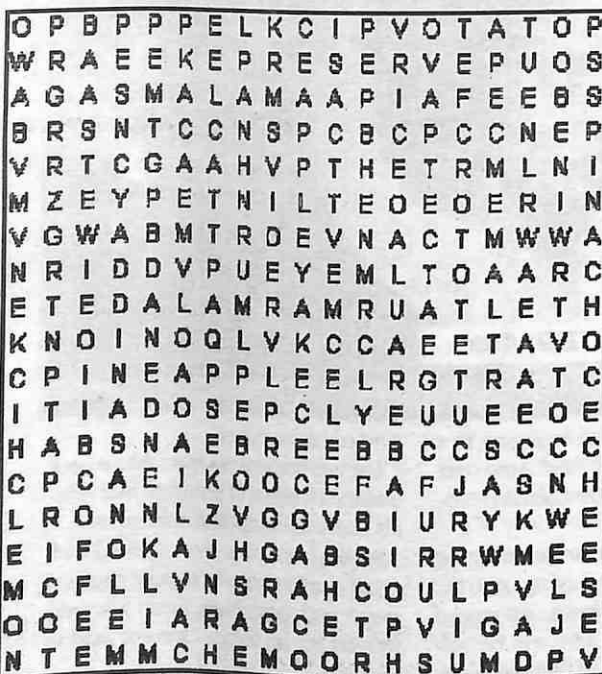
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

PUZZLE
CHOICE

FOOD & DRINK

Can you find the hidden words? They may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal, forwards or backwards.

APPLE, APRICOT, BANANA, BEANS, BEEF, BEER, BREAD, BUTTER, CABBAGE, CAKE, CANDY, CARROT, CEREAL, CHEESE, CHICKEN, CHOCOLATE, COFFEE, COOKIE, CREAM, EGGS, FISH, JUICE, LEMON, LETTUCE, MARMALADE, MELON, MILK, MUSHROOM, ONION, ORANGE, PASTA, PEACH, PEAR, PEAS, PICKLE, PINEAPPLE, POTATO, PRESERVE, RICE, SODA, SOUP, SPINACH, STEW, SUGAR, SYRUP, TOMATO, TREACLE, TURKEY, WATER, WINE.

LOL
Laughing Out Loud

FASCINATE - FASTEN EIGHT

Johnny was at school and the teacher said, "Someone use fascinate in a sentence."

Sally answered, "The zoo was fascinating."

The teacher said, "Sorry, Sally, I said to use fascinate in a sentence."

Maria suggested, "I was fascinated at the zoo."

Once again the teacher

said, "No, Maria, I specifically said to use fascinate in a sentence." Johnny said, "My sister has ten buttons on her sweater."

Again the teacher said, "Sorry, Johnny, I said use fascinate in a sentence."

Johnny replied, "I know, but her boobs are so big she can only fasten eight."

USELESS FACTS

1. Coconut water can be used in an emergency as a substitute for blood plasma.
2. Orange Juice naturally contains a small amount of alcohol.
3. Eggs contain most of the

recognised vitamins with the exception of vitamin C.
4. Lemons contain more sugar than strawberries
5. Strawberries are the only fruit which has its seeds on its outer skin.

BRAinteasers
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterday's brainteasers

1. This animal gives us meat On which you sometimes dine It gives us tasty bacon And it's sometimes known as swine

Answer: Pig

2. I am a fruit whose name sounds As though there might be two of me In a Christmas song there is

A partridge in this kind of tree
Answer: Pear

Today's brainteasers

1. I can sometimes be a stick But I don't come from a tree I can be spread on your toast I'm a product that's dairy
2. This is a root vegetable That can be red, white or green It can make you cry a lot Even though it is not mean

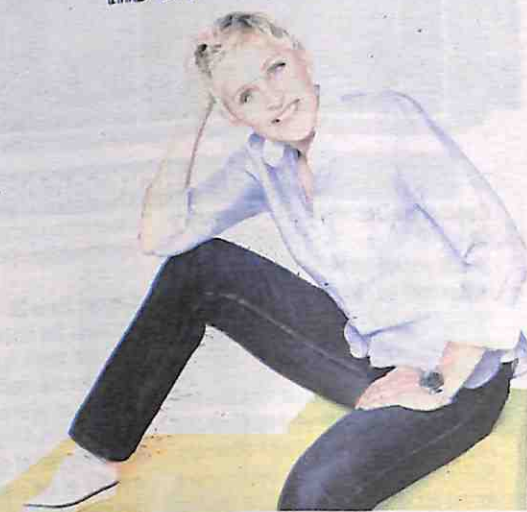


DStv
Feel every moment

NEWS



ellen
the ellen degeneres show



STAY TUNED TO DStv TALK SHOWS

The Late Late Show with James Corden

Weeknights at 00:15 on M-Net
Set your PVR or tune in and end your day with James Corden, who invites celebrities to talk about their latest projects on TV and film. It's always a surprise when James hits the road, for one of the show's most popular segments, Carpool Karaoke. Prepare yourself to sing-along with your favourite celebrities, as they drive around town for a chat and great music.

The Talk

Weekdays at 16:00 on 1Magic
Filmed in front of a live TV audience, join hosts Eve, Sharon Osbourne, Julie Chen and Sheryl Underwood for 'The Talk,' where they cover the day's headlines.

The Wendy Williams Show

Weekdays at 17:00 on BET

With her hot topics and 'how you doing', Wendy is a talk-show force to be reckoned with. Always entertaining and making the audience laugh, 'The Wendy Williams Show' is a must-watch!

The Ellen DeGeneres Show

Weekdays at 17:00 on VUZU

On The Ellen DeGeneres Show, you are guaranteed a fun time with laughter, games and surprises for the audience and guests. It's not just everyone who can ask former US First Lady Michelle Obama to "drop down and give me ten".

HARDtalk

Weekdays at 17:30 on BBC World News

With heads of state, political leaders and business people, the hosts of 'HARDtalk' asks all

of the tough questions, viewers want the answers to.

The Real

Weekdays at 18:00 on BET

Tuning in for 'The Real', is like hanging out with your favourite girlfriends. In this case, it's Loni, Tamera, Adrienne and Jeannie as they chat about life, love and everything else.

Amanpour

Weeknights at 21:00 on CNN

Hosted by Christiane Amanpour, this talk show gives viewers an insight into global affairs. Not only does Christiane sit down with leaders and influencers to get their view on topical issues, but she also provides viewers with a different perspective on stories.

The Daily Show with Trevor Noah

Tuesdays to Fridays at 21:30 on Comedy Central
South African comedian Trevor Noah breaks down the biggest issues in the US, with a dash of humour. He is also joined by contributors including Hasan Minhaj, Michelle Wolf and Roy Wood Jr., and celebrity guests who talk about their latest projects and the issues that has everyone talking.

The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon

Weeknights at 22:00 on Comedy Central
With his opening monologue, Jimmy Fallon gives viewers the big headlines of the day, injected with a dose of humour. With the celebrity guests, Jimmy plays games like musical impressions, pictionary or egg Russian roulette. There's also musical guests to look out for and the hard hitting tunes from the house band, The Roots.

