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**REMOVE PAY
CUTS OR NO
WORK ON XMAS
- NURSES**
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THURSDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2018

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OPENING SPECIAL: Members of the public came out in their numbers for the official opening of Treesti (an eatery outlet) in Matsapha, Mashayitafula yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

BRUTAL ATTACK ON DEFENCELESS CITIZEN AS...

COPS 'ASSAULT' SUSPECT KENTUCKY STYLE

...He lies at Pigg's Peak Government Hospital in critical condition, all for picking up an electric cable on the road

STORY ON PAGE 3

**MEN TO BE
FORCED BY
LAW TO
MAINTAIN
CHILDREN**

PAGE 3

**MKHULU (72)
GRADUATES
AT SEBENTA**

PAGE 2

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2 NATIONAL NEWS

MKHULU (72) GRADUATES AT SEBENTA NATIONAL INSTITUTE

Stories by Bahle Gama
Mbabane

A 72-year-old senior citizen Clifford Magagula is the oldest to have graduated from the Sebenta National Institute this year.

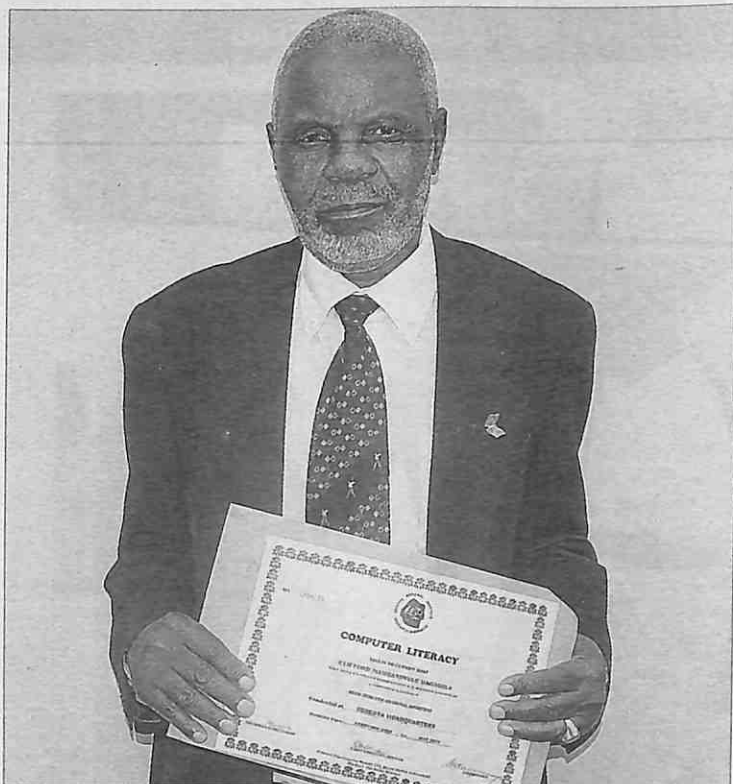
Magagula also lost out in the secondary lap of the race to Parliament in the last October election.

The event was held at the institute's premises yesterday where it was graced by Minister of Education Lady Howard-Mabuza, Chairperson of the board of Directors Madzandza Khanya and Project Manager of the Technical and Vocational Education at Taiwan Technical Mission Lynn Wu.

Magagula graduated in Computer Literacy, which he said was the only skill he lacked in his life as he studied everything else during his time.

"As old as I am, I've completed all levels of learning so I decided to study computers because in all my studying which I acquired in my 60s, computers were not available at the time," he said.

He was a finalist in the secondary elections where he was running for Member of Parliament position against present MP Sifiso Sompisi Magagula of Ntfontjeni where he lost to come in fourth place. He further mentioned that he did his education at William



GRADUATE: 72-year-old graduate Clifford Mamba posing with his certificate after graduating in Computer Literacy. (Pics: Bahle Gama)

Pitcher Teacher's Training College where he obtained a certificate then furthered at the University of Eswatini where he did his Diploma in Education which enabled him to teach and head

schools like Lozitha High. His university education was completed by obtaining a United Nations Scholarship. The youngest graduate was 19 years old.



ATTENTIVE: A section of the graduates listening attentively to the remarks made to them.

Kufundza akucedvwa - Lady Howard

"THE need to acquire literacy is a lifelong process that begins from cradle to the grave," were Minister of Education Lady Howard-Mabuza's words to the 63 graduates that graduated from the Sebenta National Institute yesterday where they received their certificates.

"It gives me great pleasure and honour to be part of this very important event where we witness vocational skills that have been acquired in the Institute," she said. Mabuza stated that literacy is an indispensable skill that sets a foundation for everyone's future, children, youth and adults to engage in learning opportunities necessary to respond to everyday challenges. The fact that human beings, regardless of age, geographical context and socio-economic background, need certain literacy to face everyday challenges, make literacy to be an age-independent and a continuous activity," she continued.

The minister further applauded the Sebenta National Institute for



REMARKS: Minister of Education Lady Howard-Mabuza addressing the graduates.

closing the educational gap and continuing to provide functional literacy to Swazis who would otherwise be lost, marginalised or deprived of an opportunity to participate in their own development.

SEARCH FOR MISSING OLIVEIRA STILL ON - COPS

By Ackel Zwane
Mbabane

NEARLY two years since the kidnapping of Matsapha businessman Almor Oliveira, the police are still looking for him, even though they had already admitted that he might as well be dead.

Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said the investigations were never put off and that police do not normally do so but it is the office of the directorate of public prosecutions (DPP) and does this through the court. It is exactly 19 months since he went missing.

Until December 2017, according to police statistics, the missing Oliveira had shot up figures to 500 of missing people in Eswatini.

Oliveira was kidnapped on April 16, 2017 at his business premises in Matsapha where he decided to pass by on his way from Easter mass. It was later said the mafia was involved in his kidnapping, with police claiming that international criminal elements were present in the country. Adding that they had unearthed an astounding amount of information which led to the arrest of the two Asians, one from Mainland China but he was not necessarily associated with the kidnapping. A special team of investigators was personally announced by then National Commissioner Isaac Magagula but there has been no report to date from this special team, neither has there been



STILL MISSING: Matsapha businessman Almor Oliveira.

any mention of whether it still exists.

Two months after his kidnapping police declared him dead, suggesting that Oliveira did not live beyond three days, after he was kidnapped on Sunday April 16, 2017 at his business premises.

Tests

The investigators based their declaration on forensic tests conducted in South Africa which confirmed that blood stains found in Oliveira's car, a day after the kidnapping belonged to him and that the hair strands found on one of the suspects' firearm matched with the blood.

A senior detective disclosed that "the three kidnap suspects who are on trial failed to show proof of life when they demanded a ransom of \$384 600 from Oliveira's family, despite the family saying the money was readily available." The three suspects Qing Ming He, his wife Zheng Renmel and his girlfriend

Dao Thanta Hue, refused to give the police passwords to their iPhones, something which made the government spend \$2 900 to acquire technical assistance from the United States to unlock the phones. Since the last 10 months to December 2017, 500 people had gone missing in the country. This means about 50 people go missing every month in the country with a population of 1.1 million people, says a police report released over the weekend.

These include Portuguese businessman Almor Simoes Oliveira. Children under the age of 17 years dominate the missing persons' list with a total of 213 recorded while the age group of 18-24 years recorded 122 missing persons. The age group of 25 and above recorded 143 missing persons in the period between January and October 2017, the police report states.

REMOVE PAY CUTS OR NO WORK ON XMAS - NURSES

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

UNLESS government withdraws a memo instituting deductions from salaries of members of the Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union who allegedly absconded from work during the recent Trade Union Congress of Swaziland instigated strike last September, all members will not attend to patients in the holidays of the month of December, which includes Christmas.

This was said by SWADNU President Bheki Mamba yesterday in a telephonic interview.

The memo was circulated to all employees at Pigg's Peak Branch, who are accused of participating in the illegal strike in September. He said if government continued implementing the pay cut, nurses would return fire with fire. He said they had received the minute and had requested the secretary to write to the ministry to amend this statement since it is not true that some nurses participated in the September strike.

He said the union wrote a letter and alerted the ministry that SWADNU had called off their strike action, emphasising that SWADNU was never part of the September strike that was called by TUCOSWA.

"If the principal secretary does not amend the memo, it will mean that we call a big meeting and plan a way

forward," further adding that if some of their members would encounter pay cuts, it would mean they will not work during the coming holidays.

He said for now they would wait for a response from the ministry. "It is not fair that nurses will be accused of things they have not done or committed," he said.

The memo reads: "The office of the principal secretary acknowledges receipt of the names of employees who participated in the illegal strike in September 2018. This is a very serious matter that needs to be discouraged."

Strike

The Principal Secretary at the Ministry of Health, Dr Simon Zwane requested to inform all employees who participated in the strike action that those deductions for the no-work-no-pay would be effected in December 2018.

Dr Zwane said the minute was not addressed to nurses specifically but to all health workers who absconded work to attend the strike action.

"The minute is addressed to all health workers who left their workstations to join the strike action in September. It is not only nurses that will be affected by the pay cut but all workers working under the ministry of health who have been identified," he said, adding that he would not talk much on the strike action initiated by the union as they know where to address such issues.

COVER STORY

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

A man from Mangwaneni is currently in critical condition at the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital after he was allegedly assaulted by two Pigg's Peak police officers while at the station.

The assault is said to have taken place on Saturday at the Pigg's Peak Police Station.

Due to the fact that the incident is under investigation, the name of the victim as well as that of the two accused police officers has been withheld.

The assault victim is currently suffering from severe internal bleeding, heart seizures, the swelling of his kidneys as well as nerve damage on both his arms and legs.

Speaking to this publication before suffering a second heart seizure, the victim said he was assaulted because he had informed members of the public that he had found a twin plug extension cord that happened to be stolen.

"The whole incident started after I found a twin plug extension on the road outside my residence at Mangwaneni. I approached two men who I informed of my discovery. The two men then informed me that there was a recent break-in at a certain house and a twin plug and other household items were stolen," he said.

The victim went on to say that he told the two men that the owner of the twin plug should come to him later and take it.

"After talking to the two men, I went to work and came back home in the evening only to find the police van parked outside my residence. The police inside the van arrested me swiftly before I could speak and they took me for interrogation at the

COPS 'ASSAULT' SUSPECT KENTUCKY STYLE

● He lies critically ill at Pigg's Peak Government Hospital and station commander commissions recording of statement against rogue officers



BASHED: This man from Mangwaneni is in critical condition at the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital after he was allegedly assaulted by two Pigg's Peak police officers on Saturday at the Pigg's Peak Police station. (Pic: Sizwe Dlamini)

Pigg's Peak Police Station. At first I was locked into a certain office," he narrated.

The victim added that the police

first asked him about the break-in and robbery whence he said he knew nothing.

This answer then angered the police

who then began the brutal assault.

"The police asked me to show them where the other stolen items were hidden and I said I did not know anything. This angered the police who assaulted me by first tying a piece of cloth around my mouth so that I cannot scream. They then hit me multiple times with fists and kicks in the stomach. I fell to the floor and the police stood on my stomach while laughing.

They then put a plastic bag over my face and thereafter sank my head into water until I passed out," he added.

Victim

When the victim woke up he was allegedly ordered to go home to change his underwear. The victim then staggered to the nearby Pigg's Peak Government Hospital where he fainted at the gate. The quick thinking Pigg's Peak Government Hospital staff then admitted the individual to the male ward.

While having the interview, the assault victim suffered a bout of seizures and emergency medical staff were called into the ward to assess the situation. This medical emergency cut the interview short.

Currently, the assault victim is still in critical condition with medical practitioners saying he might lose his life due to the multiple internal injuries he allegedly suffered during the assault.

The relative was speaking to this publication at the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital minutes after the assault victim fainted yesterday.

The relative said he and the assault victim had reported the alleged police assault to Pigg's Peak Station Commander Webster Methula who then opened up an assault investigation against the accused officers.

Due to the fact that police are investigating the matter, the name of the assault victim and identity of his relative have been withheld.

The distressed relative said Methula was of great help as he allowed the victim earlier to tell his side of the story leading up to the eventual assault.

"Methula first allowed my relative to tell his side of the story and then asked two different police officers to record the assault statement.

After doing this, Methula then transported me to the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital to check on my relative.

The station commander then promised to follow up on the incident as it was a very serious accusation that police officers have assaulted a member of the public in such a brutal and life threatening manner," he added.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the incident and said police were investigating the matter.

Men to be forced by law to maintain children

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Ezulwini

MEN who impregnate women and fail to maintain their children will be in trouble as senators want to enact a law to force men to take care of their children.

The law could be put in place to ensure that such people are taken to task for their actions because now, their actions are affecting the nation, calling on government to use the little resources it has in taking care of children who have fathers that are fit enough to take care of them.

This transpired yesterday when senators had their workshop on Parliament Practice and Procedure. The workshop was held at Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre in Ezulwini. The event was graced

by the presence of Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini, Cabinet ministers and senators. It must be stated though that the senators did not state openly that they would be enacting the legislation.

However, such an issue kept cropping up during discussions held by the senators during the workshop. On many occasions, the issue was used as an example as senators were lectured on the procedures followed when legislations were enacted. Each time an example was made on this issue, senators would be amused. The female senators showed excitement each time this issue was raised, even though it was raised as an example. They would clap hands in appreciation each time it was raised. They clearly showed that they would love a situation where Parliament would enact legislation to address this problem. Clerk to Parliament Ndvuna

Dlamini made an example of such an issue. This was during a presentation he made by about the functions of Parliament. Dlamini said one of the core functions of the Legislature was to enact laws. That was when he made an example of the rife practice of men who fathered children and failed to take responsibility. He said Deputy Prime Minister Themba Masuku could raise concern on the fact that such a social ill should be addressed. Such matters are under the auspices of the Deputy Prime Minister's Office (DPMO). That would be when a Bill could be tabled in Parliament and finally be passed as an Act of Parliament. Dlamini went on to make an example of people who never took care of their old parents yet they were working, saying Parliament could also address that in the form of legislation.

be seen as a means of addressing a problem yet that could not be the case. He said other situations could simply be resolved through formulation of policies. He made an example of HIV and AIDS, saying many countries managed to address that problem without putting legislations in place.

where they adopted a policy requiring everyone to have two children at most, to address the problem of overpopulation in that country. Dlamini cautioned though that at times, legislations could

...SENATORS ALSO LOVED THAT IDEA

THE same example was also raised by Parliament Legal Clerk Lunga Dlamini, when making his presentation on legal drafting.

He even made an example of China,

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4 NATIONAL NEWS



WE ARE DONE: These two ladies leaving after buying their meal. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

FRENZY AS CHINESE FAST FOOD FRANCHISE HITS TOWN

By Nozipho Sibiya
Matsapha

TREESTI, a well-known fast food franchise in China, has expanded to Matsapha, Sigodweni Complex.

It was officially opened with massive promotional items yesterday. When this publication visited the food outlet, it was bursting to the seams with chicken enthusiasts queuing for their orders.

Kevin You, the restaurant director, said customers started coming as early as 9am and they had been busy for the better half of the day. He said the food outlet closes at 10pm.

The new eatery is located at Sigodweni next to Total Filling Station at the location known as Mashayitafula Complex.

Affordable

The restaurant serves meals which include fried chicken, burgers, pizzas, seafood and other delicacies, which are comparatively far affordable than the usual eateries populating mainly the urban areas.

A piece of fried chicken, for instance,



NEXT CUSTOMER PLEASE: Cashiers serving customers during the official opening of Treesti (an eatery outlet) in Matsapha, Mashayitafula, yesterday.

costs E5.90 less than the average prize in other fast foods.

Burgers also cost as little as E9. "Customers are buying one quarter chicken and get one free for only E29.90. If a customer spends E99.99 or above,

he or she gets a free gift," he said.

He said the turnout of customers at Matsapha proved that his business would thrive. He also added that next year, he was planning on opening another outlet in Manzini.



BUSY DAY: Treesti employees sorting orders of the customers.

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SENATORS WORKSHOP



FOLLOWING: Senators Princess Sikhanyiso and Peter Bhembe, who are also part of the Cabinet ministers, following the proceedings during the senators workshop held at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre yesterday. (Pics: Mduyizi Mngomezulu)



**PLAN-
NING:** Senate President Lindiwe Dlamini talking to Clerk Ndvuna Dlamini.



PAPER WORK: Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini and Clerk to Parliament Ndvuna Dlamini go through some paper work during the workshop.



LEARNING: Senators Lizzie Nkosi, Sylvia Mthethwa, Princess Tsandzisiwe, Princess Sikhanyiso and Peter Bhembe in full concentration.



**LEFT - CLARI-
FY:** Senator Isaac Magagula asks for a clarification while his colleague Alberto Samuels jots down a few points.



PHOTOSHOOT: Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini poses with the ministers and senators after officially opening the workshop.



MADAM: Senate President Lindiwe Dlamini makes her remarks during the workshop.



ON A LIGHTER NOTE: Senators Princess Tsandzisiwe and Sylvia Mthethwa share a light moment.



AT WORK: A section of the senators following proceedings.



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6 NATIONAL NEWS

Child deaths unacceptably high - Minister of health

THE country's current mortality ratio stands at 593 per 100 000 births and the neonatal mortality rate is at 20 per 1 000 live births.

Minister of Health Lizzie Nkosi, represented by Principal Secretary Dr Simon Zwane at the function, said these figures were very high and unacceptable at all.

Nkosi was speaking at Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital during the handover of donated medical equipment for the maternal and infant care improvement project by the Republic of China (Taiwan).

The minister said with these challenges of mortality and neonatal rate, the project came at an opportune time when the ministry of health is happy to find innovative ways of preventing such deaths from happening whether in health facilities or in communities.

She said the two-year project came at a time when the country was working hard towards improving maternal health as well as infant and child health.

"You will recall that as a health sector, we committed ourselves to this challenge and we are tracking this in the Swaziland Development Index (SDI).

The SDI is a tool the country adopted to track our progress towards His Majesty's vision 2022," she said. She said it is in that regard that the ministry of health intensified exploring innovative ways of reducing maternal and neonatal morbidity.

TAIWAN DONATES MEDICAL EQUIPMENT WORTH OVER E2 MILLION TO NAZARENE

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

THE Republic of China (Taiwan) has donated medical equipment worth E2.16 million to government through the 'maternal and infant health care improvement project' implemented at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital and its community health clinics in the Manzini region.

The project is funded by Taiwan ICDF.

The E2.16m donation took place yesterday at RFM Hospital.

Ambassador for the Republic of China (Taiwan) Jeremy Liang said this year alone, his government was able to procure medical equipment amounting to approximately E2.16 million.

The items which were donated by ROC (Taiwan) included manual hospital beds (23), vital sign monitors (nine), infant warmers (one) basic CPAP (one) CD4 count analyser (six), steriliser (six), height measurement board (six) and first aid kit (eight).

Liang said the main purpose of



THANK YOU: Ministry of Health Principal Secretary Dr Simon Zwane and Taiwan Ambassador Jeremy Liang posing for a group photo with other officials at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital yesterday.

these medical equipment is to provide good quality health service to Eswatini nation in collaboration with Taiwan.

He said as the project introduced standard operating procedures to increase standard of health care in Eswatini Nazarene health institutions, one of the standard operating procedures is focused in maintenance of the infant incubator to ensure a longer life span of equipment.

The ambassador said the gov-

ernment has also provided capacity to 12 seed instructors, nurses who went to Taiwan for training on antenatal care (ANC), post natal care (PNC) and case management.

He said these seed instructors were now training nurses on case management and rural health motivators on health promotion.

The ambassador said on another note, the government of Taiwan has embarked on a mission of financially supporting the project in its endeavour of teaching the public

through a radio programme. Liang said the government of Taiwan would support the government of Eswatini through this project on capacity building and medical equipment procurement till July 2019.

Furthermore, this project has been extended to have a phase II, which is to be implemented from January 2019 till December 2023, with the same objectives as the current project. He said Phase II of the project is going to cover nationwide.



LIGHT MOMENT: Eswatini TV CEO Bongani Dlamini and Eswatini Mobile CEO Jeff Penberton sharing a light moment.

Eswatini TV owed over E72m in TV licences

Stories by Sabelo Majola
Mbabane

THE Eswatini Television Authority (ETVA) is owed over E72 million by TV licence defaulters.

The millions owed to the station make it hard for it to realise its aspirations which are in line with digital migration. This was revealed by ETVA Chief Executive Officer Bongani 'Sgcoko' Dlamini when making his remarks during the official launch of the Eswatini Mobile e-Mali, an Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (UUSD) which enables customers to pay

their TV licences at the comfort of their phones. Dlamini wondered if it is African's culture to expect a good product, in the context of pleasant content in TV programmes, against nothing one has put to improve it. "We live in a fundamental technological change and our dream is for the station to have channels that are in line with the demographic standards of the people but it is the funds that are holding us back from realising that dream. About E72 million is owed to the station by TV licence defaulters and that is only the conservative populace which means there is way more money with the defaulters, the same funds we could be using to improve the station's products. Everyone has to

come to the party and pay for their TV licences," he said. Dlamini said where there is a right for people to enjoy, comes a responsibility and he urged the nation to utilise the newly launched collecting system to pay for their TV Licences. Dlamini commended the TV Licence Consortium and all stakeholders for their efforts in ensuring that people don't shy away from their responsibility and he acknowledged that there is actually light at the end of the tunnel in the project. "Projects of this fashion come with the aspirations of Their Majesties of attaining a first world status by 2022 and as a station we want to be seen moving along the borders of those aspirations," he said.



PRESENT: TV Licence Consortium CEO Modercai Donga in a conversation with Mathokoza Shongwe.

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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPLICATION FOR REZONING IN TERMS OF THE MBABANE TOWN PLANNING SCHEME OF 2016

I HENRY S. SHONGWE THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY IN QUESTION, HERE BY MAKE A PUBLIC NOTICE IN TERMS OF CLAUSE 1.7 OF THE 2012 MBABANE TOWN PLANNING SCHEME, THAT I WISH TO APPLY FOR THE REZONING OF PLOT 361 MAHWALALA ZONE 5 MBABANE, DISTRICT OF HHOOHO, ESWATINI FROM RESIDENTIAL ZONE TO COMMERCIAL ZONE IN ORDER TO DEVELOP THE SITE AS A BUTCHERY SHOPPING CENTRE.

ANYONE HAVING AN OBJECTING TO THIS APPLICATION MAY LODGE THEIR OBJECTIONS, IN WRITING, WITH THE MBABANE CITY COUNCIL AT P.O BOX 1, MBABANE SWAZILAND NOT LATER THAN 13 DECEMBER 2018, THAT IS 21 DAYS FROM THE LAST PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE NAMELY ON 22 NOVEMBER 2018.

R/N 205765

Pay your TV licence fee through Eswatini Mobile's e-Mali

CUSTOMERS can now pay their TV licences from the comfort of their homes through Eswatini Mobile's e-Mali service.

This relatively new service allows one to pay his/her bills from anywhere, anytime using a mobile phone. The service is free and accessible to all Eswatini Mobile e-Mali registered customers. This partnership is one of the many collaborations that the organisation is excited to announce as it will allow Emaswati to make this very important transaction without having to walk all the way to a TV Licence office.

Eswatini Mobile CEO Jeff Penberton said the first 1 000 customers who would pay for their TV Licence using e-Mali would get E25 cash back vouchers that can be used to buy Eswatini Mobile Airtime.

"Additionally, all those who pay for their TV licence before the year ends on December 31, 2018 stand a chance to win a smartphone and other consolation prizes.

This partnership is not the first we have had with the TV Licence Consortium and we look forward to more partnership opportunities in the future," he said.

SODV compel law enforcers to prioritise UNESWA student's rape case

Stories by Samkelisiwe Khoza
Mbabane

THE Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act, 2018 compels law enforcers to give priority to the rape case of the University of Eswatini (UNESWA) student that was allegedly drugged and raped by a prince.

Section 104 of the SODV says when dealing with cases under the Act, police officers carrying out the investigation and the registrar of the High Court or clerk of Magistrate's Court dealing with court roll in each court are to give these cases priority.

Cases under the SODV consist of rape, incest, sexual assault, compelled sexual assault and unlawful stalking to mention a few.

The rape incident supposedly transpired in September in a guest house in Manzini where the student was reportedly lured into the prince's car while at the university during a students' event.

It is said she was coerced into taking a drive with the prince to a guest house in Manzini where she was allegedly gang-raped.

It was confirmed that the survivor reported the matter to the police, how-



INVESTIGATING:
Chief Police
Information and
Communications
Officer Phindile
Vilakati.

ever, neither the prince nor his friend have been arrested.

Consequently, an online petition was activated last Monday by a group called 'Say No to Rape' at the www.change.org website calling for the arrest of the prince.

The petition has been drawing attention daily with heated comments and signatories supporting the call for the arrest of the rape suspects.

The petition highlighted that the survivor had recently been harassed and intimidated by the perpetrators.

It was also alleged on the petition that the survivor had also been offered an overseas scholarship if she dropped the

charges against the prince and his friend.

Moreover, the SODV stated that failure by police to comply with an obligation imposed in terms of the policy directives constitute a misconduct which may be dealt with by the commissioner of police or such other responsible authority.

Meanwhile, Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Phindile Vilakati said the matter is still under investigation. Vilakati elaborated that ongoing investigations could not be fully disclosed to the public. PICO assured the nation that the police have been working tirelessly regarding the matter and that everyone is equal before the law.

Law Society to engage with DPP, police on case

THE Law Society of Swaziland will be engaging with the Director of Public Prosecutions and police so that the law takes its course on the rape case.

Secretary General Thulani Maseko said they were disappointed at the snail pace in which the rape case allegedly involving the prince has been going.

"Without prejudging and pre-empting whatever legal process and investigations that may be on-going on the matter, the Law Society will be engaging with the relevant stakeholders, in particular the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the police, with a view to have the law take its course without fear, favour or prejudice.

The rule of law guarantees equality before the law and equal protection under the law," he said.

Maseko said they were concerned about the allegations that there had been failure to set the law in motion against the reported suspect on the rape allegations.

He said with the enactment of the Sexual and Domestic Violence Act, 2018 it is apparent that vio-

lence against women and other vulnerable groups should be dealt with immediately.

"Working with all concern, we hope that this matter will be given the necessary attention it deserves, so that the victim can get redress in accordance with the law," he said.

Last Thursday the case docket was submitted to the DPP's chambers for further advisory on which steps to take regarding the alleged prince's matter. Recently, the docket was submitted back to the police.

The docket was handed over to the Director of Public Prosecution's chambers last Thursday on this matter. However, more evidence is required before the said prince is eligible for arrest.

A case docket is an official court record book which lists all the cases before the court, which may also note the status or action required for each case.

Meanwhile, it was established that the DPP's office had taken a stance not to afford this case special treatment just because it involves a member of the royal family.

Gender activists march to Magistrate's Court over murdered woman

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

AS part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence, throngs of women and men marched to the Manzini Magistrate's Court yesterday demanding justice for slain Ellan DuPont (27).

DuPont was allegedly killed by her former boyfriend at Malkerns on November 20.

It is alleged that the jilted former boyfriend according to family members had been abusive towards DuPont which resulted into her leaving him.

It is said that the accused stalked her, waited for her next to her homestead, took her under a marble tree, strangled her with a belt, killing her. Allegations are to the effect that the accused raped her before killing her. Relatives of the deceased, together with gender activists marched to the court where they sought audience with Principal Magistrate David Khumalo.

The activists were of the idea that the murder accused will be appearing in court for a remand hearing.

However, they were informed that the accused was remanded at the correctional facility as he was facing a murder charge.

The activists camped outside the Magistrate's Court gates holding placards and in song.

They called for the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala to put in place mechanisms that will ensure that perpetrators of crimes against women stay in jail for good. They also asked that the justice system speed up the process of sentencing accused persons.



SUPPORT: The activists have since called for the Chief Justice to ensure prosecution of offenders involved in gender based violence cases is done with haste.

The activists also raised concern on the manner in which people who are arrested for serious crimes such as murder are released on bail.

They said the fear is that the murdered suspect will be set free soon as

murderers are granted bail starting from as little as E1 000 and ordered to pay the rest of the money in a form of surety. The activists are expected to continue with their campaigns throughout the 16 Days of Activism.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM: Marchers inside the Manzini Magistrate's Court premises yesterday called for justice for Ellan DuPont (Pics: Samkelisiwe Khoza)

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR APPLICATION FOR REZONING IN TERMS OF THE EZULWINI TOWN PLANNING SCHEME OF 2018

We the Swaziland Islamic Education Trust, the owners of the property in question, hereby make a Public Notice in terms of Clause 1.7 of the 2018 Ezulwini Town Planning Scheme that We wish to apply for the **REZONING** of the Remainder of Portion 10 of Farm 50 from High Density Residential (R-3) to Public Facility (PF) in order to develop the site as an extension of the existing school.

Anyone having an objection to this application may lodge their objections, in writing, with the Ezulwini Town Council at P.O. Box 344, Ezulwini, Eswatini not later than **27 December 2018** that is 21 days from the last publication of the Notice namely on **6 December 2018**.

8 NATIONAL NEWS

Stories by Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

THE European Union (EU) has injected about E4.1million for the waste minimisation and management project spearheaded by the Mbabane Municipal Council.

The project will focus on waste recycling and food waste composting practices in Mbabane. The project is funded under the EU Local Authority (LA) budget line for an amount of Euros 250 000 (E4.1m) and would be implemented in partnership with the Municipal Council of Mbabane for a period of three years. EU Ambassador to the Kingdom of Eswatini Esmeralda Hernandez Aragon, said local authorities were essential in building the foundations for broad-based democratic ownership of development policies and processes as well as for inclusive and suitable growth globally. "In partnering with LAs, EU aims at contributing to governance and accountability through inclusive policy-making, hence empowering citizens and populations through

EU INJECTS E4.1M WASTE MINIMISATION, MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN MBABANE



APPRECIATION: Mbabane Municipal Council Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule hands over a gift to the EU Ambassador Esmeralda Hernandez Aragon during the launch of the EU-Mbabane Municipal Council projects on waste management initiatives at the Prince of Wales Ground yesterday. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

the voicing and structuring of their collective needs so that they can benefit

from qualitative social services and job creation in their cities," she added.

She said LAs hold the responsibility of mobilising local societies' opinions

and resources while acting as catalysts for change and addressing the urgent challenges faced by local communities. "Let me congratulate the municipality of Mbabane for having taken the bold and decisive steps of addressing the issue of waste which is a big challenge, especially to the green environment and health of our people," she said.

She said the storage, collection, transportation and final treatment or disposal of wastes has become a major problem in urban centres. This called for the adoption of innovative and integrated approaches to waste management utilising the latest technology and skills to turn the waste into productive inputs for business opportunities and income generation for their communities. "You will agree with me that waste management is one of the most visible urban services whose effectiveness and sustainability serves as an indicator of

good local governance, sound municipal management and successful urban reform. It is therefore a very good indicator of performance of the municipality," she said. She said the work and demonstrations they witnessed from the different communities was evidence that the Municipal Council of Mbabane had joined the global trend in adopting innovative and smart initiatives to manage its waste. "Let me encourage you to continue to manage your waste very well. Mbabane will indeed become a smarter city as recycling and the generation of secondary materials from municipal wastes imply more employment and economic productivity for the residents of the city," she noted. She said she was looking forward to a strengthened and productive relationship with the Municipal Council of Mbabane in the implementation of this very innovative project.

Global University

2019 INTAKE

MAJOR PARTNERSHIP WITH City University of Science & Technology Zimbabwe

VOCATIONAL COURSES

(CMBERTMAN)

MARKETING MANAGEMENT
PURCHASING AND SUPPLY MGT
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
HEALTH AND SAFETY
SECRETARIAL AND OFFICE MGT
ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

(CIC)

LOGISTICS SUPPLY CHAIN & TRANSPORT MGT
PROJECT MGT
HUMAN RESOURCE
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION
HOTEL OPERATIONS MGT
PROJECT MGT
STORES MANAGEMENT & STOCK CONTROL

(GUC)

GRAPHIC DESIGN
PSYCHOSOCIAL COUNSELLING

ACADEMIC COURSE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIPLOMA IN PRIMARY EDUCATION
DIPLOMA IN SECONDARY EDUCATION
PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS DIPLOMA

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS STUDIES

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
PURCHASING & SUPPLY MGT

DIPLOMAS IN COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE
MARKETING
ACCOUNTING
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

DIPLOMA ICT

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DIP IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY

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SHOW OFF: Mbabane Municipal Council CEO Gideon Mhlango joined by Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule and other staff members in displaying some of their products.

Mbabane Municipality establishes recycling centre

MBABANE Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule says the Council has established the first ever Buy Back Centres which also includes a community recycling centre at Msunduzi.

Speaking during the launch, he said the Council had seized several opportunities to adopt global environmental initiatives and localise them to improve the city's goals towards environmental protection.

Present during the launch was Mbabane

Municipal Council Chief Executive Officer Gideon Mhlango, councillors and EU staff members.

Issues

"The Council has also led capacity building initiatives for the establishment of community resource persons to champion issues of environmental protection and sustainability within urban communities," he said.

He said the Council has taken a leap to build resilience through converted

efforts of building capacities, educating and raising awareness on promoting sustainable environment management in all urban communities.

Commitment

"The waste minimisation project, whose focus is on recycling and composting, is aimed at enhancing knowledge on the city's commitment in ensuring that the city and its human settlements are safe, resilient and sustainable," he said.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accidents Fund is a Government Parastatal with the mandate to compensate, treat and rehabilitate victims of motor vehicle accidents. Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the positions listed below:

- EKUPHILENI CLINIC ADMINISTRATOR
- INTERNAL AUDIT OFFICER
- CASE MANAGEMENT OFFICER (4)
- CLAIMS OFFICER (2)

Detailed information regarding each position can be obtained on the homepage of the Sincephetelo website under VACANCIES at www.mva.org.sz

Applications with curriculum vitae to be submitted to: Human Resources Manager, P. O. Box 4239, Mbabane, H100 or alternatively emailed to recruitment@mva.org.sz

Closing date for each application is 6 December 2018. If you do not receive a response in 4 weeks from close of advert, consider your application unsuccessful.

MBABANE OFFICE PARK
MVA Office Park
Mbhilibi Street
Mbabane

web: www.mva.org.sz

MANZINI BRANCH
SRIC Building
Opposite Hub Pick 'n Pay
Manzini

call centre: 800 7005

PIGG'S PEAK SERVICE CENTRE
Office # 2B SNPF Building
Evelyn-Baring Street
Pigg's Peak
tel: 2408 6800

SINCEPHETELO MVA FUND

- INVESTMENTS OFFICER
- TRANSPORT OFFICER
- PROCUREMENT OFFICER
- RISK MANAGEMENT OFFICER



MEDSCHEME ESWATINI - 2019 Prices & Products

2019 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Employer Groups	M0	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5
1 -20 members	2,483	3,496	3,904	4,104	4,200	4,471
21-499 members	2,359	3,322	3,708	3,899	3,990	4,248
500+ members	2,235	3,147	3,513	3,693	3,780	4,024

Key features of the product:

- E2.5 million per beneficiary in Hospital Fees (for a family of four, that's E10 million cover);
- Travel & Accommodation subsidy
- Pregnancy - E33,100
- Cancer Treatment
- HIV/AIDS

- Organ Transplants
- Prosthesis
- Renal dialysis
- Medication
 - o Chronic
 - o Acute medication
 - o Pharmacy - Over the counter medication
- Ambulance Services

- Doctor Consultations
- Optometry
- Dentistry
- We charge a maximum of 3 children but cover all children is more than 3
- We cover aged biological parents and in-law parents

2019 FLEXIBLE PLAN

Employer Groups	M0	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5
1 -20 members	928	1,307	1,459	1,534	1,570	1,671
21-499 members	882	1,241	1,386	1,457	1,491	1,588
500+ members	835	1,176	1,313	1,380	1,413	1,504

Key features of the product:

- E750k per beneficiary in Hospital Benefits (i.e. for a family of four, that's E3 million cover);
- Travel & Accommodation subsidy
- Pregnancy - E31,300
- Cancer treatment
- HIV/AIDS

- Renal dialysis
- Prosthesis
- Chronic medication
- Ambulance Services
- 5 Savings levels from E2,000 up to E15,000. Savings used for out of hospital benefits.
- We charge a maximum of 3 Children but cover all your children if

- more than 3
- We cover aged biological parents and in-law parents

2019 TERTIARY CARE PLAN

Employer Groups	M0	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5
All	686	966	1,079	1,134	1,160	1,236

Key features of the product:

- Overall Annual Limit - E300k per family
- Ambulance Services
- 2 Specialist visit per family per annum subject to GP Referral
- Step Down facility

- Pathology, Physiotherapy, Radiography & Radiology - benefits In-Hospital
- 2 x post natal midwife consultation per pregnancy

2019 PRIMARY CARE PLAN

Employer Groups	M0	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5
All	340	478	534	561	574	611

Key features of the product:

- No Hospitalization
- 5 GP visits per beneficiary
- 2 Dentistry Consultations
- 1 Eye test per beneficiary

- Pharmacy medication
- Acute Medication
- Pathology
- Radiology

2019 HOSPITAL CASH PLAN

Employer Groups	P	A	C	Aged Parent
All	299	150	75	374

Our Hospital Cash Plan pays out E3,000 day to the member from day 3 of Hospitalization up to E15,000 per event and E35,000 per annum per family.

Basic Medscheme Eswatini Terms & conditions

- No waiting period shall apply for groups of 10 and more principal members;

- No waiting period shall apply if you were on a medical aid/health insurer prior to joining Medscheme Eswatini;
- Condition specific waiting periods may apply;
- We allow split groups as per provisions and conditions of FSRA

Circular 1 of 2016;

- Members may exit anytime of the year by giving 3 months written notice.

Contact details

e-mail: info@medschemeswaziland.com

Tel: (+268) 2409 8700

Website: www.medschemeswaziland.com

Pre-Authorizations: preauths@medschemeswaziland.com

Terms and Conditions apply on all the above

10 NATIONAL NEWS

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD IN COURT OVER CHURCH LAND DISPUTE

Stories by Sandile Nkambule
High Court

THE Kwaluseni branch of Assemblies of God has taken a resident of the area to court, seeking an order interdicting him from interfering or dealing whatsoever with land belonging to the church.

The church has filed an urgent application at the High Court where they are also seeking an interim order that the resident Johane Dlamini, his agents or any person acting on his interests, to remove debris and rubble allegedly unlawfully and wrongfully placed on the land in issue situated opposite the church at Kwaluseni in Matsapha within the next three days after the order has been issued.

The church is also seeking an order of court that the second respondent (national commissioner of police) is

Johane accused of violently threatening church members

IN his affidavit, Khumalo submitted that the alleged continued interference and damage to the property is serious prejudice to the applicant and violence is being threatened against the church members.

He submitted that the applicant (church) has tried to approach the Sigodweni Police Station as the first respondent interfered with the land, but the police did not assist the

directed and authorised through his officers to arrest any person who will contemptuously interfere or deal with the land in question in whatever manner.

Represented by lawyer Mbhekwa Mthethwa, the church submitted in the

applicant alleging that the matter is already before court, hence they could not interfere unless directed by the court as this is a land dispute.

Pending

Khumalo submitted that the first respondent was duly served with the application and he filed his answering papers in opposition to the application launched by the applicant and pending before court.

Khumalo informed the court that

application that has been filed under a certificate of urgency that on or about June 10, 2013, the applicant (church) instituted proceedings wherein it sought certain reliefs.

According to Timothy Khumalo of the church in his founding affidavit,

the matter is pending at the High Court and waiting for an allocation of a date having filed the book of pleadings on record.

He further told the court in his papers that the first respondent (Dlamini) has now interfered with the property to the extent that he is removing and destroying the boundary fence by separating the applicant's property and of the applicant.

during that year, they had sought an order restraining and interdicting the first respondent (Dlamini) or his agents and those who claim title through him from interfering and dealing in whatever manner with the land located directly opposite the church.

Judge recuses himself in matter

HIGH Court Judge John Magagula yesterday recused himself in the matter involving the two parties.

Judge Magagula stated that since he is a member of the church, he cannot be in a position to hear the matter as he has direct interest.

Urgency

The matter was brought before Justice Magagula since he is the duty judge this week and he only got to see that the parties are Dlamini and the church when the papers were brought to him and the matter has been filed under a certificate of urgency.

The matter will now be enrolled before another judge for hearing.