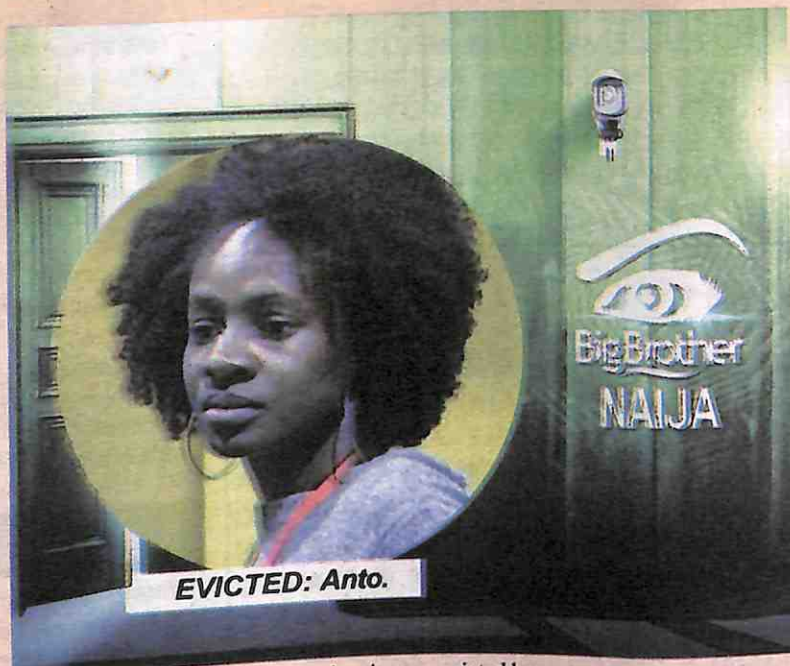
BB Naija Progress: Anto speaks put on eviction

WHILE on stage with the show's host, Ebuka Obi-Uchendu, Anto disclosed that she had a premonition she was going to be evicted that night, even though she had hopes of clinching the grand prize.

When Ebuka asked who she thought nominated her, she quickly mentioned the duo of Cee C and Nina. It came as a bit of a surprise to her when it was revealed that it was indeed Cee C and Bam Bam. On her experience in the house, she described it as "weird," saying she thought it would be a bit easier but nonetheless grateful for the experience as she probably wouldn't have the other housemates in any other situation.

Meanwhile, fans of the show were eager to know about her presumed 'love triangle' with Lolu and Tobi. In her response, Anto admitted that Tobi caught her eye first but she couldn't bond with him as Cee C 'grabbed' him quickly in the game. She connected more with Lolu and said he would most probably be referred to as her romantic partner in the house.

It was not only Anto's eviction that got viewers buzzing. During the show, Big Brother issued Tobi a strike for dis-



regarding his rules and engaging in a conversation with Lolu and Anto over Cee C which Big Brother labelled conspiracy.

This earned him a strike, bringing his total strikes to two. Living up to the theme of the show, Ebuka announced that this week, the public will be voting to bring back two of their favourite

evicted housemates.

The two housemates that make it back into the House will return as individuals and will compete for the prize.

Sunday's eviction show opened with a sultry performance by popular Nigerian singer and songwriter, Simi. She performed her hit songs, 'Joromi' and 'O wa nbe'.

MUST WATCH SHOWS FROM CHICAGO

CHICAGO, sometimes called the Windy City, has been home to some of our favourite movies, including the classics Ferris Bueller's 'Day Off' and 'The Breakfast Club', 'Save The Last Dance', 'Love Jones', 'Man of Steel' and 'Wicker Park'.

The city is also called home by some of our favourite celebrities like former US President Barack Obama, Common, Chance The Rapper and Kanye West, who named his third child, a daughter, after the city - Chicago West. With all of this love to Chi-Town, we wanted to share with you some of our favourite series, set in Chicago, that you should add to your must-watch TV viewing list.

'Chicago Fire' is the first series in the widely popular Chicago franchise, which takes place at the Chicago Fire Department Firehouse 51. See what goes on in the personal and professional lives of the firefighters and paramedics. At 20:00 on Tuesday evenings, tune in for Chicago P.D. where in District 21, the Intelligence Unit and the police officers go head-to-head at the police

department, as they fight and solve crime. This is followed at 21:00 by Chicago Med set in Gaffney Chicago Medical Centre, where a team of doctors hold things together, when everything keeps blowing up. And sometimes, the Chicago franchise gets extra spicy, when there's crossover episodes, adding to the drama of the series.

APB

After the murder of his friend, a tech billionaire Gideon Reeves (portrayed by Justin Kirk), buys a Chicago Police district, to help them with the latest technology, to help the police solve crimes. Watch this drama, weekdays just after 15:00 on M-Net.

Mike and Molly

Tickle your funny bone and see how Mike and Molly fall in love, after meeting at the Chicago Overeaters Anonymous group. Catch double-bill episodes every day on Comedy Central at 17:30.

The Chi

From creator and Emmy Award winner Lena Waithe, 'The Chi' is premiering on 1Magic on Tuesday, 17 April at 21:30.

THE SWAZI OBSERVER Classified

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Between Matsapha Trading and Swazi Auto Truck

Services offered includes;

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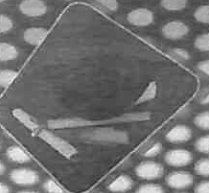
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DEATHS

Hazel Jenn
Horton nee Bothma



Funeral: 25/03/2018
Memorial: Saturday
Place: Ngwane Park

Friends and relatives of Mrs Hazel Jenn Horton nee Bothma are notified of her demise will be laid to rest at Ngwane Park Cemetery after a memorial service at Dups chapel on the 24/03/2018 at 600hrs. By Horton family, rest in peace.

Florence Pikane
Mzizi (nee Dlamini)



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday
Place: kaHlatsi

Kwatiswa tihlobo ne bangani baFlorence Pikane Mzizi (nee Dlamini) kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekha khakhe kaMzizi, bakubo kaDlamini eNyatsini ekhabonina kaMamba nakagogo wakhe kaSikhondze, kanya nelibandla lakhe ufihlwa ngemgibelo emvakwemlindzelo ngalesihlanu mhlaka 23 March 2018, kaHlatsi kuMagele eMvungeni. Simemetelo sikhishwa bantfwabakhe egameni lemndeni.

Themba Majombane
Mndzebele



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday

Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni baThemba Majombane Mndzebele kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Mndzebele kuMatsapha nebakaMkhonta ekhakhakhe eMantabeni. Ufihlwa ngemgibelo emvakwemlindzelo ngelesihlanu 24 March 2018. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguBhuti wakhe Samson Dlamini Mndzebele. Lala kahle Nabonkhosi

Mini Terrals Mdluli



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday
Place: kaZombodze

Relatives and friends of Mini Terrals Mdluli are notified of his demise following a short illness. He will be laid to rest on Saturday 24 March 2018 at his parental home kaZombodze Emva, Nhlango after a night vigil on Friday memorial service will be held at the Church of the Nazarene in Sandla on Friday 23 March 2018 at 12 noon. Announcement by the Mdluli family

Loveya Thembile Masilela
laNdwandwe



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday
Place: kaLomahasha

Kwatiswa tihlobo ne bangani baLoveya Thembile Masilela laNdwandwe kutsi akasekho emhlabeni ufihlwa ngemgibelo 24/03/2018 emvakwemlindzelo ekhakhakhe kaLomahasha eSeven Centre. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguBilly Masilela egameni lemndeni

Londlala Nelly
Matsebula ulaMagagula



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday
Place: kaZandondo

Kwatiswa tihlobo ne bangani baLondlala Nelly Matsebula ulaMagagula kutsi akasekho emhlabeni utawufihlwa ekhaya lakhe kaZandondo ngemgibelo mhlaka 24/03/2018. Kulindzelwa ngalesihlanu 23/03/2018 Kwatiswa Bonkhle bakamatsebula, bakaMagagula kaZandondo kanya nebakaShongwe kaDvokolwako. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguAaron Fawu Matsebula egameni lemndeni

Sibongile Maria
Lukhele laMbuli



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday
Place: kaZombodze

Relatives and friends of Sibongile Maria Lukhele laMbuli are notified of her demise following a short illness. She will be laid to rest on Saturday 24 March 2018 at her marital home kaZombodze phansi kwamdzimba. After a night vigil on Friday. Memorial service will be held at Zombodze Church of Christ on Friday 23 March 2018 at 13:00pm. Announcement by the Lukhele family