"I humbly submit that they are also dumping rubble and debris on the applicant's property which is interference on their part and this is continuing daily and further submit that the owner of the property (applicant) has a clear right to the use and enjoyment of the property," Khumalo submitted.

They had also sought an order directing the first respondent (Dlamini) or his agents to vacate the said property which rightfully belongs to the church.

Kwaluseni business centre dispute reported to Ludzidzini

By Sandile Nkambule
High Court

THE dispute over the rightful ownership of Kwaluseni Business Centre between Musa Moses Zwane and Mazwi Magagula has been reported to Ludzidzini Council where it was dealt with by the Lusendvo Fakudze-led council.

According to a report from the Eswatini National Treasury dated July 25, 2018, it was resolved by Indvuna Lusendvo Fakudze that the business centre under dispute belongs to the Magagula family not Zwane.

Zwane has filed an urgent application at the High Court where he is seeking an order interdicting and restraining Magagula from coming anywhere near the business centre and further restraining her from threatening Zwane and his tenants.

According to the report signed by Fakudze, the Ludzidzini Council welcomed Magagula who is wife to the late Elliot Kissan Magagula who had come to appeal before the King (*kwembula ingubo enkhosini*) following the High Court judgment that ruled in Zwane's favour.

Concerned

"Make Magagula reported the matter to *libandla* and it was the court judgment that led to her appealing to the King because as far as she is concerned, the business centre is on Eswatini Nation Land (*esicintini*) and that it was given to his father-in-law by the late King Sobhuza II," the report annexed to the application stated.

The report stated that ENL was not for sale, hence the findings of the council were that the land still belongs to the Magagula family and the final order was that Zwane should vacate the premises within a period of seven days upon issuing the report.



RESOLVED: Indvuna Lusendvo Fakudze.

Zwane, a landlord at the business centre, has filed an urgent application at the High Court seeking an order interdicting and restraining his rival (Magagula) from threatening his life and his tenants.

Zwane of Kwaluseni is also seeking an order interdicting and restraining his rival Mazwi Magagula and her allies or anyone acting on her behalf from intimidating, harassing him and his tenants in whatever manner with relation to the property at Kwaluseni Business Centre.

Further, he is seeking an order that Magagula and her allies be restrained, interdicted from setting foot anywhere near the business centre at Kwaluseni pending finalisation of the

matter.

Represented by Manzini-based lawyer Osborne Nzima of Nzima and Associates law firm, Zwane in his founding affidavit submitted that on or about November 2011, he instituted motion proceedings before the High Court against the respondent (Magagula) where the main issue was the ownership of the business centre.

The said proceedings according to the applicant (Zwane) turned in action proceedings wherein trial of the matter ensued and evidence led in court by both parties and the matter was concluded in his (Zwane's) favour on October 2015.

Harassing

He submitted that the first respondent (Magagula), her allies, friends and agents of the second respondent (national commissioner of police) from Sigodweni Police Station are intimidating, harassing and threatening him as well as his tenants at Kwaluseni Business Centre.

He submitted that he cannot properly run his business now that the first respondent, her allies and the second respondent are intimidating him and has been receiving constant threats.

"I am now under constant danger by the threats and intimidation from the first respondent as stated above. The threats and intimidation are imminent as the first respondent and her allies together with the police will attack me and the tenants during November and bringing the normal application will be academic because by the time the matter is heard they would have carried out the threats," Zwane submitted.

He informed the court that he would apply that the first respondent (Magagula) be committed to jail for such a period as the honourable court may deem fit in that he is in contempt of an order of the High Court which ruled in his favour.

Transfer of prosecutors sees cases struck off

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A former manager at OK Furnishers, who was arrested for theft of property amounting to E60 000, saw his case struck off the court roll after some prosecutors were transferred from the Siteki Magistrate's Court.

Gcina Shabangu (34) of Mgamudze was arrested early this year and charged with three counts of theft.

On the first count, he is alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully stolen a sum of E20 000, creating a general deficiency of the said amount to the shop.

He is facing similar offences on the second and third counts, in that he wrongfully and unlawfully stole property valued at E20 000 on each count.

The property belonged to his employer.

The accused person has been appearing before Senior Magistrate Donald Mavuso since June where the case was to be heard.

The matter would, however, be postponed on the instance of the prosecution as it was reportedly putting its house in order.

The matter was back in court yesterday where it was to commence trial. However, prosecutor Melusi Lukhele told the court that the Crown was not ready to continue with the case.

Lukhele acknowledged that the matter had already been postponed several times on the instance of the Crown. He then reported that the latest situation was caused by the recent transfer of a prosecutor who was to lead the case before court.

He then filed an application to have the matter struck off the court roll while the new prosecutor to take over the matter made some background check on it. The application was accordingly approved by the court after the defence counsel did not object to it.

Meanwhile, another matter where one Mafudede Sifundza faced a charge of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm was also struck off the court's roll on similar grounds.



ESWATINI'S IMPORTS SOAR TO E1.3 BILLION

Stories by Nozipho Sibiya
Manzini

ESWATINI'S imports are at E1.3 billion.

National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBoard) Agribusiness Manager Tammy Dlamini said the country's imports exceeded exports.

He said from the E1.3 billion imports, E60-E70 million worth of fruits and vegetables could be produced locally and exported.

Dlamini was speaking during a networking session hosted by LULOTE, courtesy of the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) activities held in their premises.

LULOTE had invited small business owners and reputable institutions such as NIDCS, Eswatini Bank, Swaziland National Agricultural Union (SNAU) and NAMBoard to the session.

Emphasis was made on the fact that local farmers must produce more so that they could be able to supply local stores instead of importing.

Entrepreneurs were further told that it is vital to secure markets before planting their produce and also take note of the standards, for instance colour, type



SPEECH:
Eswatini
Bank's
Chamkile
Simelane making her presentation.

and size. Some of the challenges faced by business people in the agriculture sector are poor market logistics, fierce competition, lack of expert reliability and inconsistency of supply. Key market opportunities highlighted were focus on the current underdeveloped value chain such as indigenous chickens, legumes and yellow maize, focus on value addition including increased sourcing from local farmers to enhance industrialisation of commodities such as tomato processing.

Meanwhile, NIDCS' Machawe Tfwala mentioned that their organisation was teaching people how to start and grow their businesses.

"The main mandate of NIDCS is to lessen imports, so that as a country we get to a point where we export more. Entrepreneurs are encouraged to go into processing," he said.

He further clarified on the industries NIDCS is financing which included agriculture, agro processing, business services and others.

The event was more like a discussion, sharing ideas and looking at the way forward for the success of small business. After every presentation made by the speakers, there was a questions and answer session to cater for those who needed clarity on whatever was presented

LULOTE commemorates Global Entrepreneurship Week

AS part of the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), LULOTE hosted a networking session where Eswatini Bank and other companies were invited.

GEW is a period where different activities are conducted to inspire and empower the next generation of entrepreneurs.

Successful entrepreneurs need connections to get their businesses going, and that's what GEW aims to deliver.

The networking session was staged at LULOTE premises, where small business owners were invited and reputable institutions such as NIDCS, Eswatini Bank, Swaziland National Agricultural Union (SNAU) and National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBoard) were in attendance.

The main idea behind the event was to encourage, motivate the entrepreneurs and also provide awareness on how they can access funding from the above mentioned SMEs financial providers. LULOTE's findings from working with entrepreneurs revealed that most SMEs fail and others are not established due to shortage of finances, hence the need for such networking events with the relevant stakeholders in business.

GEW Chairperson Phumelele

Motsa welcomed the attendees and he encouraged them to work together in order to give each other tips on growing and expanding their different businesses. He further defined entrepreneurship as a force that drives innovation, creates wealth and improves lives in communities.

The first speaker to lighten the day was the guest speaker Sipho Nyawo from VOCTIM, who is an entrepreneur, and has been in the industry for over five years.

He encouraged business owners about the importance of networking.

"Meeting and sharing information is important for growth in the world of business.

We should keep going regardless of the challenges encountered while running businesses on daily basis. Move with positive thinkers (pay no attention to naysayers) and also be open-minded, hence eliminate the 'I know attitude'. Moreover, as entrepreneurs we should know that our network is the net worth, we should understand others and also allow them shape us," he said.

The entrepreneurs were advised that it is vital to invest wisely by guarding their money from fatal loss and also invest in places where they have knowledge and experience.

Eswatini Bank has advice for SMEs

ESWATINI Bank's Chamkile Simelane says GEW arrived at a time when the economy is down, thus the growth of the local economy is dependent on the small business owners.

She said the GEW initiative was a vehicle for strengthening small economies. She, therefore, stated that the GEW initiative is a vehicle for strengthening small economies.

"Nurture your businesses well, treat them like a baby with disability and provide all the attention needed at all times. Eswatini Bank has opened its hands for you to acquire funds in order to expand

your businesses.

Businesses fail due to poor funding, lack of technical expertise, lack of management skills, diversion of produce and not following the business plan which is a roadmap and guide for the business. However, the above mentioned causes of business failure can be prevented.

The possible mitigation for business failure include cooperate governance, equipping yourself with skills, complete value chain assessment, adopting savings culture in order for your business to grow and lastly, networking," she

said.

She further thanked LULOTE for hosting such an event in honour of entrepreneurs.

On that note, SNAU also made a presentation through their representative Nokuphiwa Sithole, who encouraged entrepreneurs in the agri-business to come to SNAU for financial assistance and value chain since they are the voice for farmers.

They also assist them in mitigating challenges faced in production. She also stated that networking helps business people to have a strong base.



TOGETHER: The attendees in a group photo after the event.

HELP UPLIFT ECONOMY - PARASTATALS URGED

By Samkelisiwe Khoza
Mbabane

THE Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Peter Bhembe has pleaded with parastatals to help the country uplift the economy.

Bhembe visited parastatals that are under his ministry such as Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC), water affairs, geological surveys and mines department.

On Monday, the minister visited the Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC) where he also shared same sentiments.

Bhembe is yet to visit the Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (EERA) and the Registrar of Deeds Department this week.

The minister shared with the staff



IN NUMBERS: EEC staff following proceedings during the minister of natural resources visit to the company this week.

members of the different parastatals the importance of uplifting the economy of the country.

"You all need to assist the country turn around the prevailing economic situation. It is in our hands to uplift the economy of this country and we

can achieve a lot working together," Bhembe said.

Bhembe shared briefly his experience while working in one of the gold mines in South Africa. He shared with the staff that it wasn't child's play to work with the whites and being some-

one who was well educated also subjected one to being discriminated against and threats of being fired.

Bhembe highlighted how he was promoted to supervise a less experienced team in one of the mining shafts which he said was meant to frustrate him in his ability to deliver.

"You must support each other for the success of the department and the ministry and take pride at what you do," he added.

Moreover, Bhembe advised the staff on how it is important to have values as an employee. He said staff members need to aspire to make a difference in the world and to create their own set of values. The minister also touched on the importance of having integrity and respect.

"As you perform your function, make

sure you do it to your level best as a perfectionist would do. It is important to be loyal to your employer, keeping time at work and also respecting those you work with." Bhembe said it was also important to respect and appreciate the job one has as a lot of people are currently looking for employment.

Bhembe encouraged them to upgrade themselves as far as education was concerned. He added that no one must die a cleaner or a labourer.

Minister Bhembe urged everyone to come up with ideas that would bring positive change to the current situation faced by the country of financial constraints.

He further invited all to feel free to visit him in his office as he has an open door policy.

"At EWSC I had time for everyone who wanted to see me, there was no need for one to make an appointment to see me," he said.

12 PICTURES

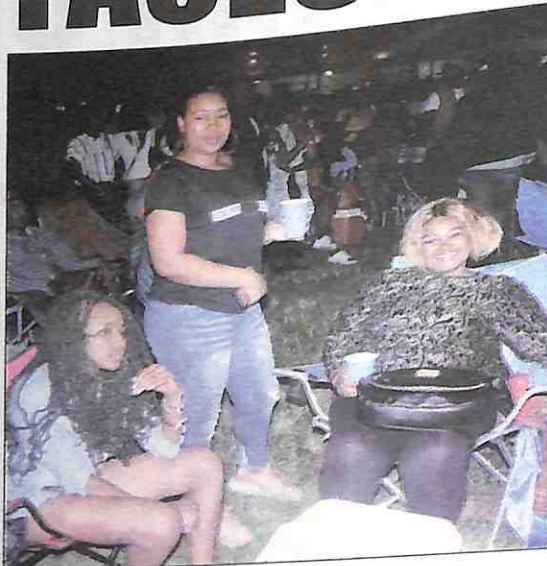


WE WERE THERE: Some of the faces spotted during the FNB SmoothFest held over the weekend. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

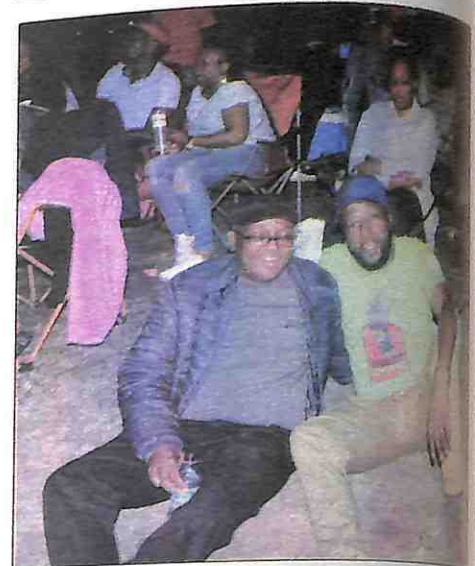


FRIENDS FOR LIFE: Muzi Sukati with his friends Bongani Fakudze and Nathi Nhlengetfwa.

FACES SPOTTED AT




BABES: Some of the fun lovers who were also in attendance. (R)
RELAXED: EEC Corporate Communications Manager Sifiso Dhlamini seated with his friend Alex Mdluli.



CHILLING: Some of the fun lovers who could not miss-out pose for a picture.

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THE SMOOTHFEST



BOSS: Swazi Observer Chairman of the Board Sthofeni Ginindza was also there.



POSE: Sikhomba Gumbi and Melusi Sigwane were also captured at the event. **(R) BUDDIES:** DJ MBO with his friend Ashely Littler.



LEGENDS: Dr Mike Matsebula relaxing with his brother Jabu Matsebula from the Editors Forum.



ALL SMILES: Primrose Bennett and friends all smiles at the show. **(R)**



MORE FIRE: Jiggs Thorne having a wonderful time with his partner Sasha.



NOTICE SWAZIMED OPEN DAY

All members of The Swaziland Medical Aid fund (Swazimed) are invited to an annual Open Day to be held at S & B Restaurant in Matsapha on **Saturday 1st December 2018** at 0900hrs:

Presentations will be on the following:

1. Updates on the Fund
2. Swazimed Products
3. Projects
4. HIV & AIDS Matters

On-site wellness checks and one-on-one query resolutions will be presented.

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14 NATIONAL NEWS

EBC TO DECIDE ON KA-MFISHANE BUCOPHO BY-ELECTIONS

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlanguano

THE Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) is still to decide on a suitable period to hold by-elections for new *bucophos* of Ka-Mfishane *umphakatsi* under Kubuta constituency following the gruesome murder of Thoko Maseko.

The death of Maseko has necessitated to the commission to start planning when it can announce the process of having the community of Ka-Mfishane head to the polls again to find a replacement.

EBC Chairman Chief Gija said although it was still early to discuss the next move following the demise of the Ka-Mfishane *bucophos*, the commission would definitely hold the by-elections at a date still to be announced. He said it would not be a good thing to go public at this stage and announce a date of the by-elections since the family and relatives of the deceased

were still grieving.

"It can't be a good thing to, make an announcement of the by-elections as if we have been awaiting this tragedy. The family still needs closure and also to be comforted following the sad loss. *Sisafake ingubo emlonyeni*," said Chief Gija.

The EBC boss stated that under normal circumstances, when such things happen, by-elections are unavoidable but in order to make sure that the grieving family does not to feel hurt, there is no need to rush the process.

"Painful as it is, there should be someone taking over. *Imphilo iyachubeka*," Chief Gija said. He did not want to commit himself or hint when the by-elections would likely be held.

"We engage the relevant parties and

in this case, the ministry of tinkhundla as well as the Office of the Regional Administrator are the ones we talk to when things of this nature happen. So, it is going to be after we finalise with the relevant parties where we may then announce the suitable time to hold the by-elections," said Chief Gija.

The death of Maseko has left not only the people of her community shocked but almost everyone across the kingdom. She was first reported missing on a Sunday and relatives said she never returned from church.

Three days later she was found dead and her body covered with shrubs and leaves. A suspect Sonnyboy Shane Harris (38) is now the main suspect and has arrested and charged with her murder. He is from the same area and also reportedly related to the deceased.



Mkhulu (68) arrested for rape of two-year-old minor

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

AN elderly man (68) has been arrested and charged with raping two-year-old infant.

The accused person, whose name is deliberately withheld for ethical reasons is said to be related to the innocent child who has lived to survive the horrific experience.

Cases of sexual abuse which have been brought before court indicate an alarming rate despite the introduction of the new Act.

According to a charge sheet which was brought before court, the elderly man wrongfully and unlawfully had sexual intercourse with the said minor.

The charge is accompanied with aggravating factors which include that the accused person inflicted a lifetime physical and mental trauma to the minor by forcing her into the act. He is also said to have exposed the

child to sexually transmitted illness.

During his appearance before the court, the accused was informed of his right to legal representation, and he elected to conduct his own defence. He was however not asked to plead to the charge as he was remanded into custody pending commencement of his trial. The matter returns to court on December 3.

Rape

Meanwhile in the same court, Ndimiso Matse faced a similar charge of rape. He was said to have wrongfully and unlawfully had sexual intercourse with a 14-year-old girl.

Particulars of the charge include that the accused person is regarded as a minor by law.

The accused is said to have inflicted the complainant with a lifetime trauma by exposing her to the act. He was remanded into custody and ordered to return to court on December 3 pending setting of a trial date for his case.

Transfer of prosecutors sees cases struck off court roll

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A former manager at OK Furnishers who was arrested for theft of property amounting to E60 000 has had his case struck off the court roll after some prosecutors were transferred from the Siteki Magistrate's Court.

Gcina Shabangu (34) of Mgamudze was arrested early this year and charged with three counts of theft.

On the first count, he is alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully stolen a sum of E20 000, creating a general deficiency of the said amount to the shop.

He is facing similar offences on the second and third counts, in that he wrongfully and unlawfully stole property valued at E20 000 on each count.

The property belonged to his employ-



trial. However, Prosecutor Melusi Lukhele told the court that the Crown was not ready to have the matter heard.

Lukhele acknowledged that the matter had already been postponed several times on the instance of the Crown. He then reported that the latest situation was caused by the transfer of a prosecutor who was to lead the case before court.

He then filed an application to have the matter struck off the court roll while the new prosecutor to take over the matter made some background check on it. The application was accordingly approved by the court after the defence counsel did not object to it. Meanwhile, another matter where one Mafudede Sifundza faced a charge of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm was also struck off the court's roll on similar grounds.

er.

The accused person has been making his appearance before Senior Magistrate Donald Mavuso since June, where the case was to be heard.

Postponed

The matter would, however, be postponed on the instance of the prosecution as it would report to be putting its house in order.

The matter was back in court yesterday where it was to commence

ACTIVISTS SLAM ENVIRONMENT MINISTER FOR SUPPORTING RHINO TRADE

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

CONSERVATIONISTS have taken a swipe at Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati for suggesting that legalising rhino horn trade can have benefits for other wildlife species in the country.

He remarked during a function hosted by Big Game Parks at Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary. During this event according to *The Witness*, a South African tabloid, government and most of the stakeholders from around the world expressed their full support for the ban. According to *The Witness* the plight of the rhino has given rise to a raging debate with conservationists advocating for the continued

ban on the legal trade of the rhino horn. "Eswatini is of the mind that opening up the legal trade of its own horn can help in meeting the rapidly escalating costs of protecting rhinos and that the proceeds from the horn sales will provide for a host of other important conservation and community needs, while benefiting a wide diversity of other wildlife species as well," the minister was quoted as having said. Vilakati was quoted as having said it would be important for conservation agencies to be allowed to explore the use of the proceeds to be gained from the trade in existing stockpiles that can be injected in further security measures for the sake of rhino survival. He is said to have pointed out that the survival of the remaining rhino was dependent on the decisions made

and policies put in place. The minister is further said to have called for the burning of harvested horns in the name of conservation to be stopped because it was a waste of valuable African natural resources. Upon learning about this, conservationists soon took to Big Game Parks' official facebook page and labelled the move as nothing but a money driven propaganda move which will have disastrous consequences.