Zola Teresa Mngometulu
Myeni



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday

Kwatiswa tihlobo ne bangani baZola Teresa Mngometulu Myeni kutsi akasekho emhlabeni ufihlwa 24/03/2018 emvakwemlindzelo ngalesihlanu. Kwatiswa baka Mngometulu eLubulini, bakaMyeni kanya ne bangani. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngubabe wakhe Samson Magombe Myeni

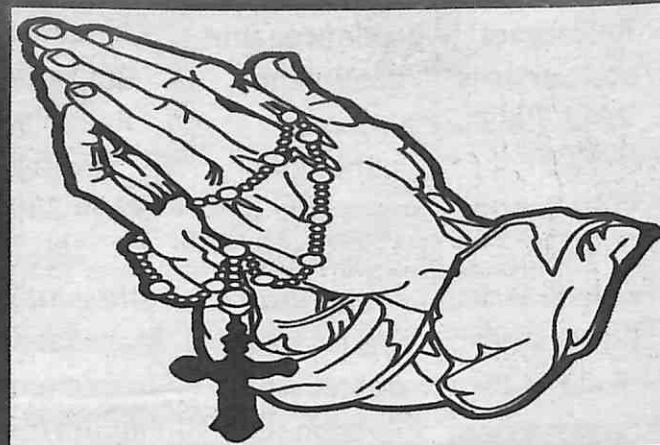
Cici Phillipinah
Nkabindze



Funeral: 24/03/2018
Vigil: Friday
Place: kuMatsamo

Kwatiswa tihlobo ne bangani nemndeni waka Nkabindze nebakaShongwe kutsi Cici Phillipinah Nkabindze akasekho emhlabeni. Utowufihlwa ekhaya lakhe kuMatsamo ngemgibelo ekuseni 24/03/2018 Simemetelo sikhishwa nguBhekithemba Shongwe egameni lemndeni

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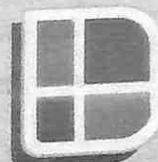
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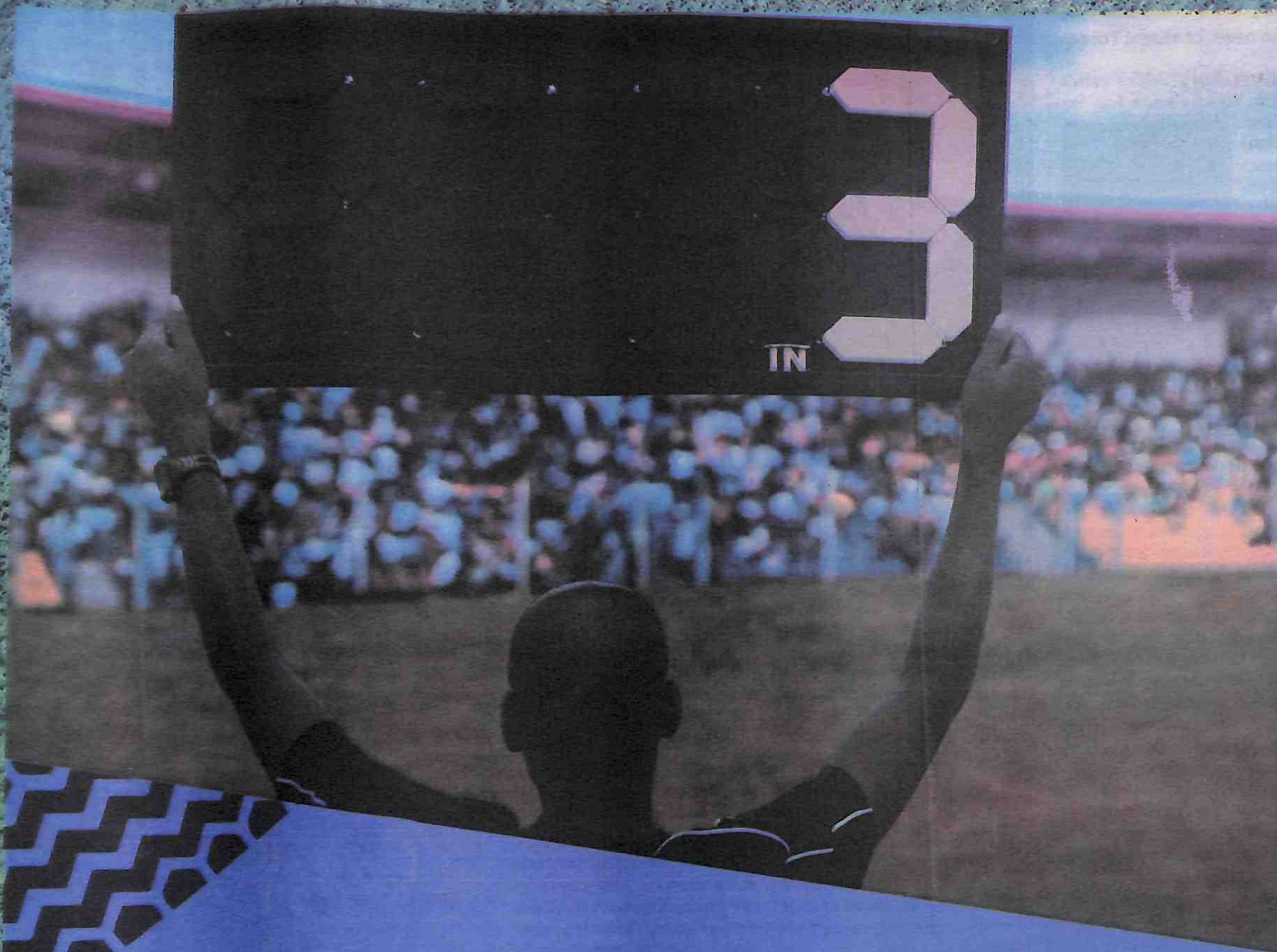
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BRIEFS

I Coast have 'no news' of absent Toure

YAMOOUSSOUKRO - Ivory Coast's Football Federation (FIF) on Tuesday said it had "no news" of the whereabouts of star midfielder Yaya Toure, who did not turn up for training in France ahead of upcoming friendlies. The 34-year-old Manchester City player came out of international retirement last December and was named in the Ivory Coast squad by interim coach Ibrahima Kamara. The four-time African Player of the Year originally retired from international duty on 100 caps after winning the 2015 Africa Cup of Nations.



AFP

FA Cup semi-final dates announced

LONDON - The semi-final dates for this season's FA Cup have been announced, with Manchester United travelling to London to face Tottenham on Saturday April 21st. United's trip to Wembley to face the current stadium occupants will take place at 5:15pm, while Chelsea vs Southampton has been scheduled for 3pm on Sunday April 22nd. Both fixtures will take place at Wembley Stadium, much to the anger of some supporters who argue that Tottenham have an unfair advantage given all of their home games this season have been played at the national stadium.

Daily Mail

Bolt trains in Borussia Dortmund kit

BERLIN - Usain Bolt has once again hinted at a new career in the world of football after posting a video of himself training in a Borussia Dortmund kit. The 100-metre world-record holder has long desired to play for Manchester United, and now that his athletics career is over, he is devoting more time to his other love. Bolt has already signed up for Soccer Aid in June, leading a World XI team against Robbie Williams' England, and he has begun training for the big day.

Daily Mail

Wits legend agrees new deal

JOHANNESBURG - Bidvest Wits legend, Moeneeb Josephs, looks set to stay with the Clever Boys for at least one more season, with the goalkeeper having agreed a new deal at the club. The Siya crew reported earlier this year that fellow ABSA Premiership outfit, Cape Town City, were keen to try and land the 37-year-old to bolster their goalkeeping department, although their attempts were futile as the veteran remained in Braamfontein.

Soccer Laduma

Stam sacked by Reading

LONDON - Reading have sacked Manager Jaap Stam with just eight games of the Championship season remaining. The club sit only three points away from the relegation zone following Saturday's 3-2 defeat at Norwich and have not won since January 30. The former Manchester United and Holland defender led the Royals to the Sky Bet Championship play-off final in his first season in charge. But, having lost on penalties to Huddersfield at Wembley, Stam has failed to maintain those lofty heights this term and departs the Madejski with Reading in serious trouble.

Daily Mail



Young says misfit can be world class

MANCHESTER - Ashley Young has backed under-fire Manchester United team-mate Luke Shaw to defy the criticism and become a world-class star.

Shaw has been left down in the dumps following some harsh treatment from United boss Jose Mourinho. The defender was humiliated last

weekend when Mourinho hauled him off at half time during United's FA Cup win over Brighton at Old Trafford.

Mourinho accused Shaw of failing to carry out simple tactical instructions and is now expected to sell him at the end of the season. The defender, 22, will be sold to

the highest bidder after Mourinho finally ran out of patience with the England reject.

Shaw appeared to have the world at his feet when he joined United from Southampton in a £30m deal in 2014 to become the most expensive teenager in British football. But serious injuries and losses of

form have turned his move to United into a living nightmare - to leave him contemplating his next move.

But Young admits he is desperate to see Shaw succeed at United and reckons his team-mate can become a world beater - if he puts the hard work in.

Young explained: "I am not here to talk about other people and what-not."

"Obviously he is a player that wants to do well, I want to see him doing well."

"It's like all players, you just have to get your head down and work."

"Yeah, of course (he has it in him to come again). He is a fantastic player. I feel he can be one of the best in the world. As I say, you've just got to work hard."

There are also question marks over the futures of Paul Pogba and Anthony Martial.

Midfielder Pogba has admitted he dreams of linking up with Paris St-Germain's Brazilian star Neymar.

"For me, it would be a pleasure to play with him one day," said the £89m signing. Martial's agent Philippe Lamboley dismissed reports that he held a meeting with Juventus over a potential £57m deal but added: "Will Anthony stay in Manchester? 'I'm sorry, I can't say anything at the moment.'" *Daily Star*

Messi joins Argentina training ahead of Italy clash

LONDON - Lionel Messi joined up with his Argentina team-mates on Tuesday as they trained at Manchester City ahead of their World Cup warm-up against Italy.

Messi's side are based at the Football Academy of Premier League leaders City while they prepare for the friendly at Eastlands tomorrow.

The Barcelona forward arrived to start working with the rest of the

squad on Tuesday and was present at a training session open to media in the afternoon. Also present but not participating was City striker Sergio Aguero, who has been sidelined with a knee injury recently. Another City player, defender Nicolas Otamendi, was involved along with the likes of Gonzalo Higuain, Angel Di Maria, Javier Mascherano and Marcos Rojo.

AFP



BOOST: Argentina star Lionel Messi.

Pogba misses France training for treatment

FRANCE - Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba missed France's training session for treatment on Tuesday as Didier Deschamps' side prepared for tomorrow's friendly with Colombia.

Pogba, his United teammate Anthony Martial and Marseille winger Florian Thauvin were victims of "little knocks," according to French officials.

On Monday, Pogba trained as normal while Martial and Thauvin received treatment.

Meanwhile, Arsenal defender Laurent Koscielny and Bayern Munich midfielder Corentin Tolisso trained with physios, separately

from the main squad.

Koscielny was taken off in a Europa League game against AC Milan last Thursday with a back problem that Manager Arsene Wenger said was "nothing serious".

Tolisso suffered bruising to his right tibia earlier this month and missed Bayern's match against RB Leipzig on Sunday.

After playing Colombia, France head to Saint Petersburg to take on Russia on Tuesday for what will be their last match before coach Deschamps announces his 23-man World Cup squad on May 15.

AFP



UNDER TREATMENT: France midfielder Paul Pogba.

Pitso Mosimane challenges Chiefs, Pirates to qualify for CAF

PRETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns coach Pitso Mosimane has challenged both Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates to qualify for CAF competitions next year.

Sundowns have booked themselves a place in the Champions League group stages after they beat Rwandan side Rayon Sports 2-0 on aggregate.

SuperSport United and Bidvest Wits, meanwhile, are involved in the Confederation Cup and they will get to know who they play in the play-off round after the draw in Cairo last night.

Mosimane believes the constant participation of local teams in CAF competitions will help Bafana Bafana coach Stuart Baxter to build a strong team. "I see Chiefs coming next year, according to my opinion. I also think Pirates are coming next year and it's good. Let's all go and represent South Africa well and let's get stressed," said Mosimane. "We've got four positions, we should go. SuperSport did well to take us to the [Confederation Cup] final. It's difficult, you saw what happened after that, mileage and all that. [Jeremy] Brockie has not recovered, but we need to be there if want to do well in the Cup of Nations".

Kick-Off

MADRID KNOCKING FOR MOHAMED SALAH

LIVERPOOL - Liverpool's goal-scoring machine Mohamed Salah would find Real Madrid's advances difficult to resist, Ian Wright has claimed.

Salah has been the standout player in England this term, smashing an incredible 36 goals across all competitions for Jurgen Klopp's side - including four against Watford in his last outing.

The Egyptian's stunning performances have drawn glances from other European giants, chiefly Spanish heavyweights Real Madrid.

The Anfield club have no intention of selling another superstar forward - they sold Philippe Coutinho to Barcelona in January - but former Arsenal striker Wright believes

they may be forced to let Salah leave for La Liga.

"Anyone that has come into the Premier League and scored that amount of goals, you're going to court that kind of attention," Wright told Sky Sports.

Daily Mail



SAMAMPELA MANTAIN UNBEATEN RUN IN THAJO INVESTMENT EASTERN ZONE LEAGUE

Stories by Sports Reporter

SOCCKER - SAMAMPELA FC crushed Boys to Men 4-0 to stretch their unbeaten run to 17 games in the Thajo Investment Lubombo Eastern Zone A Division League. The Mpolonjeni based side ensured they remain on the summit of the table with 45 points while their closest challengers Home Sparrows

have 39 points, with Wenela Pirates following on third place with 38 points.

While Samampela collected maximum points, two of the other title contenders dropped points. Sparrows were held to a 1-1 draw by Ngcina while Pirates settled for a 1-all draw against City Rollers. Reigning Lubombo FA Cup champions Young Zebras, who beat Real Madrid 2-1, complete the top four

brackets with 30 points in 18 games.

Good Shepherd FC eased their relegation woes with a 4-2 victory at the expense of Young Heroes to jump to the 11th spot with 16 points. At the basement, Real Galaticos remain rooted to the bottom with five points separated by seven points with 13th placed Double Classic, who have 12 points under their name. Under the B Division, unbeaten Zero Cosmos, who beat

Bush Bucks 2-0, are leading the pack with 30 points in 14 games while Mkhutjane FC are perched in position two with 26 points. Newly established Langa United, who are still winless, are surely struggling to cope as they remain bottom with two points in 11 games. The Lubombo Eastern Zone league is financially backed by Thajo Investment, which pumped in a sum of E60 000 for two seasons.

RSSC Siyakha grassroots packs them at Simunye

SOCCKER - THE RSSC Siyakha 1800 grassroots programme continues to be a centre of attraction for the football passionate people within the sugar belt and surrounding areas.

The programme, which is played under the auspices of Lubombo Regional Football Association (LRFA), attracted a total of 292 children, both boys and girls in a festival held at Simunye on Saturday.