Propaganda

"Money driven propaganda. For every pro-trade argument, there are a hundred anti trade studies that prove trade would be a disaster. Is this linked to the Swazis trying to capture KZN wildlife's rhino as reported recently. Not happy with selling yours and John Humes you have your eye on Zululand's rhino as well?" One of

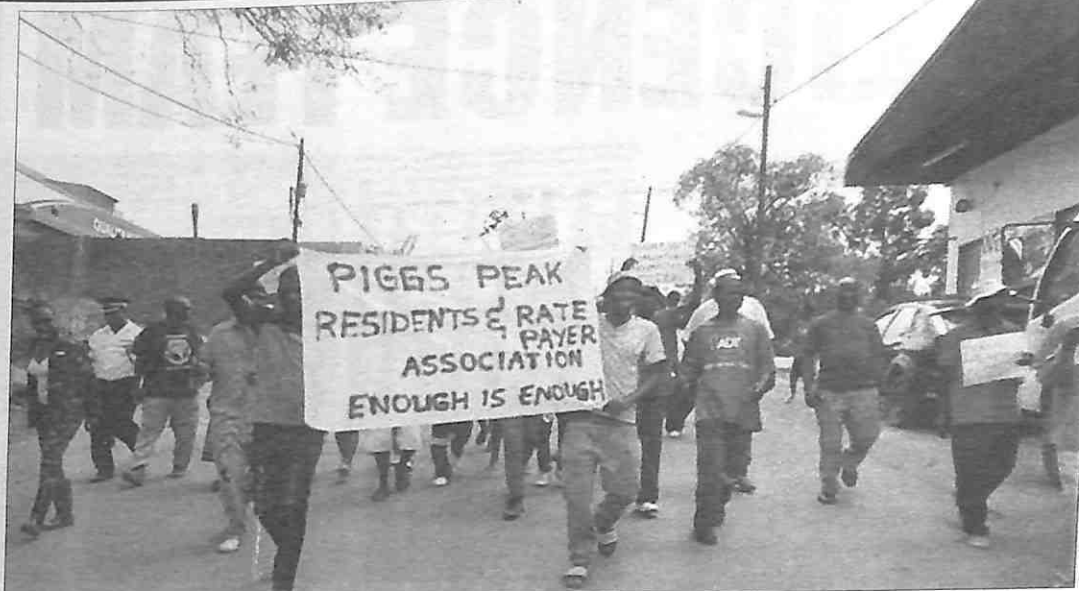
the activists who goes by the name Wayne Vivier posted: Big Game Parks however pointed out that there is nothing wrong with one disagreeing with pro-trade. "Come up with feasible anti-trade arguments that may actually offer hope to the species," the organisation suggested. Another user Louise Schoultz Barry said, "I am divided but at the moment what we are doing isn't stopping the poaching, if anything it has got worse. So maybe it is time to try and harvest the rhino horns for a test period and see what the result is". Some made it clear that the rhinos should just be left alone. However some welcomed the idea and stated that despite that rhino horn trade was banned poachers have continued to poach for rhino horns. It is said the trade proposal discussed is intended to be

tabled at Cites Conference of the Parties (CoP) 18 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from May 23 to June 3 next year. Big Game Parks Chief Executive Officer Ted Reilly was quoted as having said it was inarguably true that protecting rhinos was prohibitively expensive and risky. He said that rhino horn could be harvested sustainably without killing the animals because the horn keeps growing after harvesting and its removal is painless. It is said according to Reilly, rhino horn is worth \$60 000 (E840 000) a kilogramme on the black market, "where the cost to the rhino is death" and the average horn weighed around 4kg, he said. Reilly said horns had no commercial value because legal horn trade is banned, despite the fact that the animal does not have to die to legally and repeatedly yield its horn as a self-renewing, natural resource.

PEDAL TO THE METAL



LONG JOURNEY: A cyclist from Austria rides down the Malagwane hill on his way to Cape Town yesterday. He and his road companion are expected to reach the mother city two months from now. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



THE WRITING IS ON THE CARDS: Some of the angry protesters displaying their placards outside the Pigg's Peak Police Station. Members of the Pigg's Peak Ratepayers Association held a protest march against the very high rates demanded by Pigg's Peak Town Council.

ANGRY RATEPAYERS STAGE PROTEST AGAINST 'EXPENSIVE' RATES

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

ANGRY members of the Pigg's Peak Ratepayers Association held a protest march against what they termed very high rates collected from them by Pigg's Peak Town Council.

The protesters used the march to deliver a petition that contained 13 grievances to Mayor Victor Rodriguez.

The march took place on Tuesday and about 70 residents of Malanda, Macembeni and Mangwaneni took part in it.

The march route was changed at the last minute by the police who forced the protesters to walk behind Pigg's Peak Town and not along the main MR1 public road. This did not go down well with the protesters who blamed the men in blue for changing their route.

The protesters were armed with yellow placards indicating their anger towards the administration of the Pigg's Peak Town Council.

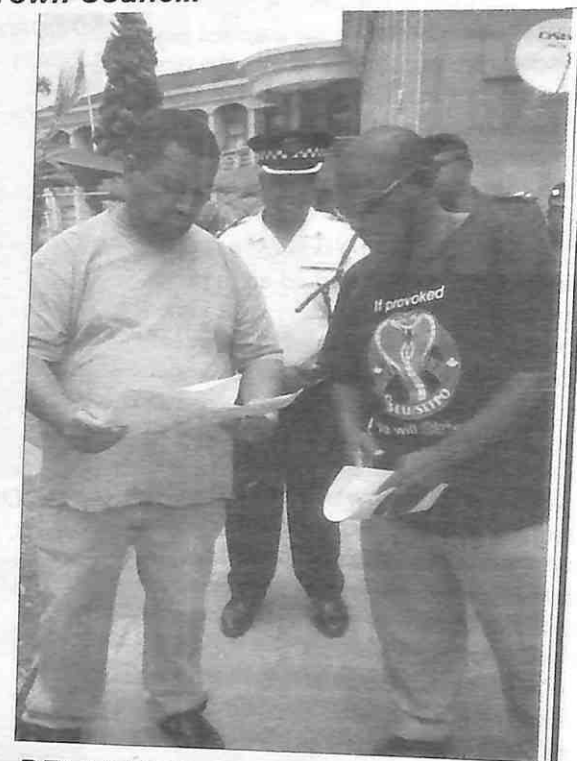
Some of the grievances that the protesters listed were the alleged high salaries that Pigg's Peak Town Council employees enjoy as well as the lack of transparency involved in the awarding of Pigg's Peak Town Council tenders.

The march began at the Pigg's Peak Police Station and ended at the Pigg's Peak Town Council building. Speaking to this publication during the march, Chairperson at the Ratepayers Association King Mziyako said that the rate payers in Pigg's Peak were being swindled out of their land by the Pigg's Peak Town Council to sell the land for profits.

"We are telling the Pigg's Peak Town Council that we have no confidence towards their administration. The Pigg's Peak town has the most expensive rates in the kingdom and this is not fair to us the people who live in this beautiful

town. Also, local entrepreneurs who make an honest living by selling Shisanyama at night have been forced out of business by the Pigg's Peak Town Council. This means Pigg's Peak is the only town in the kingdom that lacks Shisanyama" he said. Mziyako went on to allege that there is no transparency in the awarding of tenders in Pigg's Peak. "The Pigg's Peak Town Council loves to outsource every tender that they advertise in the print media. It is very rare that a local company wins a tender from the Pigg's Peak Town Council and this is wrong. Also, Pigg's Peak Town Council facilities like Killamey Sports Ground as well as the Gobolondlo hall are very expensive for us locals to rent. Further, council administration earns an annual salary of E1.5million collectively while other employees at the council earn far less" he added.

Pigg's Peak Mayor Victor Rodriguez received the petition and told the protesters that their issues will be discussed.



DELIVERED: Ratepayers Association member and police officer Busta Vilakati delivering the petition to the Pigg's Peak Town Mayor.



POSE: Group Public Affairs Manager Sifiso Nyembe, Graphic Designer Babongile Zwane, Financial Manager – Management Accounting Dumi Dhlwayo and Communications Officer Gcina Dlamini after receiving the award.



THANK YOU: RSSC Group Public Affairs Manager Sifiso Nyembe receiving the award during the award ceremony in Johannesburg.

RSSC scoops JSE Award

By Bahle Gama
Simunye

THE Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC) has scooped an Integrated Reporting Merit award in the regional category during the 2018 JSE and Chartered Secretaries Southern Africa Integrated Reporting Awards in South Africa Johannesburg.

The awards took place at Montecasino's Ballroom a few days ago.

The ceremony recognises the importance of good governance and integrated reporting in the face of a rapidly changing business world. Entry in the competition offers companies the opportunity for peer-to-peer comparison and appraisal against international best practice.

The highly contested awards are the longest standing awards in South Africa and have recognised excellence in corporate

reporting across a number of categories since 1956. In addition to JSE-listed companies, state-owned companies, the public sector and NGOs also participate. The awards are open to companies and organisations in the SADC region.

RSSC Managing Director Nick Jackson said:

"The awards are something we look forward to right from the beginning of our annual integrated reporting process. In a way, the awards encourage us to improve our use of the established guidelines of integrated reporting, so that we can maximise our chances to win and be recognised for good reporting."

"The awards, whenever we win, are an excellent platform to remind our stakeholders that we are a socially responsible company and this also helps us show that good reporting is high up on our agenda. It was good

to receive a merit award this year." Moreover, Jackson said Integrated reporting compels RSSC to focus on the whole picture and therefore giving the company the ability to proactively consider risks that the company might face, such as changing customer preferences, stakeholder issues, climate change and natural resource insecurity. "In the six years since we began integrated reporting, our thinking has been re-wired, our planning process has transformed and stakeholder issues and the management thereof have been given a new focus. This has resulted in excellence in some areas of our operation," Jackson added. This event is undoubtedly an important event for Southern African companies as more and more businesses recognise the correlation between good corporate governance and a well-run organisation.

16 NATIONAL NEWS

TV LICENCE TEAM HITS NHLANGANO

Stories by Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

TV licence defaulters at Khayalami Township in Nhlangano were caught off guard on Tuesday when the TV licence team of inspectors pounced and demanded to be shown licences.

The TV inspection team was accompanied by a contingent of police officers during the raids which lasted for more than two hours. The surprise visit saw some of the TV owners panicking as they thought the presence of the police meant trouble but were relieved when they were told it was just a routine inspection session. From the TV owners, the inspection team requested to know the date and year the sets were purchased where, the type and model of the TV. They also requested to know if one had a licence and if not, payment arrangements were agreed upon. The payment is for the TV owners dating back to 2012.

"At first, I thought it was the operation that police have embarked on in preparation for the festive holidays as the inspection team was accompanied by police officers. I only learned later after the inspectors stated the purpose of the exercise and police presence," explained one of the residents.

Others said they were not aware of the exercise and told the inspectors that they were willing to settle the licence fees. This was after the inspectors also explained the consequences of not paying the TV licences.

"They explained to us that whether you don't watch the local channels, you have an obligation to pay your TV licence. The fact that you own a TV set, means you must pay the licence. It was understood and since the inspectors displayed professionalism in their line of work as they explained everything politely, most of us indicated willingness to comply. You buy a TV, be ready to pay the licence," said Siphso Dlamini, who is a tenant in one of the properties.

Innocent Mashaba, a traditional healer, was found with family members and he cooperated when the inspectors arrived. He told them that he bought his TV set in 2005 and did not recall ever paying a licence fee.

"That does not mean I was defaulting.



KNOCK KNOCK: TV licence team inspector Samkeliso Simelane with a police officer at a gate of one of the homes at Khayalami Township in Nhlangano. (Pics: Starsky Mkhonta)



ESCORT: Sandile Masuku, a TV licence inspector, hard at work. A police officer closely watches proceedings.



Sandile Masuku interviewing Madzele Ndzinisa.

I am prepared to start paying," said Mashaba, who was relieved when told that his payment would only cover the period beginning in 2012.

Madzele Ndzinisa, a retired teacher, told the inspectors that he was willing to pay the licence despite that the family was not

watching the local channels.

"Just like the national radio, we do not listen to it as it is boring. But since paying the TV licence is law, I am ready to comply," said Ndzinisa, who then furnished the inspectors with all the necessary details.

Inspectors pleased with cooperation received

THE TV licence inspection team which conducted the exercise at Khayalami Township in Nhlangano yesterday expressed its gratitude to the residents for their cooperation.

Samkeliso Simelane, one of the inspectors, said they did not experience any hardship as all those that they visited cooperated. He said it was now clear that some of the defaulters never took the issue of paying TV licence seriously.

"It was easy to tell that the people still need to be educated about the exercise. When we introduced ourselves and explained the purpose of our visit, it was then that the people seemed to understand the reason why the licences have to be paid.

"Ours was not to know whether they watch the channels or not but we wanted to know who owns a TV and if they do have licences. I was pleased with the way the

people cooperated. They all provided us with that we needed from them," said Simelane.

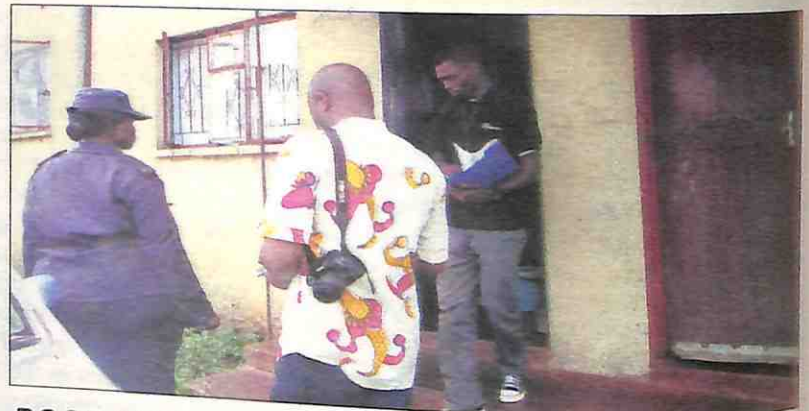
He pointed out that the challenges they had was that in the other homes, gates were locked and could not gain entry.

"Some residents were not around as the doors and gates were locked," said Simelane.

"This is not 'inunu' but an exercise meant to make every TV owner aware that there are consequences for being a defaulter. The other good thing is that we also allow defaulters to make arrangements for settling their debts," said Simelane.

Sandile Masuku, another inspector, also stated that paying for TV licences was the right thing to do.

"What we are doing is making sure that Emaswati do not find themselves in court for failing to pay a meagre E180 every year. It's also allowed to pay monthly," said Masuku.



DOOR BY DOOR: Samkeliso Simelane coming out of another house.



Traditional healer Innocent Mashaba being interviewed.

TV owners found without licences

OUT of the 20 TV owners visited at Khayalami Township on Tuesday, not even one was found with a TV licence.

The inspectors noted that some of the TV owners were not aware that it was an offence to own a TV yet have no licence for it.

"All of those we found in the homes we visited did not have licences. What we also realised is that most of the TVs are those of

the olden days and a few own the modern flat screens," said Samkeliso Simelane, one of the inspectors.

Simelane said whether one owns the old model TV or the new one, he or she should pay the licence.

"We are not looking at the model but we need the owner to have a licence for it," said Simelane.

Simelane thanked the support they received from the police as well as the media.

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MULTISECTORAL RESPONSE (MR)



BY SAMKELO MAHLALELA

Information Centre Assistant Manager
The National HIV and AIDS Information
and Training Centre

THIS year, December 1 marks the 30th anniversary of World AIDS Day (WAD) which was first held as a one-day event, in 1988.

World AIDS Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness around the HIV epidemic across the world and in the different communities. Its commemoration offers a key opportunity for health organisations to increase awareness among people, of possible access to available treatment opportunities, as well as to discuss the preventive options.

To strengthen the WAD and improve it from a one-day commemoration, the World AIDS Campaign (an international coalition of HIV and AIDS groups and networks) was launched by the UNAIDS in the year 1997, to focus on the AIDS programmes, better communications, disease prevention and disease awareness learning for the whole year - giving birth to the World AIDS Campaign / World AIDS Day (WAC/WAD). The WAD campaign is a global movement to harness the power of social change to put people first and close the gap, leading to an end to AIDS in 2030 - a target for which His Majesty King Mswati III has mandated to be achieved by the Kingdom by 2022.

Ending AIDS in the Kingdom by 2022 is an objective the nation must, through demonstrated leadership at government, community and family levels, turn into reality. As the 2018 world AIDS Campaign was rolled out in the regions, communities, government and partners came out to pledge their support to the HIV and AIDS response.

Summary of regional WACs

The annual national World AIDS Day commemoration is a culmination of build-up regional WACs that are held in November. This year, these were held at Madlangempisi *Inkhundla* in the Hhohho region; at the Royal Eswatini Police Academy Sports Ground in Matsapha for the Manzini region; and at Maseyisini *Inkhundla* in Shiselweni.

Speaking at the Maseyisini *Inkhundla* during the Shiselweni Region WAC held on Saturday 24th November, Minister for Information, Communication and Telecommunications, Her Royal Highness, Princess Sikhanyiso noted that the government of the Kingdom of Eswatini with the support of partners has availed many services to support people who undergo HIV testing - whatever the result. These include making condoms accessible, voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC),

ESWATINI TO JOIN THE WORLD IN COMMEMORATING WAD 30TH ANNIVERSARY



WORLD AIDS DAY
LET OUR ACTIONS COUNT IT IS MY RIGHT TO KNOW MY STATUS.
PREVENTION IS MY RESPONSIBILITY

and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT). She said that recently, the country had introduced a new innovative technology, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) - the use of an antiretroviral medication to prevent the acquisition of HIV infection by uninfected persons.

"I note that the focus of this WAC in this *Inkhundla* is on young people, particularly the out-of-school youth. Young people are more than just the future - they are the wealth of any nation. The future of the country will depend on the energy, innovativeness, skills and their ability to make informed decisions, part of everyday life skills", continued the minister. She further urged young people to test and know their HIV status, so that they may access the relevant services no matter their status.

"There are now many new ways of testing, and these include: oral self-testing, community-based testing, and multi-disease testing. The government of Eswatini is working on expanding HIV testing programmes to ensure that citizens can access services at a convenient time and place. These must be put to good use", she added.

Minister of Health, Honorable Senator Lizzy Nkosi (as represented by Minister of Foreign Affairs, Honorable Thuli Dladla) was the guest speaker at the Manzini Region WAC held last Friday 23rd November, in Matsapha at the Police College. The event was a partnership between AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) Eswatini, the Matsapha Town Council, NERCHA and other regional partners.

In her address, the minister first paid tribute to the organisations and activists who have devoted their lives fighting for the recognition of the rights of people living with HIV in the Manzini region. She further paid tribute to the many health care workers and educators in hospitals, clinics, schools and in our communities, that have given their lives to increasing awareness about HIV transmission, prevention and treatment in the region.

Candidly, she stated that HIV in Eswatini is mainly spread through sexual contact - and having more than one sexual partner was shown in the SHIMS 2, as the greatest risk factor for becoming infected with HIV. She encouraged every person who has had more than one sexual partner in the last 12 months to get tested for HIV and help put an end to the epidemic. "Know your HIV status. If you are positive, protect yourself and your partner and get on antiretroviral treatment", Minister Nkosi continued.

She added that each of us needs to educate each other to stop the spread of HIV, saying, "We want everyone to come out, take advantage of the many free services being offered, and then learn more about how each one of us can be a part of the solution to this problem."

The national WAD Commemoration

Commemorating World AIDS Day serves as a revival to the concerted efforts in the fight against HIV and AIDS and plays an important role in preventing complacency in the response. The 2018 theme, "Know your status:

Let's end AIDS together" seeks to mobilise everyone to test and know their HIV status. HIV testing is an essential component of Ending AIDS in our families, communities and across the country. In the same breath, ending AIDS requires that there be no new infections, for which knowledge of HIV status is imperative in empowering people to make choices about HIV prevention - so they can protect themselves from infection, re-infection, and protect their loved ones from infection. HIV testing is also essential for expanding treatment and ensuring that all people living with HIV can lead healthy and productive lives.