As usual, the children were taken into paces by the instructors, who imparted basic football skills to the young footballers. Excitement was written all over the faces of the participants as the daylong event took centre stage in the area which boasts itself of producing some of the great football players.

According to LRFA Secretary General

Sicelo Nene, the grassroots festivals will now be staged every weekend owing to the fact that the participants have demonstrated passion and they

are seemingly yearning for more. Instructors during the programme were the likes of Nene, Barnes Dlamini, Thabiso Kunene and Simo Mdluli.



Grassroots programme brings excitement to residents

SOCCKER - THE RSSC Siyakha grassroots programme does not only bring excitement to the youngsters but has also been proven to be what the doctor has ordered for the residents of areas within the sugar belt, including Simunye, where the festival was held over the past weekend.

People interviewed after the event expressed their excitement about the RSSC initiative which seek to nurture the football talent from tender age.

They had this to say;

Simo Mdluli - Instructor

"I am very much excited about the programme because it encourages the children to develop playing the game at an early age. It was my first time being instructor and I am looking forward to such opportunities in future as I have noted the potential the children possess."

Mr Malangwane - Local pastor

"I am very much happy about the programme as it keeps children together for a good cause."

Even though I was attending church activities around, I decided to watch the event as I heard about it from my child."

Thabiso Kunene - Instructor

"This programme is very helpful to the development of the game, including women football. I have seen tremendous improvement on the performance of the children and this points to a bright future."

Jeremiah Sihlongonyane - Resident

"RSSC needs to be applauded for this initiative which seeks to concentrate on the roots of developing football as it has been the case in yesteryears. I am very much excited and I hope the initiative will reap the desired fruits."

Gugu Dlamini - Resident

"I was attending church activities around but I was attracted by the children who were sweating it out at this event. I promise to bring my children in future because it is apparent that this programme brings excitement to the young ones."





SHUKUMA



SWAZILAND



By Dumisani Ntiwane
(SNSRC Media Officer)

SHUKUMA Swaziland! Greetings and welcome to yet another insightful Swaziland National Sport and Recreation Council (SNSRC) column.

It promises to be a very busy and hectic 2018 for the dynamic SNSRC team. Not that we are complaining, no. We are here to serve the nation and to develop our nation through sport.

We have already hosted two very successful Shukuma programmes so

A VERY **BUSY** YEAR AHEAD

...SNSRC sets the tone with two successful Shukuma programmes already

far in the year. The first one was staged at Sigwe in the Shiselweni region and the second at the Mkhweni Inkhundla in the Manzini region just last Saturday.

It was another sight to behold, as hundreds came out to play. It is always heart-warming to see the joy Shukuma brings to these communities. The pure unbridled delight and enjoyment on the faces of the community members is always worth millions of Emalangeni. Nothing gives us greater pleasure than to see the young and old playing together and engaging in sport. We are yet to visit more constituencies and our flagship programme will never be the same again. Just watch this space! Soon we will be relaunching the now popular programme. The SNSRC Board has

already declared this year the 'Year for the youth.' This should be good news for the country's youth as we seek to empower them. The youth represents the future of the country. With our youth protected and safeguarded, the country's future is obviously secured.

Desire

We will strive to cover every region and every constituency.

We aim to provide quality programmes for sports and community development for in and out of school children, youth as well as adult community members in Swaziland.

Our desire as Council is to see more and more people doing physical activities in their respective communities. Of course, it is also our wish to significantly contribute towards pover-



SNSRC Chief Executive Officer Darius Dlomo.

ty alleviation at community level.

The SNSRC is eager to see an improved health and quality of life and also witness a decreased crime rate. You will recall that sometime last year, the SNSRC Chief Executive

Officer (CEO), Darius Dlomo did say that our organisation has a clear strategy for high performance, citing the Excellence Development Programme tailored to the Region V's Podium Performance Programme.



LIKE THIS: SNSRC Chairman Lawrence Mthethwa (in glasses) and others being shown how it's done by Sita Phakathi.

SNSRC strategic plan will see us through

AFTER revealing in our recent past columns that the SNSRC Board has declared 2018 as a Youth Year, we have received so many questions and queries regarding the bold stance taken by the Council to that effect.

We have a five-year strategic plan (to 2020), which covers a critical period in the country's development in line with the call for business unusual to deliver vision 2022.

The plan anticipates foreseeable and unforeseeable developments that will place significant demands on the Council's ability and readiness to function as the supreme governing body for sports development in the country.

The strategy also seeks to deliver prioritised strategic objectives from the long list of directives outlined in the national sports policy of 2012. Our thinking on the period ahead as been shaped by our holistic quest for continuity that will build on our strengths and past successes, as well as strate-

gic inputs by our stakeholders, dictates of the national development strategy, national sports policy as well as general public opinion and discourse.

This plan sets out an ambitious programme of action in the face of limited fiscal resources as contained or projected by the government budget estimates for the coming three years.

Implementation

Adequate resourcing shall be essential for the implementation of this strategy and hence Council shall engage in 'unusual' vigorous initiatives to supplement the government subvention to sport.

Council is alive to the perceptions and expectations of the populace regarding sports in the country. There is no denying the fact that Swazis are demanding greater intervention towards sports development and sport for human development.

To this end, the strategy addresses the issue of reaching out to all com-

munities in the country to deliver recreation sport at all the 55 tinkhundla centres through our flagship programme, Shukuma Swaziland. On the other hand, collaboration with partners and stakeholders (especially SOCGA) shall be strengthened to deliver a comprehensive high performance programme intended to cultivate a culture of a winning nation.

We are positioning ourselves to work and deliver a sports system through collaboration with our key strategic partners, and to this end we call upon our stakeholders, partners and the business community to support and cooperate with us as we embark on this ambitious project to 'Build Our Nation Through Sport'.

The period ahead is tailored to deliver the National Sports Act, which is the ultimate instrument for governance and promotion of sports development in line with international good practice.

SNSRC strategic plan will see us through Special Olympics

THE Special Olympics Swaziland is inviting the nation to its Health Forum and fundraising event, which is scheduled for this Saturday at the Millennium Park in Manzini, just next to the Riverstone Mall.

The event will start at 7am and an awareness walk from 7am to about 8am will mark the start of the day's activities.

This is definitely one event not to be missed.

On the day, the public will be treated to free eye screening, free

diabetes screening and free information on how everyone can cope with intellectual disabilities. There will also be sporting activities and different form of entertainment to cater for everyone.

There will be food stalls where different kinds of edibles, including cakes and snacks, will be sold at cheaper rates to the public. The aim of the fundraiser is to try and financially help the 2019 Special Olympics Summer Games team. These Games will be staged in Abu Dhabi.



GET DOWN: Sigwe MP David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala dancing with Gogo Ndlela.

What they had to say:

Siyabonga Bhembe
(Physical trainer)

"Our preparations are going very well. The time for celebrating (the win over Zanaco) is over. It's a new game, it's a new day, we start afresh. It's difficult to predict what Leopard will bring on Sunday because there is a lot they could surprise us with and at the same time there is a lot that we can surprise them with."

Sandile Hlatshwako
(striker)

"For us, the most important thing is to thoroughly prepare and focus on ourselves. We want to win always. We cannot engage in such intense preparations then go on and lose so our supporters should come out in their numbers so that we continue celebrating. For me personally, scoring depends on the chances that we will create but how I wish to score and help the team win."

Sanele Mkhweli (left back)

"We are promising nothing but a win. Our preparations are going on very well. I think if we maintain our focus like we always do, we will win. We know Leopard very well. They are very dangerous on set pieces and they are very quick with their transitions. But they are not a huge threat because we have played them so many times and we know them well."

**Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko (winger)**

"Our hope is that on Sunday our wishes and that of our supporters are realised because we want to win this tournament. We are already preparing and getting ourselves ready. I can say that we are ready for Sunday. Our focus is on our strengths because we know what we are capable of."

Sandanezwe Mathabela
(Goalkeeper)

"The spirit in training is very high. We are riding the wave from the win over Zanaco and we believe that it will help us going forward to the final. Our supporters shouldn't worry about focus, we are always focused. What I can say is that I don't fear Leopard. We will see on Sunday but I'm sure that we will win, that I can promise you. As to how, I don't know, but we will win."

Sfiso Mabila (right back)

"We are preparing and all our focus is on the final on Sunday. The players have moved on from Saturday's win (over Zanaco) and the focus is now on the final. We know Leopard very well and we trust in our technical team that they will spot Leopard's weaknesses and we will then play according to their instructions. Our supporters should come and celebrate on Sunday. I respect Leopard but I don't fear them."



'BIRDS' GET READY FOR INGWENYAMA CUP FINAL

How I wish to score - Sandile Hlatshwako

I don't fear them - Sandanezwe Mathabela

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCER- MBABANE
Swallows are hard at work preparing for their third SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup final in as many years.

The equation is simple for the 'Birds,' beat Royal Leopard on Sunday and keep the trophy for good.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Sports Desk paid Swallows a visit as they trained at the Prince of Wales Ground.

Attendance:

The session began at 3pm and



was led by physical trainers Siyabonga Bhembe and Etienne Massoye.

It was well attended with the likes of goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza, captain Tony 'TT'

Tsabedze and playmaker Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze among the players present.

Focus of session:

According to trainer Bhembe, they had to find a fine balance between resting the players after the big win over Zanaco in the CAF Champions League on Saturday and preparing hard for Sunday's final. "It's important to have timing when it comes to this. We must be able to take risks and calculate the rewards of those risks. We have to maintain, we are a big team. Let's make sure that the players are well rested and again let's take off and work," Bhembe said.

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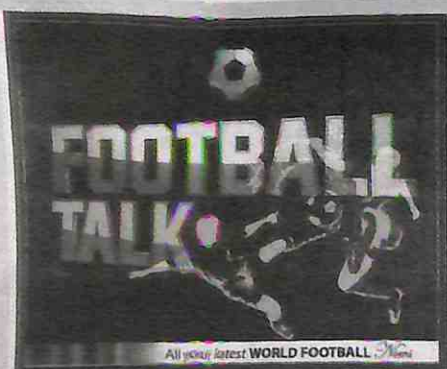
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THEME REBUILDING THE WALLS "YEAR OF SUCCESS"

29 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2018 Nehemiah 2:20

ALL ARE WELCOME!

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● Manchester United are concerned that Chile forward Alexis Sanchez, 29, is struggling to settle at the club after a repeat of the circumstances around Paris St-Germain and Argentina winger Angel di Maria's brief spell at Old Trafford. (Mail)

● England coach Gareth Southgate has banned his players from eating Starbucks food - and having syrup in their cappuccinos - at the team hotel's cafe. (ESPN)



● West Ham United are in a fresh legal dispute with London Stadium's landlords over who should pay for a series of costs including providing draught beer, Sky TV and hospitality staff. (The Times - subscription required)

● Tottenham are resigned to losing Belgian defender Toby Alderweireld, 29, this summer but will demand 50m Euros (£44m). (HLN - in Dutch)

● Liverpool are yet to make a move for Roma goalkeeper Alisson, 25, but the Brazilian is not close to signing a new deal at the Italian club. (Sun)

● Chelsea's French midfielder N'Golo Kante, 26, has played down speculation about him joining Paris St-Germain by saying he is 'at home' at Stamford Bridge. (Express)



● Jack Wilshere will give Arsenal every chance to offer him the deal which will keep him at the club - the outcome which is the 26-year-old midfielder's preferred option. (Sun)

● The agent of Manchester United forward Anthony Martial, 22, has given no assurances over the France international's future at the club. (Il Bianco, via Independent)

● Manchester United target Milan Skriniar, 23, says he is happy at Inter Milan. The Slovakian also interests Barcelona. (Star)

● Real Madrid forward Cristiano Ronaldo says self-confidence is the key to his success. The 33-year-old Portugal international has scored 21 times in 13 appearances since the start of 2018. (Sky Sports)



● Manchester City midfielder Yaya Toure did not turn up for the first day of training with his Ivory Coast team-mates on Tuesday. (Fifiv.com)

● Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp has given his non-international players a week off and has taken his coaching staff to Tenerife. (Liverpool Echo)

● Leicester are watching Basle winger Mohamed Elyounoussi, 23, as a potential replacement for Riyad Mahrez. (Leicester Mercury)

BUY 'N SAVE SPAR PUMPS OVER E100 000 FOR ENJABULWENI MTB RACE

Stories by Sibusiso Dlamini

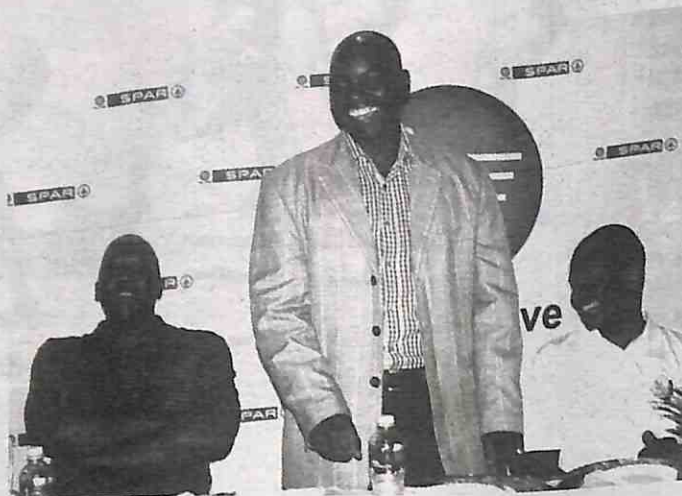
CYCLING - BUY 'n Save Spar have pumped over E100 000 for the sixth edition of the annual Enjabulweni MTB Cycle race.

The sponsorship will see an increase of E50 000 from last edition's package which was also bankrolled by the very same sponsor (Buy 'n Save Spar).

This was announced on Tuesday during the official sponsorship launch held at the newly opened Manzini SuperSpar.

The event was graced by the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Under Secretary Nhlanhla Motsa, who was representing the Minister David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala, Swaziland National Sports and Recreational Council (SRIC) Chief Executive Officer Darius Domo, Enjabulweni Principal Kathy Thomson, and Buy 'n Save Ethekweni Manager Musa Dlamini.

When making his remarks during the launch, Buy 'n Save Spar Ethekweni Manager Musa Dlamini



LIGHT MOMENT: Under Secretary in the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Nhlanhla Motsa delivering his speech. This was during the launch of the Enjabulweni MTB cycle race at Manzini SuperSpar on Tuesday. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)

said the company was pleased to give back to the community, in particular because the event was a family fun day.

"There is nothing that gives us joy than giving back to our esteemed customers. Now, the Enjabulweni

race gives us this opportunity and the fact that this is a family day is an addition.

It's an opportunity for all families to come together and spend quality time, whilst also making sure they keep healthy," Dlamini said.

Meanwhile, Motsa thanked the company for their kind gesture, mentioning that the event would not be a success without their input.

"Let me take this opportunity to thank Buy 'n Save Spar for sponsoring this event.

We can never stress the importance of sponsors because without them, all this wouldn't have been possible.