This year, the national World AIDS Day commemoration will be held at the Mayaluka Stadium in Big Bend, in the Lubombo Region.

Saturday, is not only important for the 30th anniversary landmark, but also marks the beginning of a new era in the country's HIV and AIDS response.

His Excellency, the Right Honourable Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini, Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini, as both Minister responsible for HIV and AIDS and as Head of Government, will make his maiden World AIDS Day message, and hopefully provide a glimpse into how the new government will support His Majesty's Vision 2022.

The event at Mayaluka will bring together the whole Swazi nation (people living with HIV, traditional leaders, politicians, government officials, workers, and children), officials from international agencies working in the country, and healthcare professionals,

especially those working in the field of HIV and AIDS. Though people from all four corners of the Kingdom are invited, it is expected that the bulk of participants will come from the communities bordering Big Bend, especially those under the Nkilogongo *Inkhundla*. This occasion will provide an opportunity for all, to stand together in solidarity, in pursuit of the new 95-95-95 national targets.

Activities of the day will begin with a march from Game 5, via the Ubombo Sugar (formerly Illovo) Clinic at 07:00 am, led by the joint brass bands from the country's uniformed forces. On arrival at the stadium, in line with the country's Shukuma initiative, an aerobics session will take place. The total sums of the various activities to be carried out on the day, will advocate for re-energising the population and provide more hope for a brighter and sustainable future.

The larger populace of the Kingdom of Eswatini is HIV negative, making it even more imperative for individuals to know their status, to prevent new HIV infections. For all to know their HIV status however, there is need to expand HIV testing programmes - for which the country needs demonstrated political will and smart investment.

Knowledge is power

As we approach World AIDS Day, testing for HIV remains important for one's health, relationships, life in general and the future. The growth of new infections globally, continues to pose serious health risks. Since HIV is preventable, by taking an HIV test, one can reduce or eliminate his/her risk of infection, or through early detection, receive early treatment and better outcomes.

The onus is on all of us to take the forthcoming national World AIDS Day commemoration seriously and reflect on our individual and community actions towards the achievement of His Majesty's vision of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2022.

HIV testing gives you the knowledge you need to make choices - choices on the right options for treatment and prevention. Knowledge really is power. It gives power to determine the right options to keep healthy; The power to stay well and live long and productive lives.

This World AIDS Day let us ensure that everyone has that power. On Saturday, all roads should lead to Mayaluka Stadium, Big Bend!

ON THIS DAY

...NOVEMBER 29

1929 - The first airplane flight over the South Pole was made by US Navy Lt. Comdr. Richard E. Byrd.

1939 - The USSR broke off diplomatic relations with Finland prior to a Soviet attack.

1945 - The monarchy was abolished in Yugoslavia and a republic proclaimed.

1947 - The UN General Assembly passed a resolution that called for the division of Palestine between Arabs and Jews.

1961 - The Mercury-Atlas 5 spacecraft was launched by the US with Enos the chimp on board. The craft orbited the earth twice before landing off Puerto Rico.

1963 - A Trans-Canada Airlines DC-8F with 111 passengers and 7 crew members crashed in woods north of Montreal 4 minutes after takeoff from Dorval Airport. All aboard were killed. The crash was the worst in Canada's history.

1963 - US President Johnson named a commission headed by Earl Warren to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy.

1967 - US Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara announced that he was leaving the Johnson administration to become president of the World Bank.

1971 - The Professional Golf Championship was held at Walt Disney World for the first time. Disney movies, music and books

1974 - In Britain, a bill that outlawed the Irish Republican Army became effective.

1975 - Bill Gates adopted the name Microsoft for the company he and Paul Allen had formed to write the BASIC computer language for the Altair.

1981 - Actress Natalie Wood drowned in a boating accident off Santa Catalina Island, CA, at the age 43.

1982 - The UN General Assembly voted that the Soviet Union should withdraw its troops from Afghanistan.

1986 - Actor Cary Grant died at the age of 82.

1987 - A Korean jetliner disappeared off Burma, with 115 people aboard.

1987 - Cuban detainees released 26 hostages they'd been holding for more than a week at the Federal Detention Center in Oakdale, LA.

1988 - The US Supreme Court ruled that the rights of criminal defendants are not violated when police unintentionally fail to preserve potentially vital evidence.

1989 - In Czechoslovakia, the Communist-run parliament ended the party's 40-year monopoly on power.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Reginae Carter
(Rapper) - November 29, 1998,
(20 years old)



The Game
(Rapper) - November 29, 1979 (39 years old)

CHURCHES PROVIDE SPIRITUAL REFUGE, SHELTER FROM THE STORM

FAYETTEVILLE, NC - Services at Manna Church, a big non-denominational congregation on the west side of town, began at 9am with announcements.

"We've got 10 port-a-potties."
"They're setting up showers in the back."

Pastor Michael Fletcher, standing at the entrance, welcomed the pilgrims arriving out of the pounding rain: A man with his belongings gathered in a soaked towel on his back. A grandmother fleeing her probably flood-doomed house, along with her daughter and five young children.

The largest church in Fayetteville had become the city's eighth official storm shelter.

As Sunday dawned grimly in the Carolinas, the heavens opened for the fifth straight day, swelling rivers past record-breaking levels and drenching already half-drowned towns. But, it being Sunday, the congregations were still at work in one of the most church-steeped parts of the country, even if many religious services were canceled because of flooded sanctuaries, dangerous roads and scattered parishioners.

From the first moments of the rolling disaster of Florence, there has been no sharp divide separating the official responders, the victims and the houses of faith.

The South Carolina governor's office began a storm briefing with a chaplain talking of Elijah's tests of faith.

The sole mosque in Burlington, NC, has been open as a shelter, handing out water, food and blankets. So have other mosques from Georgia to Virginia.

The Southern Baptists have revved up their extensive response operation, preparing to cook tens of thousands of meals in mobile kitchens and deploying workers with chain saws and shower units to command posts along the coast.

"It's easy to say, 'I love God,' but put on your boots, get your hands dirty," said Jim Pennington, the senior pastor of Temple Church in flood-sunken New Bern, NC, who spent much of that Friday in a kayak, teamed up with a man in a flat-bottomed johnboat, paddling around and pulling about 30 people out of the water.

Temple was the command centre for a 60-strong contingent from the North Carolina Baptist Men, the disaster-relief arm of the state Baptist Convention. They did have worship service on Sunday, such as it was: 80 people in a hall that is usually filled with more than a thousand, where big chunks of the roof had fallen in over the stage.

Before the service, about a dozen men in hard hats were helping assemble a food trailer in the parking lot. Jimmy Lawrence, a retired



garage mechanic, stood at a picnic table, tracing a waterproof map. He pointed to parts of the town with the worst flooding and told a pair of fellow Baptist volunteers which neighbourhoods to visit. He instructed them on how to assess damage and how to ask homeowners if they needed a tree cut or a home gutted.

Mr. Lawrence told the volunteers to tell any victims they encountered that they were not alone, that God was with them. He also warned the men about the second wave of flooding that was soon to come.

"This is not likely to be one of them fast-washin'-down-the-mountain things," Mr. Lawrence said, echoing the calls for continued vigilance from public officials across the region. "In an hour or two, you might not be able to get out."

Mr. Lawrence has been doing this kind of work for 20 years. "Our big thing is witnessing to the homeowner and telling them somebody's here, that they're not alone," he said.

Storm

Florence, the hurricane turned tropical storm turned tropical depression, has prompted a week of intense prayer all over the coast, in the corners of crowded storm shelters and from the lecterns of top officials. There is little to distinguish the expressions of faith among those miraculously spared and those facing the loss of everything, and little to separate the assurances of people of different faiths.

As the first harsh bands of rain began lashing Greenville, NC, Asif Daher, 40, stood at the counter of his restaurant, Bateeni Mediterranean Grill, one of the few places in town that were still open. Food was free for anyone helping out with the hurricane, said Mr. Daher, a Palestinian immigrant, because the Quran defines the righteous as those "who give charity out of their cherished wealth to relatives, orphans, the poor, needy travelers, beggars," and the like.

"It's part of our religion to help

wherever we are," he said. There was a stack of Qurans in the corner, and a sign offering them for free as well.

As the storm moved over the central Carolinas, roughly 60 people gathered for a Saturday night dinner of chicken bog, sweet potatoes and green beans at the New Ebenezer Baptist Church in Florence, SC.

"We are a church of action," said Marcus Simmons, who oversees the evangelism ministry at the church, which had opened its recreation centre as a shelter. "We believe that, unless we do it and show you that we mean what we said, then how can we even hold ourselves or hold you accountable?"

Nearly every statement had traces of metaphor: of the trials in life, of how troubles pass like storms, of churches as places of safe harbor.

"It's important to remain one and pray as one, so that we can defeat any challenge that comes about," said Luvia Grant, who was at New Ebenezer with her husband and seven children.

"We're stronger in numbers than we are apart."

Some of those who rode out the storm had done so because they were sure they would be protected by their faith — only to find, as they sought rescue, that faith works in mysterious ways. Others saw proof in their deliverance.

Sign Up for On Politics With Lisa Lerer

Dian Edge told her family that God had instructed her in a dream to wait out Hurricane Florence in her little wooden farmhouse, surrounded by soybeans and peanut plants, down near the South Carolina coast. The storm came down, the contents of the freezer were emptied — sausage, turkey, rotisserie chicken — and by the light of kerosene lamps, the family bided their time.

Mike Edge, 22, kept vigil, his guns at hand; Meghan, 28, a granddaughter visiting from Boston, stayed in contact with the outside

world on her laptop; Dian, 71, matriarch, prayed and read Psalm aloud to the dark house as a wind-whipped sycamore tree tore at the roof.

"She's reciting the Bible," the younger Ms. Edge said by phone in the middle of the storm, "and keeps saying evil can't penetrate God's word."

House

Florence, at least, did not penetrate their house, though the roof sustained considerable damage. The morning after, some members of the church brought the Edges a thermos of hot coffee and some ham sandwiches. The devotion does not let up with the weather.

Billy Layton, who moved to Lumberton nearly two years ago to rebuild flood-damaged houses with the North Carolina Baptists on Mission, was planning to move on by the end of the year.

He had been leading this nomadic lifestyle for nearly a decade, following disaster after disaster, and was ready to get to some long-delayed repairs on his own home. On Saturday night, with Lumberton looking more and more as though it would be flooded even more severely than it had during Hurricane Matthew, Mr. Layton contemplated the question he would soon face: whether to stay in the area on his now indefinitely prolonged mission.

"Probably would," he said. Still, on Sunday, as the rain continued to fall in torrents and the towns filled up, that was a question for later.

At Manna Church, where the operation was humming with cheerful red-shirted volunteers serving pasta and arranging air mattresses, there was little idea of what the next few days would bring. The church would take in as many people as they could, said Mr. Fletcher. "And then come Sunday," he said, as if considering the next week's service for the first time, "we'll wing it."

The Conversation



Women and Law

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ONE of the core functions of the Royal Eswatini Police (REPS) is to protect life, as provided for in S. 9 (1) (a) of the Police Service Act 2018.

The right to life is not only about living and breathing, but about the quality of life that we live; it is about living in dignity and without fear. It is about equal protection of the law and bringing justice to those that violate this right. It is about protecting our women and children from gender-based violence that compromises their physical and mental health.

The police have failed us in this respect; they have failed to arrest known perpetrators of sexual violence and shifted their duty to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), thus opting for the easy way out.

The case of the UNESWA student who was allegedly raped by a well known prince and classmate of the victim has been in the limelight lately. The young woman's story is compelling enough to ensure that the two men are arrested and charged with rape; but the police have "sent the docket to the DPP's Office".

Case

Sometime in September, they similarly handed over the docket of the case of the 12 year-old girl who was allegedly raped and impregnated by a man that had been previously convicted for the rape of that very girl's mother, years ago.

Now this is very unprocedural and strange to those who know how criminal cases are investigated and prosecuted. The normal course of action is that when a case has been filed with the police, they will investigate, collate all their evidence into the docket and effect the arrest of the suspect to hand him over for prosecution. Based on the evidence in the docket, the DPP will decide on whether or not to prosecute the suspect and will then formulate

WHO WILL PROTECT US WHEN THE POLICE FAIL IN THEIR DUTY?

● *The Police have failed us in this respect; they have failed to arrest known perpetrators of sexual violence and shifted their duty to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), thus opting for the easy way out. The case of the UNESWA student who was allegedly raped by a well known Prince and classmate of the victim has been in the limelight lately.*

the charges accordingly. It will then be up to the courts to determine the guilt or innocence of the perpetrator.

Questions

With regard to the two cases mentioned above, the actions of the police are highly irregular and raise questions on the selective process of arresting perpetrators of sexual violence against women and children. With the high rates of gender-based violence being reported almost on a daily basis in our local media, and the former National Commissioner of Police stating that the enactment of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act was bringing new responsibilities to the police officers, the pub-

lic is yet to be convinced that the REPS is up to the task.

The two cases are only but a tip of the iceberg of cases of abuse and violence that have been reported to the police, with no action taken. These cases are known because they were reported in the media; what about those cases that are not published? Who will speak for those victims to ensure that they obtain justice?

During these 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, the REPS should not only talk the talk, but also walk the walk.

They have to step up to the plate and take responsibility for their statutory obligations to the public, and particularly to

the most vulnerable within society.

Authority

The police have the power and authority to bring perpetrators to book, so if they will not do that and protect women and children, WHO WILL?

Women have come into their own and are knowledgeable about the laws of the country. The REPS and DPP's Office should know that women are ready to effect private arrests and prosecutions, respectively, where the justice system is failing them.

#HearMeToo
#OrangeTheWorld
#JusticeForEllah
#ArrestThePrince

What's driving high pregnancy rates in Kenyan Schools?

DURING Kenya's national schools exams, an alarming number of girls were reported to be pregnant or in labour, and so couldn't take the exam.

In just one county, 72 girls taking the exams were pregnant while 38 gave birth before the test. The Conversation Africa's Moira Spooner asked Michael Mutua to shed light on why so many girls are falling pregnant and what measures there are to support them.

What is the prevalence of pregnancy in schools in Kenya?

Cases of pregnancy among young girls is high. Teen pregnancy and motherhood rates stand at 18 per cent. About one in every five adolescent girls (aged 15 to 19) has either had a live birth, or is pregnant with her first child. Rates increase with age: from three per cent among girls at 15 years old, to 40 per cent among girls at 19 years.

But these figures could be higher as there's no accurate data on

pregnant girls younger than 15.

The consequences of pregnancy at such a young age in Kenya aren't good. The girls usually either drop out of school to have the child or take the risk of having an unsafe abortion.

Why are girls getting pregnant?

In Kenya, about 11 per cent of teenagers are having sex before their 15th birthday. The rates in Uganda are about the same – with about 10 per cent of adolescents having had sex.

The number goes up dramatically as young girls get deeper into their teens: in Kenya an estimated 47 per cent of teens are already sexually active before the age of 18 – the legal age of consent.

Sexual activity has been encouraged by the proliferation of mobile phones, which can encourage youth to be more sexually promiscuous because of "sexting" or access to porn.

Another factor is that there isn't proper sex education. In Kenya, conservative attitudes and traditional values tend to be the norm and adults aren't open to talking about sex or the idea of sex before marriage. This means young people don't get the education they need to make informed sexual choices. They're also not taught about contraception which makes them less likely to use them. The use of contraceptives can drastically reduce teen pregnancy. But in Kenya, contraceptive use among teens has been consistently low, increasing to just 10 per cent in 2014 from six per cent five years earlier.

What type of support do these girls have during and after pregnancy?

The girls have very little support. There's a huge amount of social stigma that young girls face when they get pregnant before marriage. So a large number resort to abortion. But because abortion is ille-

gal in Kenya, the girls use unqualified abortion service providers, often in unsafe facilities. The risk of an unsafe abortion is higher among this age-group than any other.

If they choose to keep the baby, because of the nurse or doctors' moralistic views, they face discrimination at the communities and health care facilities. These facilities also don't have services – like psychosocial support – to meet the special needs of teen mothers.

What are their future prospects like?

Do schools take them back in? One of the immediate social consequences of teenage pregnancy is school dropout – between 10 000 and 13 000 girls leave school each year as a result out of about six million girls enrolled in school.

In 1996 Kenya introduced a school re-entry policy that aimed to ensure return to school for all pregnant girls soon after weaning their babies.

The Conversation



"Stop searching the world for treasure, the real treasure is in yourself."

— Pablo

"So much for endings. Beginnings are always more fun. True connoisseurs, however, are known to favor the stretch in between, since it's the hardest to do anything with. That's about all that can be said for plots, which anyway are just one thing after another, a what and a what and a what."

— Margaret Atwood

"I have a self-made quote: Celebrate diversity, practice acceptance and may we all choose peaceful options to conflict."

— Donzella Michele Malone

"If you can control your behavior when everything around you is out of control, you can model for your children a valuable lesson in patience and understanding...and snatch an opportunity to shape character."

— Jane Clayson Johnson, *I Am a Mother*

"With a hint of good judgment, to fear nothing, not failure or suffering or even death, indicates that you value life the most. You live to the extreme; you push limits; you spend your time building legacies. Those do not die."

— Criss Jami, *Venus in Arms*

"The wolves knew when it was time to stop looking for what they'd lost, to focus instead on what was yet to come."

— Jodi Picoult, *Lone Wolf*

"Convictions are prisons."

— Friedrich Nietzsche, *The Birth of Tragedy/Seventy-five Aphorisms/The Anti-Christ*

"It is possible for the human spirit to win after all."

— Jack Kerouac

"Guilt starts as a feeling of failure."

— Frank Herbert

"Maybe love was meant to save us from ourselves."

— Robert M Drake

"But she loves me. Me. Just the way I am."

— P.C. Cast, *Destined*

"Enjoy every ounce of your life, get high and be sincere to anybody that comes around you."

— Salman Aditya, *High in School*

"Though I do not believe that a plant will spring up where no seed has been, I have great faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders."

— Henry David Thoreau

"If success or failure of this planet and of human beings depended on how I am and what I do... HOW WOULD I BE? WHAT WOULD I DO?"

— R. Buckminster Fuller

20 BUSINESS

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	5.2%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E13.30 per litre
Replacement	E13.35 per litre
Diesel	E13.30 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.65 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 28 NOV 2018

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.8750	13.9250
British Pound/SZL	17.6899	17.7537
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.1774	8.2061
Swiss France/SZL	13.8875	13.9334
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3043	1.3201
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.0400	10.0831
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.4292	10.4660
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.6760	15.7325
Gold	1,214.2000	
Oil	59.1700	

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Standard Bank

SLOMOES CORPORATION NETS E1.2 MILLION LAPTOP TENDER

...10 expensive bidders left in the cold

By Hlengiwe Ndlovu

SLOMOES Corporation will supply Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) with laptops in a contract worth over E1.2 million.

Ten other companies had registered an interest in this tender but failed to impress EEC with their exorbitant bid prices.

Slomoes Corporation submitted the lowest bid at E1.2 million. Companies which showed an interest in this bid were: Netcomm, Eileen Light, Real Image, Swazi Textbooks and Stationery, Cowell Technologies, PC Systems, Umbavu Electronics, Swaziland Computer Services, Printout Swaziland (Pty) Ltd and Technosol.

Agreement

Invitation to tender documents published in the Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (ESPPRA) website show that both EEC and the tender winner may be entitled to terminate this agreement prior to the expiry date upon occurrence of any default or omissions of the other party to fulfil its obligations.

Also, each party may be able to terminate this

DETAILS OF BEST EVALUATED TENDERERS

NAME	NATIONALITY	BID PRICE	COMMENTS
1. Netcomm	Swati	EI 559 805.00	High bid price
2. Eileen Light	Swati	EI 644 423.05	High bid price
3. Real Image	Swati	EI 564 666.72	High bid price
4. Swazi Textbooks and Stationery	Swati	EI 942 447.55	High bid price
5. Cowell Technologies	Swati	EI 604 429.78	High bid price
6. PC Systems	Swati	EI 552 459.75	High bid price
7. Umbavu Electronics	Swati	EI 756 972.69	High bid price
8. Swaziland Computer Services	Swati	EI 448 405.74	High bid price
9. Printout Swaziland (Pty) Ltd	Swati	EI 754 880.00	High bid price
10. Technosol	Swati	EI 677 212.23	High bid price

contract on the basis of bankruptcy, liquidation, sale of substantial shares to a third party and amalgamates.