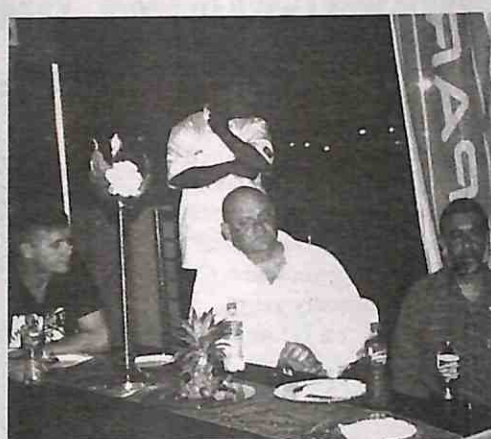
This sport has been developing in leaps and bounds, and the association deserves a pat on the back for a job well done. I am also one person who used to cycle, so I think it's the perfect time to get the dust off my bike and get to training."

The race will be in four categories, namely the 5km (for ages 10 and 11 - 12), the 10km (13 - 14), the 20km (15 - 16) and the 30km (19 and open). There will also be a chicken race for youngsters which will be approximately 2km.

The winner of the 30km - in both male and female categories will walk away with E1 500 each, and the race is scheduled for April 7, starting at 7:30am.



COMMONWEALTH BOUND: Swaziland National Sports and Recreational Council CEO Darius Domo making his remarks.



ATTENTIVE: A section of the audience following proceedings.

E2 000 sponsorship for Under-10 race

CYCLING - IN line with the association's vision, Buy 'n Save Spar added an extra E2 000 for the Under-10's race.

Swaziland Cycling Association President Sihlangu Nhlabatsi also made it clear that athletes, who would register on the day would race for fun as they would not be allowed to participate.

He said this was meant to avoid giving the time-keeper a torrid time which made him/her prone to errors.

"I would like to make it loud and clear that entrants, who register on the day (April 7), will just race for fun. They will not be allowed to compete with the rest of the cyclist. Let us please learn to do things on time to avoid unnecessary confusion. Late registration will be allowed, but definitely not on the main day."

Registration closes April 4, and registration points are at SuperSpars nationwide.

Nhlabatsi said they were also happy the Under-10 would have a race of their own.

"This is good news to us as an association because the youngsters are our main target. We need to catch them young because without them, the future of the sport is bleak."

He urged cyclists to prepare themselves for the race.



...Youngsters are the main target

CYCLING - THE Swaziland Cycling Association (CAS) has mentioned that their main focus is on developing world class cyclists, who will compete against the very best in the world.

This was mentioned by the association's President Sihlangu Nhlabatsi yesterday.

"Our mandate as an executive in the association is on development. Youngsters are the future of the sport and we need to make sure we catch them young. We need to make sure we groom them to be world-class athletes, who will compete at the highest possible level in the World."

He then appealed to schools to make use of the coaches available to them.

"This is good news and I am



appealing to schools to make sure they use the two qualified coaches we have in the country. We cannot afford to have

all the knowledge they have going to waste. I am hoping schools will utilise the coaches," he said.

EX-OFFICIAL CONFISCATES 5 UNDER-20 PLAYERS' PASSPORTS

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER – FIVE national Under-20 and Premier League stars could miss next weekend's AFCON qualifier against Malawi following a former senior official's decision to confiscate their passports.

The official, whose name is known by this publication, is alleged to have taken the passports of the players upon the squad's return from Zambia in December last year where the team competed in the finals of the continental youth competition.

The affected players are Premier League players in the likes of Mlamuli Msibi and Junior Magagula (both Royal Leopard), Fanelo 'Order' Mamba (Young Buffaloes), Ndumiso Mabuza (Mbabane Highlanders and Allie Matse (Manzini Wanderers).

A source close to the matter asserted that the official claimed to be the one who helped the players get the passports before travelling to Zambia. "The players are stranded as their

passports are with the former official. He is said to have told some officials that he has already destroyed the documents. This has forced the squad management to drop these players from the squad currently in camp at Caritas centre in Manzini where it is preparing for the match against Malawi," the source said.

Two of the affected players, who preferred to speak on condition of anonymity, also confirmed the news when reached.

"The official took our passports upon our return from Zambia when we were at the border gate and he did not bring them back to us up to today," he said.

Another player expressed his shock about the decision of the former official. "The official took our passports soon after we entered the Swazi side and he told us he would destroy them because he is the one who helped us to get the passports and he did not get along with other officials."

The said official refuted the claims



made by the players when also reached on the matter.

"I never took anyone's passports and why would I do such a thing since passports are personal and they belong to individuals," he said briefly.

National Football Association of Swaziland Marketing and Communications Officer Muzi Radebe said he was yet to get a briefing on the matter.

"This is news to me and I haven't

heard anything to that effect," he said.

The national Under-20 side will next weekend travel to Blantyre for the first leg match and will play the return leg two weeks later at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The junior national side is now under the guidance of Matsapha United coach Dumsani 'DU' Makhanya, who recently replaced former Buffaloes coach Mandla 'Sitofu' Dlamini.

FA to give E100 000 to Swallows

By Mbono Mdluli

SOCCKER - THE National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) is expected to give E100 000 to Swaziland's CAF envoys, Mbabane Swallows.

This was said by Minister for Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David Ngcamphalala yesterday in the House of Assembly. This was during the debate of the annual performance of the ministry of sports, culture and youth affairs.

Ngcamphalala was responding to a question posed by Senate Deputy President Ngomuyayona Gamedze. Gamedze wanted to know what government was doing to ensure that it supported the country's teams that participated in the Confederation of African Football (CAF) like the CAF Champions League and the CAF Confederation Cup.

Gamedze said other countries supported their teams and that was the reason why they did well in such tournaments. The minister said actually, it was companies that were supposed to help in giving financial support to local football teams because that was the trend in the whole world.

He further said government, through the NFAS, would give E100 000 to Mbabane Swallows just to boost them in the group stages tournament of the CAF Champions League. Mbabane Swallows are supposed to begin their CAF Champions League group stages journey in May.

Swallows were drawn in Group D together with Zesco United, Primeiro De Agostinho and ESSS. The minister urged companies to support sporting activities in the country as they had a potential of turning around the economy for the best.

Meanwhile, Ngcamphalala said government also committed an amount of E25 000 per month just to ensure that football was played even at night. The minister said such had to happen because even His Majesty King Mswati III was a staunch supporter of sports in the country. He wanted to see this country excel in sporting activities.



New #Myekeleni Aphumule T-shirts for Birds

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER – GIANTS Mbabane Swallows have released T-shirts in memory of slain boss Victor 'Maradona' Gamedze.

The round neck T-shirts branded with the #Myekeleni Aphumule trademark and a picture of the late chairman are retailing at E120 each.

Swallows National Supporters Committee (NSC) Secretary Jackson Dlamini said yesterday that the T-shirts were officially released by the team after blessings from the late Gamedze's wife Princess Lungile.

He said the T-shirts were, at the moment, available in Mbabane and

Manzini.

"Supporters interested in buying these T-shirts can go to Bradlows in Mbabane and Eyethu Motor Sports in Manzini. We are still to consult with the rest of the branch chairmen on how to decentralise them to the other branches.

"However, they will also be available during the Ingwenyama Cup finals at the Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday.

The replicas are also still available for those who want them as well as other team's merchandise," he said.

He added that the proceeds from the merchandise would go towards the team's coffers.

This is the second set of merchandise

released by the red and white glamour side since the demise of Gamedze on January 14, the first being replicas with the inscription RIP VG.

He then urged the team's supporters to come in great numbers and continue supporting the team on Sunday.

"The finals on Sunday are very important for Swallows and we need to go out there and rally behind these boys. Let's go there in the team's colours and show them what we are made of.

"I also appeal that they be at their best behaviour on the day because royalty may be present on the day," he said.