SIDC changes to IDCE

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE Swaziland Industrial Development Company (SIDC) has since changed its name to Industrial Development Company of Eswatini (IDCE) in line with the dictates of the country's name change.

This was announced by Chief Executive Officer Phiwayinkhosi Ginindza yesterday in a customer interaction event that was held at Royal Villas. "In line with His Majesty King Mswati III's dictates we have since changed our name as a company to IDCE. This is also in line with improving our services which includes our turn-around time as a company which will help us keep our clients happy," he said.

According to Ginindza, the company is keen to keep its customers happy and advancing small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the country and also contributing towards improving the economy of the country.

Ginindza encouraged their customers to create a network where they know each other, work



FULL HOUSE: IDCE customers listening to one of the speakers at Royal Villas yesterday.

together and avoid working in silos, as they are currently doing as an organisation by creating meaningful partnerships that are meant to advance business growth.

Ginindza's words were echoed by Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (YERF) Manager Bhikizwe Maziya who applauded the organisation for creating a good working relationship with them. Maziya said the partnership they

have with IDCE is very beneficial to them and their clients. "The partnership that we have created with IDCE assisted with young people who had applied for funding with us, we are now able to refer them to our partners than to turn them back," he said. This partnership comes with a mentorship aspect as young people are not only capacitated with funds but also assisted with training after receiving funding.



INTERACTIVE: IDCE CEO Phiwayinkhosi Ginindza listening to one of the employees before the meeting at Ezulwini. (R) YOUTHFUL: YERF Fund Manager Bhikizwe Maziya delivering his speech.

LUBANE CHAIRMAN RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

By Majaha Nkonyane

LUBANE Savings and Credit Co-operative (SACCO) Chairman Doctor Hlongwane has been honoured with a distinguished service award by the African Confederation of Cooperative Savings and Credit Associations (ACCOSCA).

Hlongwane received his award during the SACCA Congress held in Ghana last month. "This is a huge achievement for the work we do and it is pleasing to be honoured. This is very encouraging and we thank ACCOSCA for honouring our work," he said.

In appreciation of the award, Lubane held an honorary event at Royal Swazi Sun recently that was attended by industry players such as newly-appointed ACCOSCA President Cambridge Mdlalose, Lubane SACCO Manager Gugu Vilakati, board members and staff.

Hlongwane received the award for his role in promoting the co-operative movement in the country and the continent at large. ACCOSCA is a Pan-African confederation of national associations of savings and credit cooperatives societies.

ACCOSCA President Cambridge Mdlalose acknowledged Hlongwane



YOURS: Lubane SACCO Chairman Doctor Hlongwane accepting his gift presented by Mike Gama.

for his courage and motivation to assist not only his SACCO but also other SACCOs in Eswatini through SASCOCO in a move to grow the economy of Eswatini. Hlongwane's involvement in cooperatives dates back to May 25, 1995 when he joined Lubane. His passion for the SACCO movement led him to greater heights as he was elected to the board as education committee member in 2003. Hlongwane served in that position until his term of office ended and during his time as an education com-

mittee member, he trained as a trainer. Through being a member of Lubane SACCO, he was exposed to regional and international trainings for SACCOs.

He was elected SASCCO President in 2014. By that time, he came into office when the apex body was collapsing. The commissioner of co-operatives in Eswatini gave him a mandate to head an interim committee that was to revive the apex body. He worked with his board and revived the apex body of cooperatives.



ME TOO: Hlongwane receiving his distinguished service award from ACCOSCA President Mdlalose.



REMARKS: Lubane SACCO Chairman Hlongwane, with his Vice-Chairperson Kenneth Zwane and former Deputy Commissioner Mike Gama.

Cafe 360 awarded SRA canteen tender

By Hlengiwe Ndlovu

WELL-known catering company Fedics was outshined by Café 360 in a tender to provide Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) canteen services. Fifth Avenue Investments, trading as Jazz Friends, also showed an interest in this tender.

Information published in the Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA) website shows that Jazz Friends and Café 360 received a similar total evaluated score at 86 per cent while Fedics Food Services received the lowest score at 63 per cent.

The invitation to tender notice was first published in the Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA) on October 16 and it clearly stipulated that this was a three year contract. Café 360 will take care of SRA staff's nutritional needs at Ezulwini in the under-construction headquarters.

An estimated 50-100 staff members are expected to be served meals during



STOMACH POLITICS: Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) headquarters.

lunch breaks in normal working days.

The menu comprises breakfast, lunch, soft drinks and hot beverages. Members of the public are expected to benefit from the SRA canteen too as invitation to tender documents show that the canteen will also provide for special dietary needs and also a full range of vegetarian options when necessary.

Café 360 will not be expected to oper-

ate on weekends and public holidays unless pre-requested and on planned occasions.

All prospective bidders in this tender were required to unequivocally specify their capability to provide the highest quality and professional catering services in compliance with public health (food) hygiene regulations, in line with the SRA's requirements.

IDCE loan recipients' businesses flourishing

By Majaha Nkonyane

INDUSTRIAL Development Company of Eswatini (IDCE) customers who received loans of varying amounts have sung praises on the work done by their financier.

This came from three testimonials by businesses that benefited from the IDCE loan scheme in a customer interaction day that was held at Royal Villas yesterday. Petros Mnisi of PMD Forestry Harvesting shared how SIDC has been there for his business since 2002, even during the tough times when the business had closed shop.

Mnisi said he received a loan from IDCE to purchase three harvesting machinery that assisted him to run his business until 2007 when fires swept through the Pigg's Peak forests where he had to close shop and sell everything. Mnisi said in 2014, another business opportunity came where harvesters were needed. After having applied for a loan again, he was considered. In the following year (2015), he had to start operating and IDCE was once again available to assist with a loan that saw him running his business.

Through the same organisation, he has been able to upgrade his machinery.

Sincobanjalo Farmers, which is run by Xolile Magagula at

Madlangempisi area, also shared her good working relationship with IDCE as the financier which assisted her run her sugar plantation business. "Working with IDCE has been a wonderful journey where we have been able to graduate from a poverty stricken position to being able to put food on the table. The company helped us save our business which was on the verge of collapse and today we are able to produce big yields from our plantation," she said.

Magagula said IDCE goes an extra mile as officers always keep tabs on clients, thus demonstrating the company's customer-centric nature. According to Magagula, IDCE offers low interest rates that are friendly with a lot of businesses.

In another matter, the company took in a new client in the information technology (IT) space. Touch IT, a local company that specialises in Wi-Fi technology). Sithembiso Dlamini, who is the founder and director of the company, said IDCE's flexibility went a long way in helping them set up.

According to Dlamini, through IDCE's assistance, they have been able to service a bigger portfolio than they imagined in the space they operate in. Dlamini also said the organisation has taken care of them and they have learnt from taking a risk on him as their first IT client to get a loan from them.



CAPTURED: IDCE CEO Phiwayinkhosi Ginindza speaking at the customer interaction event.



INTERACTIVE: IDCE CEO Phiwayinkhosi Ginindza in a conversation with one of the employees before the meeting at Ezulwini.

22 BUSINESS

THREE COMPANIES TO SUPPLY SRA WITH STATIONERY

By Hlengiwe Ndlovu

THREE companies have been furnished with intention to award contracts for the supply of Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) stationery.

The three companies are: Office Solutions, Babylon Investments (Pty) Ltd and Baobab Express Printing and Stationery.

The six other companies which were unsuccessful in this bid are: Websters, ASR ventures, Knee Investments, Progress Stationery, Swazi Textbooks and Stationery and Super Stationery.

Briefing

In intention to award contract documents published in the Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (ESPPRA) website, Chairperson to the SRA tender board Lovemore Magagula said Progress Stationery was disqualified from this tender for failing to attend a compulsory briefing meeting.

DETAILS OF ALL OTHER EVALUATED RESPONSIVE TENDERERS				
NAME	NATIONALITY	TENDERED AMOUNT	REASONS	TECHNICAL EVALUATION SCORE
1. Swazi Textbooks and Stationery (Pty) Ltd	Swati	Various unit prices as per bid	Outpriced, two few items to justify a contract	95 per cent
2. Super Stationery (Pty) Ltd	Swati	Various unit prices as per bid	Outpriced, two few items to justify a contract	94 per cent
3. Websters (Pty) Ltd	Swati	Various unit prices as per bid	Outpriced, two few items to justify a contract	94 per cent
4. ASR Ventures (Pty) Ltd	Swati	Various unit prices as per bid	Outpriced, two few items to justify a contract	92 per cent
5. Knee Investments (Pty) Ltd	Swati	Various unit prices as per bid	Outpriced, two few items to justify a contract	84 per cent
6. Progress Stationery (Pty) Ltd	Swati	Various unit prices as per bid	Outpriced, two few items to justify a contract	N/A

DISCOUNT RATE UNCHANGED FOR NEXT TWO MONTHS

By Majaha Nkonyane

IN what will come as good news for locals aspiring to get a car loan and a home loan, the Central Bank of Eswatini (CBE) has announced that the discount rate will not be changed for the next

two months.

This is according to CBE's monetary policy statement for November, "For the upcoming two months, the Monetary Policy Consultative Committee (MPCC) of CBE during a meeting held in November 23, decided to keep the discount rate unchanged at 6.75 per cent,"

the statement said. The statement further revealed that, local banks will maintain their prime rate at 10.25 per cent which (6.75 per cent + 3.5 per cent margin). This according to the statement means the cost of borrowing a loan for your car, house, and business will not increase between December 2018 and January

2019.

"A discount rate is the minimum interest rate set by the Central Bank when your bank apply for a loan. The minimum interest set by your bank when you apply for a loan is called a prime rate. To read full MPCC statement visit," the statement said.

Include 'important' nuclear in SA's electricity mix, says Parly committee

PRETORIA - THE energy portfolio committee has come out in strong support of including nuclear power in South Africa's future electricity mix.

This is in stark contrast to the latest government plan for South Africa's future electricity mix - the draft Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) 2018 - which contains no nuclear power because of its high cost.

In a report sent to the Department of Energy yesterday, the energy portfolio committee recommended that the IRP should "make it explicit that both coal and nuclear will remain important elements of South Africa's energy mix".

The draft IRP, based on a "least-cost" scenario for South Africa's future electricity mix, ruled out expensive nuclear power - at least until 2030.

However, the energy committee states in its report: "There is no persuasive argument to counter the proposition that nuclear technology remains the cleanest, safest and, in the long term, the cheapest technology."

Nuclear 'no longer competitive'

Asked to comment, Professor Harald Winkler, head of UCT's Energy Research Centre, said along with all credible modelling in South

Africa - and on South Africa - the draft IRP had excluded nuclear power and new coal plants from the "least-cost" electricity plan.

"Nuclear is no longer competitive and nor is coal," Winkler said.

The Department of Energy's draft IRP puts renewables and gas as the least-cost electricity mix for new power stations.

The committee compiled its report after holding public hearings in October on the draft IRP.

UCT's Energy Research Centre was part of the public submissions and had provided evidence based on research.

The Parliamentary committee's process was separate from the Department of Energy's process, which had called on the public to submit written comments on the draft IRP by October 26.

The IRP is expected to be finalised early next year.

Criticism

The committee's report has drawn criticism for appearing to take information supplied by lobby groups as fact, and for a bias towards coal and nuclear.

Liz McDaid of the SA Faith Communities' Environmental Institute (Safcei) said she had given the committee a report compiled by an international energy policy expert who

had provided fact-based evidence, specifically on the high cost of nuclear globally. She said there was no way the committee could claim that nuclear cost the least, based on evidence.

"I hope the DoE will review the committee's report based on its substance, not on the wishes of politicians. They are the same MPs who oversaw the nuclear deal. Here was a chance to act in the public interest, but they failed," McDaid said.

The nuclear deal with Russia and other countries, which Parliament had approved, was found to be unlawful in 2017 by the Western Cape High Court and set aside.

Richard Halsey of Project 90x2030, who made submissions, described the report's statement that nuclear was the cheapest in the long term as "absurd". "They must explain that that is an opinion, and not representative of the public hearings."

The way MPs approached the topic, there was a definite underlying coal and nuclear bias," Halsey said.

The CSIR, which also made submissions to the portfolio committee, told MPs that both the CSIR's and the Department of Energy's modelling supported renewable energy with gas as the cheapest electricity options for new power.

The CSIR, like the DoE, said neither nuclear nor coal were "cost-optimal" solutions.

Brenda Martin, CEO of the SA Wind Energy Association, said the committee's report had failed to note that renewable energy sector was "four times more employment-intensive" than either the coal or nuclear sector.

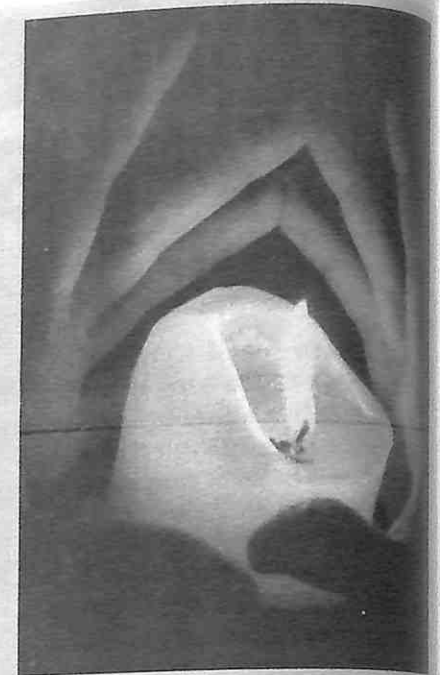
The draft IRP includes 1 000MW of new coal-fired power plants, to be built by the private sector as part of the government's Independent Power Producers' (IPP) programme.

'Favouring' lobby groups

Robyn Hugo, a lawyer for the Centre for Environmental Rights, which had opposed the inclusion of the new coal power stations in the draft IRP, said their opposition had been based on studies that had assessed the merits of the coal plants versus alternatives.

"But the committee appears to have chosen to favour the views of lobby groups, including a coal technology provider to one of the coal IPPs, and their unverified claims about job creation, to support the inclusion into the IRP of these unnecessary and expensive plants that will raise electricity costs by R23bn and more," Hugo said.

News24



'Debt-driven' Eskom not ruling out load shedding for remainder of year

JOHANNESBURG - Weak financial ratios, reduced generation performance and low coal stock levels have again raised the spectre of load shedding for power utility Eskom.

Announcing the interim financial results for the six months ended September 30, CEO Phakamani Hadebe warned that although liquidity had improved, the state-owned company remained a "debt-driven entity" with severe financial challenges.

Hadebe said several issues contributed to the current financial position, including rapidly rising municipal debt and poor coal supply.

Profit before tax dropped from R8.9bn in September to R1bn, while municipal debt ballooned from R13.6bn in March to R17bn, Parliament heard in November.

Net profit plunged 89 per cent to R67m, from R6.3bn last year.

Insufficient coal supplies continued to put pressure on Eskom's operations, mainly due to Tegeta-related challenges, after the Gupta-owned company failed to meet its supply obligations and was placed under business rescue.

"The past six months have been a difficult period for Eskom...with steady decline on coal levels threatening the firm's ability to keep the lights on," said Hadebe, adding that "we are a debt-reliant entity".

Load shedding not ruled out
"Given the current challenges, load shedding cannot be ruled out," he said.

Eskom said most financial ratios deteriorated and were expected to worsen further towards year end, alongside the impact of this year's wage settlement on the firm's finances.

Further losses were expected in the current financial year.

"The full impact of the wage settlement will be experienced over the next six months," the power utility said.

The company said it had secured 73 per cent (52bn) of its required funding for 2018/19, and the rate for 2019/20 stood at 22 per cent.

Hadebe said Eskom's liquidity challenges were a result of low tariffs, declining sales volumes and a rising cost base.

The power utility said cash from operation activities was not sufficient to cover debt servicing, with funding raised to service capital expenditure as well as debt.

Eskom has maintained that it needs to raise tariffs to recoup costs, as it has been selling electricity at a rate lower than production.

Fin 24

World News

BRIEFS

Radio presenter Gavin Ford killed

BEIRUT - A well-known British radio presenter who had been living in Lebanon for years was found dead in his apartment in a mountain town near Beirut on Tuesday after being apparently murdered, Lebanese officials said. Gavin Ford's death led to an outpouring of shock and sadness on social media by people who followed his popular morning programme on all-music Radio One station. The 65-year-old Ford had worked for the station since the 1990s, gaining a large number of fans in Lebanon. One official said Ford's body was found Tuesday morning but refused to provide further details about the killing. **AP**

Seven dead as car drives onto sidewalk

BEIJING - A car drove onto a sidewalk in southwest China on Tuesday, killing seven people and injuring another four, police said, days after another driver deliberately rammed into schoolchildren in the country's northeast. The driver has been detained and the cause of the incident in Leshan, a city in Sichuan province, is under investigation, police said in a statement. The injured have been taken to hospital for treatment, the statement said. According to official news agency Xinhua, the vehicle rushed onto the sidewalk and hit a bus stop in the morning. The crash came just five days after a driver hit a group of schoolchildren crossing the street in Huludao, a city in northeast Liaoning province. **AFP**

ATM mistakenly dispenses \$100 bills, not \$10s

HOUSTON - An ATM in the Houston area has been shut down and was temporarily guarded by law officers after mistakenly dispensing \$100 bills instead of \$10s and word of the glitch got out on social media. Some Harris County sheriff's deputies protected the outdoor ATM after Sunday night's incident and notified Bank of America. A bank statement on Monday says a vendor incorrectly loaded \$100 bills in place of \$10 bills. Bank of America also says customers will be able to keep the additional dispensed money. Officials with North Carolina-based Bank of America didn't say how much cash was wrongly dispensed. **AP**

French Senate official arrested

NORTH KOREA - Intelligence agencies have arrested a senior French civil servant who worked at the French Senate on suspicion of passing confidential information to the dictatorial regime of North Korea, a judicial source told AFP. Benoit Quennedey, who is also the President of the Franco-Korean Friendship Association and has written a book on the isolated nation, was taken into custody late on Sunday, the source in Paris said late on Monday. After an inquiry which began in March, prosecutors suspect him of the "collection and delivery of information to a foreign power likely to undermine the fundamental interests of the nation", the source said. **AFP**

May's pitch to save Brexit deal meets resistance

BELFAST - As Theresa May is in Northern Ireland to sell her Brexit plan, the Democratic Unionist Party is uniting behind leader Arlene Foster's opposition to the deal. May is in Belfast to drum up support for her accord, which the DUP say imperils Northern Ireland's place in the UK by potentially tying the region to European Union rules indefinitely. "The DUP is leading the way and the Conservative Party need us - if they don't know this by now they are living in cloud cuckoo land," said Alan Ewart, 68, a member of the party since its inception in 1971.

Ex-Trump campaign chair lied, broke plea agreement

WASHINGTON - The special counsel in the Russia investigation is accusing former Trump Campaign Chairperson Paul Manafort of lying to federal investigators in breach of his plea agreement, an extraordinary allegation that could expose him to a lengthier prison sentence - and potentially more criminal charges.

The torpedoing of Manafort's

● The move signals a return to the acrimonious relationship Manafort has had with the special counsel's office since his indictment last year.

plea deal, disclosed in a court filing on Monday, also results in special counsel Robert Mueller's team losing a cooperating witness from the top of Donald Trump's presidential campaign who was present for several key episodes under investigation.

That includes a Trump Tower

meeting involving Donald Trump Jr. and a Russian lawyer he was told had derogatory information on Democrat Hillary Clinton.

The move signals a return to the acrimonious relationship Manafort has had with the special counsel's office since his indictment last year. Before his plea agreement, Manafort

aggressively challenged the special counsel's legitimacy in court, went through a bitter trial and landed himself in jail after prosecutors discovered he had attempted to tamper with witnesses in his case.

In the latest filing, Mueller's team said Manafort "committed federal crimes" by lying about "a variety of subject matters" even after he agreed to truthfully cooperate with the investigation. Prosecutors said they will detail the "nature of the defendant's crimes and lies" in writing at a later date to the judge. **AFP**

Facebook is failing black people, says ex-employee in tell-all memo

Washington - Mark Luckie, a digital strategist and former journalist, says he accepted the job offer from Facebook reluctantly.