Merchandise on sale

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Replicas | E400 |
| 2. Golf T-shirts | E300 |
| 3. Round neck (Myekeleni Aphumule) | E120 |
| 4. Tracksuits | E1 000 |
| 5. Scarves | E120 |
| 6. Caps | E150 |

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Drama as Swallows stars exchange blows

By Mphikelo Misi
Sports Editor

SOCCKER - MBABANE Swallows have been rocked by drama ahead of their Ingwenyama Cup final clash against Leopard as two senior players were involved in a brawl yesterday.

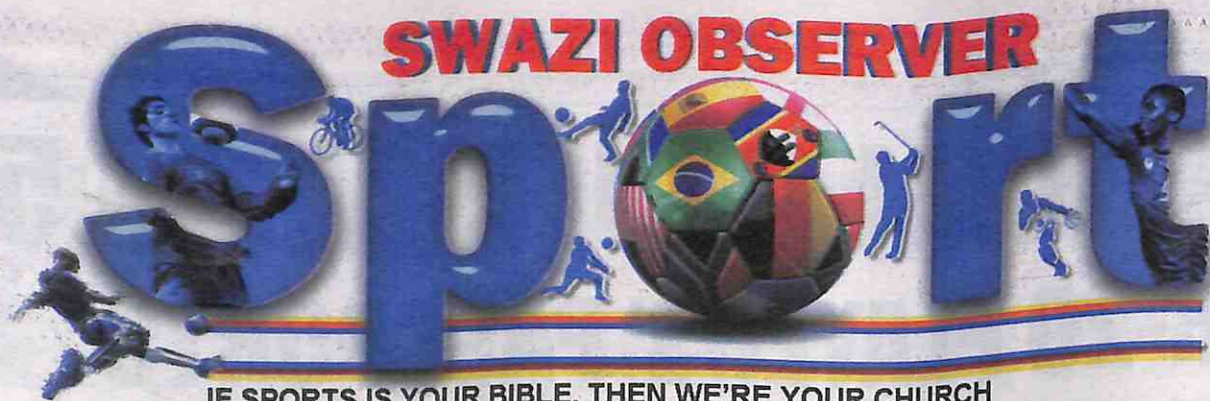
The brawl involving players Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst and Sanele Mkhweli forced the team's training session held at the Prince of Wales Ground yesterday to be called off unceremoniously. Information gathered by this publication is that the player's altercation started with an argument but shocked the rest of the team when they resorted to blows. The action saw other players picking sides and joining the fight.

The situation was saved by one of the team's supporters, who had attended the training session as the coach and other members of the technical bench watched in disbelief.

A source close to the matter revealed that the tension was so tense in the team, something that has been frowned upon, because of the game on Sunday. "There was no alternative but to stop the training session as the situation was tense. Management will, however, have to address the situation soon because the team cannot afford such drama ahead of a very important game," added the source. When called on the matter yesterday, coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati said he did not want to comment. Sought for comment General Manager Sandile 'Beyond 2000' Zwane said he did not attend training yesterday and will only receive reports from the technical team to ascertain if it indeed happened.



BLOW BY BLOW: Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst and Sanele Mkhweli in training.



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Thursday March 22, 2018



FAIR CAF DRAW FOR BIRDS

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCKER-MBABANE Swallows have all the chances of reaching the quarterfinals of CAF Champions League after being handed a fair draw for the group stages last night.

The 'Birds' have been drawn in the same group, D, with Zambian side Zesco United, Primeiro de Agosto of Angola and Tunisian giants Etoile du Sahel. Swallows, who are the first Swazi side to reach this stage of the competition, found out their group stage opponents at a draw held at the Confederation of African Football (CAF) headquarters in Cairo, Egypt last night.

On Monday, Swallows General Manager Sandile 'Beyond 2000' Zwane told this publication that his side preferred being drawn with sides South of the Equator to avoid huge expenses associated with travelling to North Africa. Zwane and Swallows' wishes were realised last night as the 'Birds' were paired with two sides from the COSAFA region, Zesco and Primeiro.

Interviewed shortly after the draw, Zwane labelled the outcome as a fair one and said that his side had a 90 per cent chance of making the last eight of Africa's Premier club competition.

"It's a fair draw. We are happy that we have drawn two sides closer to home and that is important

• It's a fair draw - Koki, Zwane

• We have a 90% chance of making quarter-finals - Zwane

TOTAL CAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE			
Group A		Group B	
1. Al-Ahly (Egypt)	2. Township Rollers F.C (Botswana)	1. TP Mazembe (DR Congo)	2. Mouloudia Club D'Alger (Algeria)
3. KCCA (Uganda)	4. E.S.T. (Tunisia)	3. Difaa Hassani El Jadidi (Morocco)	4. E. S. Setifenne (Algeria)
Group C		Group D	
1. AS Togo Port de Lome (Togo)	2. Mamelodi Sundowns (South Africa)	1. Zesco United F.C (Zambia)	2. Primeiro de Agosto (Angola)
3. Wydad Athletic Club (Morocco)	4. Horoya A.C (Guinea)	3. ESS (Tunisia)	4. Mbabane Swallows (Swaziland)

because it means we won't have to spend a lot on travelling. We have played against a Tunisian team before (CS Sfaxien in 2017's CAF Confederation Cup) so we hope that experience will help us for the match against Etoile. I believe that we have a 90 per cent chance of qualifying for the quarter-finals, we just need to work hard," Zwane said. Meanwhile, Swallows coach Thabo Koki Vilakati, while happy with the

draw, sounded a word of caution to his players.

"I think it's a fair draw also aided by the fact that we won't do many long distance trips which saves us a lot financially. We are almost at par with Zambia but beating Zanaco doesn't mean Zesco will now be a walk in the park. We need to be careful. I would say we have a 50/50 chance of reaching the quarter-finals. The chance is there, we just have to plan very well," Vilakati

said.

Swallows will begin their group stage campaign on the first weekend of May and will need to finish in the top two positions in the group to earn a place in the last eight. CAF will confirm the dates and times at a later stage. The 'Birds' are already guaranteed about E6.6 million for reaching this stage of the competition and will receive over E1 million more if they make it to the quarter-finals.

King urges nation to behave in Ingwenyama Cup final

By Sibongiseni Zondi

SOCCKER-HIS Majesty King Mswati III, the patron of the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup, has urged Swazis to be well behaved during the finals of the tournament at Somhlolo National Stadium this Sunday.

The third edition of the Ingwenyama Cup, a tournament which brings together culture and football, will reach its climax this coming Sunday with the main attraction being the football final between defending champions Mbabane Swallows and police side Royal

Leopard.

Speaking during a kit presentation ceremony at the King's Offices at Nkhanini yesterday, Ingwenyama Cup Board Chairman Prince Hlangabeza delivered His Majesty's message to the nation ahead of the highly anticipated finals.

Authorities

"We should all police each other during the final on Sunday. Let us make sure that we keep the stadium clean and leave it as we found it. If you find someone has lost their possessions, do take it to the relevant authorities. His Majesty has asked us to emphasise that Swazis show

unity on Sunday. We all want to go back after the finals happy, no one should go back having regrets," he said. The Prince also reminded the nation that the match would be shown live on SuperSport thus good behaviour was a must while also wishing the two teams all the best of luck. "We have heard that there will be broadcasters from South Africa showing this match live. Now imagine appearing on TV doing something bad. His Majesty wishes all of you the best. He is expecting all of you to showcase your talent to the maximum on Sunday," the Prince concluded.



HANDSHAKE: SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup Chairman Prince Hlangabeza and SMVAF CEO Helmon Vilakati with Swallows' Khanya Nyamane and Leopard's John Gama during the kit presentation ceremony at the King's Offices in Nkhanini yesterday. (Pic: Sibongiseni Zondi)