At first, he didn't want to move to Silicon Valley from Atlanta, where he had been living, but he said his fiancée was able to convince him, telling him that the job presented an opportunity to make a difference on the influential social network.

"I was really excited. Facebook is an amazing company that reaches a lot of people," Luckie, 35, said in an interview with The Washington Post. "I didn't plan to leave."

But as a black employee, he became disillusioned with his time at the company. After about a year at the company, he decided to quit. And before his last day in mid-November, he wrote a long memo that he sent to the company's staff. The memo is in the news this week after Luckie made it public - on Facebook, where else.

Luckie argues that the company is "failing its black employees and its black users," allegedly by excluding them from events and the important work that guides Facebook's service.

Facebook, in a statement, said it is "doing all we can to be a truly inclusive company."

Luckie, who worked as an editor at The Washington Post for about two years until 2012, notes statistics that demonstrate that black users are one of the more engaged demographics on Facebook, with more using the service to communicate with family (63 per cent) and friends (60 per cent) than the average population.

"Black people are driving the kind of meaningful social interactions Facebook is striving to facilitate," he wrote.

But Luckie argues the experiences of black users on Facebook are "far from positive," citing a report from the investigative outlet Reveal that documented instances where posts from black people have been removed as "hate speech."

AFP



LONDON - HIV warnings have been issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) after almost 160 000 new cases were diagnosed last year in an "alarming" epidemic across Europe.

WHO is the global authority of health issues and released the dire warning today ahead of World AIDS Day on December 1.

HIV is virus spread through sexual contact, and also blood, that develops into AIDS - with an average survival time of around nine years.

Health chiefs picked out Europe as a crisis point - with more than 130 000 diagnoses in the

eastern region.

Cases of HIV have however been on the decline in EU and European Economic Area.

Released

European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control and WHO released the data - which they described as a "HIV epidemic" - to mark the 30th anniversary of World AIDS Day.

Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe, said: "It's hard to talk about good news in the face of another year of unacceptably high numbers of people infected with HIV."

"While efforts to prevent new

HIV infections are gradually showing signs of progress, we are not on course to meet the 90-90-90 targets by the 2020 deadline.

"My call to governments, ministers of health and decision-makers is bold: scale up your response now."

"To support people living with HIV and protect those at higher risk of infection, we need to fast track action by tailoring interventions."

"This means investing wisely in prevention, testing and treatment particularly in key populations to end the AIDS epidemic as we promised."

AP

Despondent caravan migrants lose hope, turn back at US border

TIJUANA - Still stinging from the tear gas that beat back their attempt to breach the US-Mexican border, members of the Central American migrant caravan are starting to lose hope, and in some cases are turning back.

The migrants have played all their cards in recent days, after more than a month's trek

across Central America and Mexico -- but with little success. Their surprise bid to rush the border en masse on Sunday ended as abruptly as it began, when US Border Patrol agents fired tear gas and rubber bullets to force them back.

And attempts to sneak across the border alone or in small groups appear to be largely failing. That leaves the rough-

ly 5 000 migrants in the caravan with a handful of options, equally unappealing to most: wait the months or years it could take to request asylum in the United States; settle in Mexico; or give up and go home. Their desperation is palpable at the improvised shelter where they are staying in Tijuana, across the border from San Diego. **AP**

Focus on SA scene

Has the VBS scandal claimed its first victim?

JOHANNESBURG - The Christians of South Africa (COSA) group has alleged that the ANC councillor who was gunned down earlier this week was killed because he had been calling for heads to roll over the VBS banking scandal.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, COSA said Burgersfort councillor Thabang Maupa was "known for his unshakeable stand on the VBS scandal that left the municipality bankrupt

and in ... a leaderless state."

"On his recent Facebook post he lambasted those that were silent in this trying VBS times calling for action and clarity from the mayor and the now suspended municipal manager," said COSA head, Pastor Derick Mosoana.

The post Mosoana was referring to read: "Cdes people are silent about the corruption at the municipality. We will make sure we shake them as the branches of the ANC. The mayor and munic-

ipal manager must open their mouth about the VBS issue, they can't just speak to the media not talking to our branches. Operations Mabone, Stetue Apolo lights and other services that must go to our people must be unlocked."

Maupa had written the post on October 19.

COSA said that it believed Maupa's death was politically motivated.

"His murder was politically motivated as he received death threats short-

ly after calling for decisive measures to be taken against his political seniors implicated in the VBS scandal. COSA vehemently denounces any kind of prejudice and criminal activity based on political affiliation. We will not allow cowardly acts committed by faceless thugs to derail us from our efforts to stamp out corruption," said Mosoana. They called on police to speedily make arrests.

"We also invite the ANC leadership

to lead the torch in bringing justice to the life of this young, vocal and selfless councillor by firing all its political management team for their direct involvement in the VBS saga."

Maupa was gunned down on Monday evening. Police spokesperson Brig Motlafela Mojapelo said the councillor had gone to his restaurant around 7.30pm to help his wife lock up. The restaurant is situated at Riba Cross next to the R37 in Burgersfort.

Mojapelo said that after locking up, an unknown man approached their car and opened fire on them.

News24



I RESIGNED TO SAVE THE ANC - ZUMA

JOHANNESBURG - "I decided to resign before my term ended to save the ANC," former president Jacob Zuma said on Tuesday.

He was speaking to more than a thousand residents of Bhobhoyi, in Port Shepstone, in the lower South Coast of KwaZulu-Natal at a provincial ANC election campaign event.

"The ANC NEC (National Executive Committee) told me to resign as president and they could not provide me with reasons when I asked them. I decided to save the ANC and I resigned. I saw that this would lead us into a forest and we would fight among ourselves," he said.

"The ANC is more important than my pain and feelings," he said to loud cheers.

He warned the party's supporters who wore ANC colours to "vote for the ANC and not the president".

"The ANC hasn't done anything wrong to you. There are talks that some people are not happy about so and so or Zuma. Vote for the ANC, not the president. If you choose not to vote next year then you're not mature. Vote for the ANC to remain in government," he insisted.

Zuma warned members who thought they were "special because of power or because of their ideas" to "put the ANC first".

"We joined the ANC, the ANC did not join us. Ours is to make it better than when we joined it," he said.

The ANC has made "mistakes" in its tenure as the governing party, Zuma

acknowledged.

"Mistakes happen when you're working," he said.

He warned against those who were "politicking" in their criticism of the ANC and encouraged the youth, especially those who had just turned 18, to vote for the ANC "instead of throwing their vote at sea" by deciding to vote for other parties.

"Do not vote for the other party that used to be led by that woman and now led by that boy, I forget their names and party."

News24



Steenhuisen accuses EFF of elitism in degree row

PARLIAMENT - DA Chief Whip John Steenhuisen on Tuesday branded the EFF elitist hypocrites who wished to keep the poor out of politics and used their positions to enrich themselves.

"I have never once used my position to line my own pockets. I have never once abused provincial tender processes to make myself and my family rich, as Julius Malema did in Limpopo," Steenhuisen said in the National Assembly two days after he was mocked by the EFF for his lack of a university qualification.

"I have never stolen the savings of the poor and vulnerable to buy fancy houses and swimming pools, as Floyd Shivambu did with the VBS Bank. And I have never assault-

ed journalists, or threatened fellow members of this House, like the EFF does on a regular basis."

Steenhuisen said the Constitution was clear that "no matter whether you are a mineworker or a brain surgeon, you could seek election to represent your community".

He added: "Let me be clear: I don't have a university degree, I have never pretended to. I enrolled for a BA in politics and law at [University of South Africa] UNISA in 1994, however - like many South Africans - I am not ashamed of this."

He said the EFF's criticism was redolent of the English class system and meant that the party dressed in workers' uniforms but would not want those it claimed to represent to hold elected office. ANA

Gordhan says EFF charges against him 'an abuse of the justice system'

JOHANNESBURG - Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan on Tuesday dismissed the Economic Freedom Fighters' corruption charges against him as an abuse of the justice system and an attack on efforts to combat graft and state capture at state-owned companies.

"Their so-called 'charge sheet' is baseless, containing a set of lies, fake news and fabrications," the minister said.

"It is simply their latest attack on the continuing efforts to combat corruption and theft in state-owned companies and other public institutions."

Gordhan said by opening a case, and widely disseminating

the charge sheet, the EFF was continuing its efforts to impugn the integrity and reputation of his family and threatened to sue party leaders for civil damages.

He launched a defamation suit against EFF leader Julius Malema and his deputy Floyd Shivambu on Monday, demanding R150 000 in damages, and laid charges of criminal defamation with the police. He also asked the Equality Court to determine whether recent inflammatory remarks by Malema amounted to hate speech.

On Tuesday, the EFF leadership retaliated by approaching the same police station to lay charges of fraud, money-laundering, racketeering, corruption and contravention of the intelligence and crime prevention acts. EFF national spokesman Mbuyiseni

Ndlozi then posted the case number on his twitter timeline.

News24

In my era at the SABC there was no fraud, corruption

JOHANNESBURG - Former SABC chief operating officer Hlaudi Motsoeneng has slammed a bid by the Special Investigating Unit to recover more than R21.7 million from him for illegal appointments and dismissals at the public broadcaster.

The SIU team appeared before Parliament's portfolio committee on communications on Tuesday, where it briefed the committee on the interim presidential investigation into the cash-strapped SABC.

Motsoeneng, however, said in regard to the success fees, he did not pay himself and saw nothing irregular with appointments, saying that the custodian of appointments and salary increments at SABC was the human resources department.

Political Bureau

Eradicating Murder, Suicide & Fatal Accidents.

SCENE OF ACCIDENT

STOP

MURDER

SUICIDE

THE BROADER PICTURE REGARDING MURDER AND SUICIDE

The statistics so far show that murders and suicides are happening at an alarming rate in the Kingdom of Eswatini. So dire is the situation such that not a single week passes by without a murder or suicide being committed there.

The fact that a fourteen year old can contemplate and even commit suicide is taboo and is a sign that unless radical measures are taken, the situation could get worse. This means that the country is faced with a very huge social problem which needs to be urgently addressed before murders and suicides become a norm in all communities.

While it is true that death is part of life, people should not

intentionally kill other people or deliberately kill themselves. Such being the case, the expectation is that cases of murder and suicide should be at barest minimum under normal circumstances. This is emphasis that the situation which we are currently faced with as a nation must be urgently and collectively addressed.

Although murder and suicide happen at a very personal and individual level the root causes of all these social maladies originate from much higher, bigger and broader levels than the individual level.

What ends up manifesting itself as murder or suicide has its origins deeply engrained at family,

society, community and national levels. An individual who commits murder or suicide is definitely not in a good state of mind and needs external help because they may not be aware that they are in a psychologically troubled state.

Good health and a sound state of mind are not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, but require complete physical, psychological, spiritual, social, economic and emotional wellbeing. This means that to have a healthy wellbeing, every individual needs at least all these spheres to be functional. Suffice to say that being in a superb state of physical health alone does not mean that

one is in a good state of health. A lot of people who commit murder or suicide usually enjoy fantastic physical health, but they are either troubled psychologically, spiritually, socially, economically or emotionally.

Physical health is concerned with the presence or absence of diseases which negatively affect the physical human body and its various functional organs and systems. It is basically what most people would normally recognise as defining someone's health status and yet health is much complex than that.

Health is also about one's social, psychological,

spiritual, economic and emotional aspects of life because all these simultaneously happen and in the process influence each other in determining the ultimate health outcome of each and every individual.

It should also be noted that physical illness can lead to psychological stress or mental illness which may result in murder and suicide. A lot of people suffering from illnesses have prematurely ended their lives believing that they will die anyway. Statistics also show that people have committed murder because they believe that the victims are the ones who bewitched them.

You have Problems and you need help?
You want to speak to someone

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Chamisa's rivals given final warnings

HARARE - Zimbabwean opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) party officials accused of plotting to oust Nelson Chamisa from the party's leadership have reportedly been given "final warnings", ahead of the national elective conference next year. According to Daily News, MDC insiders said Chamisa saved the accused officials, who included party General Secretary, Douglas Mwonozoro, and Deputy president Elias Mudzuri, from being expelled. MDC spokesperson Jacob Mafume confirmed the development, but did not mention any names, the report said.

News24

AU urges EU to lift sanctions on candidate

ADDIS ABABA - The African Union Peace and Security Council is urging the European Union to lift sanctions on Congolese President Joseph Kabila's chosen successor less than a month before a historic election. Ruling party candidate Emmanuel Ramazani Shadary was sanctioned by the EU last year for obstructing the electoral process and related human rights violations. The AU communique, without naming Shadary, says lifting sanctions will help lead to "free, fair, credible and peaceful elections" in the DRC. The mineral-rich Central African nation on Dec. 23 faces what could be its first peaceful, democratic transfer of power.

AP

Prince arrives in Tunisia amid protests

TUNIS - Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman arrived Tuesday in Tunisia, where hundreds of people have been protesting the visit over the murder of dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi. The crown prince was received by Tunisian President Beji Caid Essebsi. Mohammed's visit is part of a tour of several Arab countries, his first trip abroad since Khashoggi - a sharp critic of Mohammed - was killed inside a Saudi consulate in Turkey on October 2, triggering global condemnations. Saudi officials have repeatedly denied reports that the prince is linked to the murder.

DPA

Six civilians, rebel killed in eastern DRC

KINSHASA - Six civilians and a rebel fighter were killed overnight during an attack by the ADF armed group in the troubled east of the Democratic Republic of Congo, civilian and military sources said on Tuesday. The attack in the town of Oicha sparked a protest by several thousand conflict-weary residents of nearby Beni, the scene of frequent raids blamed on the Allied Democratic Forces, a Ugandan jihadist group. "The ADF raided overnight Monday," Beni administrator Donat Kibwana told AFP. "They were repelled by the army but unfortunately they killed six civilians, and the army killed one ADF (fighter)."

AFP

Survivor recounts terror of party boat disaster

KAMPALA - Before Alex Niyonzima was pitched into the lake waters, before other partygoers fell on top of him driving him deep below the surface, before drowning hands grabbed at his body, there had been a moment's lull. Niyonzima hung from a table welded to the deck as the boat paused mid-way through its turtling roll last Saturday night, in Uganda's Lake Victoria. "I was holding onto the table but the floor was where the wall had been," he said. All around him people were screaming, "holding onto chairs, guardrails, each other." Then the boat lurched again. "I was at the lowest end when the boat flipped so all the people above fell on me," the tall, heavyset 44-year-old said. Below the waves now, Niyonzima believed he would die. **AFP**



Anger as fuel crisis enters second week

HARARE - Zimbabwe's supply crisis continued this week with locals outraged at wasting productive hours in long queues amid anger as some outlets were reportedly only selling to those with coupons from companies that would have prepaid in foreign currency.

Ministers recently claimed that the country has enough stocks to last the next 18 months but the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ)

has not been releasing the foreign currency required to pay suppliers.

Interviews

Disgruntled Harare motorists complained in interviews with NewZimbabwe.com Tuesday about wasting time in long queues at the few filling stations with the product only to that they were only selling to those with prepaid coupons.

"The issue here is that government wants people to buy com-

modities using forex and yet they pay salaries in bond note. This is not fair," fumed one Rukozhu.

"I am really disappointed with what we are experiencing right now. So, what do we do? I cannot afford to buy fuel in advance. I am not earning much and where do I get the forex from?"

Another motorist, Ropafadzo Mapimhidze added; "It's really frustrating because we cannot even get to do our daily business except

driving from one filling station to another looking for fuel."

Asked about the crisis during with weekly media briefing after cabinet, finance minister Mthuli Ncube appealed for patience.

"We are aware of the hitches in the fuel supply market and this is largely due to do with the timings in terms of between payments and the supply of the commodity," he said.

AFP

PASS WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION BILL OR FACE CRISIS - KENYA MPS

NAIROBI - Kenyan politicians must pass a Bill that would ensure women one-third of seats in Parliament - or risk plunging the country into a constitutional crisis, MPs supporting the Bill warned on Tuesday.

Despite Kenya's 2010 constitution stating that no more than two-thirds of any elected or appointed body can be of the same gender, women hold 22 per cent of seats in the country's lower house of Parliament, and 31 per cent in the upper house.

Court rulings since 2012 have directed Parliament to pass legislation to enforce the gender rule or risk being dissolved - but previous attempts have failed with female MPs accusing male lawmakers of deliberately blocking efforts.

If Parliament is dissolved, a general election would need to be called. Kenya held a controversial, highly polarised and violent election last year.

Amid increased scrutiny from the courts, Kenya's lower house voted on a Bill yesterday.

"The truth is we, as parlia-

Court rulings since 2012 have directed parliament to pass legislation to enforce the gender rule or risk being dissolved - but previous attempts have failed with female MPs accusing male lawmakers of deliberately blocking efforts. If parliament is dissolved, a general election would need to be called. Kenya held a controversial, highly polarised and violent election last year.



ment, are unconstitutional," said Rozaah Buyu, a representative for the western region of Kisumu. "What authority do we have to bring others to account when we are not acting within the Constitution by disregarding the gender rule?"

The High Court in 2017 stated the chief justice can be petitioned to advise the president to dissolve parliament if a law

was not enacted, said Buyu, who is Vice-president of the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association.

Kenya's economy has grown on average by five per cent annually over the last decade, but the benefits have not been equally shared. Women and girls remain disadvantaged socially, economically and politically. **Reuters**

Lesotho MPs 'demand 100% pay rise'

MASERU - Lesotho's Members of Parliament (MPs) are reportedly demanding a 100 per cent pay increase despite being already among the best-paid people in the landlocked African country. According to the privately owned Lesotho Times newspaper, Prime Minister Thomas Thabane has instructed Finance Minister Moeketsi Majoro to explore a "revised salary structure" for

the parliamentarians. "This issue is not for us ordinary people to worry about, but it concerns those involved in politics"

If the lawmakers' demands are met, their monthly salary would double to \$5 344 while ordinary Basotho workers earn a measly \$144 a month, said the report.

At least 75 per cent of country's population live in rural

areas and depend directly on agriculture and livestock, an AFP report says. Nearly half of household incomes come from remittances by migrants who are employed in South Africa, especially in the mining sector.

AFP

Thousands rally as Tshisekedi returns to launch DRC presidential bid

KINSHASA - Tens of thousands of supporters turned out to welcome Congolese opposition scion Felix Tshisekedi as he returned to Kinshasa on Tuesday to kick off his campaign to replace President Joseph Kabila in next month's election.

"We will go with the people and we will win," declared Tshisekedi, the 55-year-old son of the late Etienne Tshisekedi, who for decades was the face of DRC's opposition.

He also vowed to deploy observers to combat election fraud, while his running mate Vital Kamerhe, a former parliamentary speaker who returned home with him, said the pair made a "winning ticket".

As they flew into Kinshasa airport from Addis Ababa, huge crowds of supporters from Tshisekedi's Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS) and Kamerhe's Union for the Congolese Nation (UNC) were on hand to greet them.

Police briefly fired tear gas to try and break up the crowds to let their convoy pass, an AFP journalist at the scene said.

Under an agreement unveiled last Friday in Kenya, the pair will run on a joint ticket, which, if successful, will see Tshisekedi becoming president and Kamerhe appointed as his prime minister.

Kamerhe, who ran against Kabila in 2011, will be Tshisekedi's campaign director ahead of the December 23 vote.

Their decision to run on a joint ticket came just days after the pair had withdrawn their support for an agreement hammered out in Geneva in which seven opposition parties coalesced around a joint candidate in order to boost the opposition's chance of victory.

That candidate, little-known MP Martin Fayulu, will now vie against Tshisekedi as well as former interior minister Emmanuel Ramazani Shadary, Kabila's hand-picked successor.

"We're not going to ask the Congolese people to boycott the vote," Tshisekedi said.

"That would leave the road open" for Kabila's candidate Shadary, he said.

"We will deploy observers everywhere so there is no cheating."

Tshisekedi's main areas of support are in the west, around Kinshasa, and in the central Kasai areas, while Kamerhe has called for backing from the conflict-hit east, where he comes from.

AFP

#STATECAPTURE:

RAMATHLODI EXPLAINS HOW GUPTAS BULLIED MINISTERS

JOHANNESBURG - The Gupta family demonstrated their power by summoning ministers to their homes and even intimidating investors at post-mining Indaba events hosted at their private home in Cape Town. Ngoako Ramathlodi told the Zondo commission.

Ramathlodi pulled no punches as he detailed how he was told that he would likely be invited by Guptas to their private home following the mining Indaba which is hosted in Cape Town every year.

The former minister of mineral resources said he refused but he was informed that former ministers in his department and the director generals, and their deputies, would attend

the event at the Gupta home. Ramathlodi's predecessor in the department was Susan Shabangu.

"We have an annual Mining Indaba. I was told by my director general about how things worked before."

Shocked

"He told me that before that he and director generals and deputy director generals of the mineral resources department would be hosted by the Guptas at their Cape Town home. They would then call other people to attend," said Ramathlodi.

The Chairperson of the commission Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo appeared visibly shocked by the revelation and asked; "At their home? private home?" Ramathlodi



BULLIED: Former minister of mineral resources Ngoako Ramathlodi takes the stand at the state capture commission.

replied: "Yes"

The ANC National Executive Member (NEC), who was fired twice by Zuma, said he did not attend those

events.

"What I did was to say to the DG (is) that this would not happen on my watch. There is no one who will

be hosted by those people," he said.

Ramathlodi said this was the Guptas demonstrating their power and bullying people to do as they wished.

"They were demonstrating power. What they do is they would call this department there and then they would call people who would be investors and say 'You see the whole department is here we want you to do this and that'. They were demonstrating power. The whole department would go there. The ministers would be there, the previous ministers," said Ramathlodi.

"They would intimidate people. 'If you do not go there you would not get that'... they were demonstrating their power."

Toxic

"Chair the Guptas had the power to summon the president and ministers in their home and they would boast about it. They want to meet you in their home," he said.

Ramathlodi also told the commission that some of the members of the ANC NEC confronted Zuma about his toxic relationship with the Guptas, and the former president would simply say those were his friends and they had assisted his children, Duduzane and Edward, with jobs.

He said Zuma had strong support within the ANC NEC and that power was solidified and explained why he survived for so long as the leader of the ANC and country.

IOL

I REFUSED TO REVOKE GLENCORE MINING LICENCE - RAMATHLODI

JOHANNESBURG - Former Eskom board chair Ben Ngubane allegedly threatened to report then-mineral resources minister Ngoako Ramathlodi to then-president Jacob Zuma if he did not revoke Glencore's mining licences in 2015.

When Ramathlodi did not comply with Ngubane's request, Zuma called him to Mahlabateng, his official residence in Pretoria, where Ramathlodi was told he was being moved to the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA).

In his testimony before the state capture inquiry yesterday, Ramathlodi referred to a meeting that took place in 2015 between himself, then Eskom CEO Brian Molefe and Ngubane at the mineral resources ministry in Pretoria.

The meeting was called after Molefe refused to renegotiate the price of a long-term coal supply contract between Eskom and Glencore and instead reinstated a disputed R2.17bn penalty that Optimum Coal Holdings (owned by Glencore) allegedly owed for supplying sub-standard coal.

Lobbying

This forced Glencore to put Optimum into business rescue. The decision also came at a time when the Gupta family were actively lobbying for the purchase of Optimum.

In the meeting, Ngubane allegedly demanded that Ramathlodi "take all the licences Glencore has".

When the then-minister refused,



THREATENED: Former Eskom board chair Ben Ngubane.

Ngubane allegedly said he would report him to Zuma. Molefe was apparently silent during the meeting.

"Ngubane had descended into the arena. He was now chief executive officer in addition to being chairman of Eskom," Ramathlodi said.

Zuma was on a state visit to China at the time of the meeting and when he returned "a week or so" later, Ramathlodi was summoned to Mahlabateng.

Promoted

"He said I was being promoted to the DPSA. He said that portfolio needs somebody senior. I thanked him and left.

"We serve at the will of the president as ministers. I might have my own ideas but when I was appointed to DMR, I did not object so subsequent to that when I was moved to DPSA, I did not object," Ramathlodi said.

"The issue of Optimum was not resolved until the mine was sold to

the Guptas under Mosebenzi Zwane's supervision. I had refused to cooperate with him in that portfolio because I felt we were doing a good job and we were being forced to do wrong things.

"The promotion was a punishment to send a message. The interesting thing is that when I got out of there, a Gupta minister came in; a man who is known and who confesses to be a Gupta friend replaces you and then all of a sudden Optimum mine is sold to the Guptas."

Required

When Ramathlodi was moved to the DPSA, he received a request from Zwane, recommending that implicated Mzwanele Manyi be appointed director-general at mineral resources. He said he refused because Manyi did not possess the required qualifications for the job.

"No minister can employ a head of department without the concurrence of PSA. They brought in an application where they were recommending Manyi as DG. [The Guptas] clean everybody out of the department and put their own people in. They bring in a minister and they clean the department.

"I then indicated to Zwane that I was unable to appoint Manyi because he did not have a post-graduate certificate or degree."

Ramathlodi was axed from Zuma's Cabinet in May 2017.

TMG Digital

ZUMA AND I ARE STILL FRIENDS - RAMATHLODI

JOHANNESBURG - Former minister of public service and administration Ngoako Ramathlodi spent yesterday giving damning testimony against former president Jacob Zuma and the Guptas.

Many people on social media commented on the explosive nature of the allegations Ramathlodi made, with several saying that he was "singing like a canary".

However, despite all this, the former minister claims he's still friends with Zuma, describing their relationship as "quite close". "I know him very well and nothing has changed," he said.

According to Ramathlodi, any disputes between them were not personal and they just "disagreed on the issues".

Reshuffle

This is despite the former minister saying he was not informed by the president that he would be removed from his position in a late-night reshuffle, the same one that saw Pravin Gordhan replaced as finance minister.

According to Ramathlodi, he woke up on April Fool's Day, 2017, only to be told by his wife, "you are no longer minister, Papa."

She had apparently found out about his removal from TV news.

Ramathlodi levelled several apparently damning accusations against the former president, including

that the Guptas employed a secretary who controlled Zuma's diary and could summon him whenever they wanted.

Connection

He said the ANC National Executive Committee (NEC) minutes would prove that Zuma had been confronted on his "toxic" relationship with the family; that Zuma's connection to them had paralysed the NEC, splitting it between those who defended the president relentlessly and those who were concerned about his links to the controversial family; that Zuma's son Duduzane would call him directly, and that he was told not to worry about it when he asked the president to tell him to stop it.

The former minister also said Zuma had authorised the controversial Gupta landing at the Waterkloof airforce base in 2013. The family's landing at the base for a wedding outraged the country at the time. Ramathlodi remembered his disappointment at the time, feeling it was an affront to South Africa's hard-won democracy. "People didn't die for this," he said.

Whether the former minister and the former president will remain friends after all these particularly damning allegations about Zuma, however, remains to be seen.

Citizen



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BUSHFIRE SECURES SANDS A SLOT AT IGODA

By Nokwanda Sibandze

MTN Bushfire has secured the golden boy Sands a slot on the coveted IGODA Southern African Music Festival Circuit that will see him touring throughout the region in 2019.

Sands has graced the MTN Bushfire main stage multiple times and with the support of MTN Bushfire, he will now take his rightful place on other major festival stages across Southern Africa on the IGODA circuit.

This was confirmed by Bushfire Communications Officer Wandile Dlamini through a press statement yesterday.

"Born out of the MTN Bushfire Firefest Route, the circuit is a partnership that encompasses five regional festivals including: Azgo Festival (Maputo, Mozambique), Bassline Fest (Johannesburg, South Africa), MTN Bushfire (Malkerns, Eswatini), Zakifo Festival (Durban, South Africa), and Sakifo Festival (Saint-Pierre, Reunion Island)."

According to the statement, these festivals work together in facilitating the movement of artists within the region, thereby exposing them to different audiences.

"Sands will be in great company on the circuit

amongst the other confirmed touring artists such as Meute from Germany, Alibombo from Colombia, Oliver Mtukudzi from Zimbabwe, Mandla Mlangeni from South Africa, Maia and The Big Sky from Kenya, Moonchild from South Africa, Dobet Gnahore from Cote d'Ivoire," adds the statement.

Perform

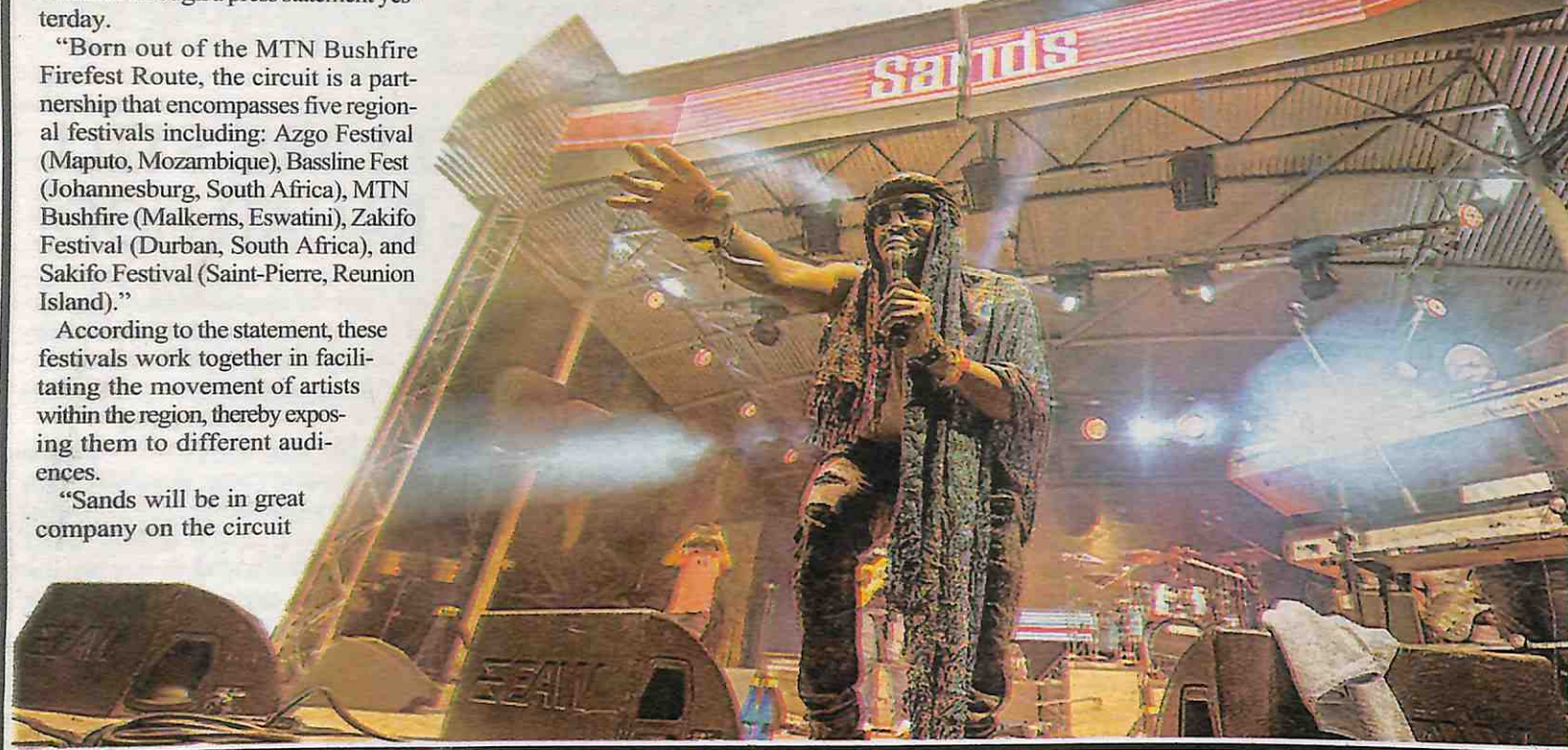
Worth noting is that all these mentioned artists above were last week revealed as acts of MTN Bushfire Festival 2019. For now, it is unknown whether Sands would perform at MTN Bushfire next year.

IGODA is a unique and innovative concept that brings together the finest must festivals within Southern Africa to create one of the first touring circuits on the African continent. It is an exciting development both for local and international artists, festival professionals and music fans from Southern Africa and across the world.

The circuit presents an incredible opportunity for artists and fans to travel across Southern Africa, celebrating music and participating and strengthening the regions' interconnected creative economies.

MTN Bushfire ensures

that Eswatini artists are well represented on an annual basis. The artist said he was more than excited to be part of the festival. "I am excited, being on an international platform like IGODA will work well with my mandate which is to take my brand to an international standard," said the singer. The singer also said he was looking forward to perform in the Reunion Island as it was one place he hasn't performed at.



Kena off to AIDS edutainment mission

By Nokwanda Sibandze

ESWATINI multi-award nominee hip-hop artist Kena leaves the Kingdom of Eswatini on Saturday to an edutainment mission in Pretoria, South Africa.

Kena will be gracing the World AIDS Day concert promoting #ZeroNewInfections of HIV/AIDS. Kena is not new to raising awareness about HIV/AIDS and behavioural change as he previously worked with FLAS on the 'Put A Ring On It' campaign.

The World AIDS Day concert will be staged at the Freedom Park in Pretoria and tickets are available from Computicket outlets at Shoprite stores.

"We encourage everyone to do their part towards an HIV free generation, and they can support this event by purchasing a ticket for E50 even if they won't attend the event.

Let's do our part towards promoting zero new infections in our communities," said Kena.

Excited

Kena said he was excited with the fact that this was his first gig outside of the country.

"I am excited to be performing at a world stage and not only because it will impact greatly on my music but I believe in the fight against HIV/AIDS. I have done a number of campaigns in the country for the same course and to be doing it on a global scale truly humbles me," said the rapper. The rapper also mentioned that he is happy to be representing young people of Eswatini in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

MICHAEL DAVID HERE IN DECEMBER

By Nokwanda Sibandze

CHRISTMAS and New Year are just around the corner and what better way to kick-off the festivities than spending time in God's presence with renowned pastor and gospel artist Michael David and friends.

David, composer and performer of the hit song 'Wave After Wave', will be launching his recently released CD in Eswatini and it promises to be a night of power and glory. After a recent visit to Eagles' Wings Ministries in Mbabane, David, who is based in Pretoria, South Africa, fell in love with Eswatini and immediately started arrangements to launch his then soon to be released CD in the kingdom.

"I love the country and the people of Eswatini and would love to share a night of praise and worship with them," he commented.

Since the announcement of the launch, which will be held on December 14, much hype has been generated on social media platforms in anticipation, including YouTube where his video has received over 45 000 views. Michael's CD is titled 'The Longing' and a collection of 11 intimate and God-pleasing praise and worship songs performed in English and *Setswana*. He has the likes of Yvonne May, and Tlhogi. The songs on 'The Longing' have been receiving mass play on South African radio and TV channels and is available

on all digital platforms and in selected outlets. The first single 'Wave After Wave' has become very popular and was recently re-recorded live as part of the 'Gospel Goes Classical' album where Michael shared the stage with various artists including Vashawn Mitchell, Ntokozo Mbambo, Takie Ndou, Lebohlang Kgapola and local artist Nduduzo Matse.

Project

David and his live seven-piece band will be performing alongside well-known local artists, including SWAMA nominee Skeel. Also on the list is Fakazi Samuel who recently released and launched his sophomore project 'Sabela'. The list of local features is completed by Sunshine Em, Wandile Hlophe and local poet Ntombi.

Tickets are already selling fast at just

E100 and are available at Ocean Basket Mbabane, Eagles' Wings Ministries Mbabane and will also be sold at the gate on the day. The show will be held at Free Evangelical Assemblies in Mbabane. The organisers of the show have partnered with a number of local churches and businesses to bring this amazing event to the capital city of Eswatini, including Mbabane Free Evangelical Assemblies, Eagles' Wings Ministries, Destiny Music and Sabela Records. "We are glad to bring such an anointed worship leader and musician to Eswatini, especially during the festive season a time of joy and thanksgiving. We believe that all in attendance will experience God's presence in a new way and will enjoy the music and divine fellowship on the night," commented one of the organisers.

lowship on the night," commented one of the organisers.



SNOWEE 'RUBBING SHOULDERS' WITH PATRICE MOTSEPE

By Ayanda Dlamini

WHAT'S next for model Snowee as she has been gracing international ramps, a big gig?

The renowned model was spotted in Sandton, Johannesburg, rubbing shoulders with South Africa tycoon Patrice Motsepe.

Sharing her picture yesterday on social media; Facebook to be precisely with the tycoon, the model mentioned that she and Motsepe had a great conversation; however, she did not reveal what they were discussing about.

"In my whole existence, I never thought that one day I'll have the opportunity to share a conversation with such an influential human being.

"Being South Africa's

richest man has not taken away your humbleness, a giving heart and the never ending jokes. The world needs more people like you Dr Motsepe," reads Snowee's caption accompanied by her picture with the tycoon.

Worth noting is that the model is currently in Sandton as she also attended the Motsepe Foundation gala dinner a few days ago. She also been sharing pictures on social media with celebrities such as Pallance Dladla and Bohang Moeko, to mention a few.

Dr Motsepe is a South African billionaire mining businessman. He is the founder and Executive Chairman of African Rainbow Minerals, which has interests in gold, ferrous metals, base metals, and platinum.

Estimated

According to reports, he sits on several company boards, including being the non-executive Chairman of Harmony Gold, the world's 12th largest gold mining company, and the Deputy Chairman of Sanlam.

In 2012, Motsepe was named South Africa's richest man, topping the Sunday Times' annual rich list with an estimated fortune of E20.07 billion (US\$2.5 billion).

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Eswatini. He recently donated



ed E10 million to UNESWA Foundation last month during the institute's graduation ceremony where he was a guest.

Hosting

Through his baby, Motsepe Foundation, the tycoon will be hosting international stars such as Beyonce, Ed Sheeran, Pharrell Williams, Usher, D Banj, Jay-Z, Tiwa Savage and other South African heavyweights on Sunday at FNB Stadium, Johannesburg, South Africa.

The festival is dubbed, 'Global Citizen Festival Mandela 100', basically celebrating 100 years since the late icon Nelson Mandela's birth.

BIG GUNS: SA business magnate Dr Patrice Motsepe with model Snowee in Sandton.

LONDIWE D COMES OUT OF SHELL

By Phetsile Mamba

LONDIWE D is ready to take the gospel world by storm as she is set to record her first live CD/DVD.

Speaking at the press briefing which was held at Molly's Restaurant in Manzini on Tuesday morning, the gospel artist revealed that she would be recording her album titled 'Uyang' tsandza Jesu' on December 21 at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre, Ezulwini.

According to the gospel singer, the event would start at 6pm and tickets are out costing E120 at Galito's outlets countrywide.

She would be recording 15 tracks featuring some of the upcoming gospel artists such as Lungelo Matse and Mngqobi Maseko.

"The album comprises very powerful praise and worship songs. Songs of them are deliverance, affirmation and communion songs. I mean it caters for all age groups - the young and old, the dancers and the non-dancers. Most of

- Set to record her first live CD/DVD
- Hires husband as her manager



SINGER: Londiwe Dlamini at the briefing. (Pic: Phetsile Mamba)

the songs have been written by me and others have been composed by Pastor Siyabonga Sukati," she said.

Londiwe started singing back in 2010, when she made a beautiful duet with Siphosiso Makhubane on a song dubbed; 'Thank you Jesus'. She didn't stop there, she went on and joined Redemption Mass Choir where she led the track

'Uyang' tsandza Jesu'; which is the title of her new album. She is also featured in one of Linda Dlamini's songs.

Formally known as Londiwe Dlamini, the artist revealed that she was now managed by her husband Pastor Ntfontjeni.

Career

"My husband is very organised, assertive, and passionate about gospel music. He believes in me and fully supports me," she said when asked why she chose her spouse to manage her music career.

"Londiwe D is an upcoming artist, bringing something different in the gospel industry. I promise you a fresh, sonorous sound; something totally new. Her music, sound and voice are so unique and anointed. 'A new thing' will be revealed on December 21," said the pastor.

He added that they were under Apostle Justice Dlamini of Worship Centre in Mbabane.

'Tendamix night not just an ordinary night'

Stories by Nokwanda Sibandze

TENDAMIX Night is not just an event but an experience of world class entertainment.

Said to bring the fun, the team makes sure that they bring the best of local acts experience through their production which will

be uniquely designed for every show.

According to Tendanness' Manager Sibusiso Simelane, the Tendamax series was conceived to ensure that all the events are of international standards.

Important

"The sound, lighting and visuals are operated in sync, so what you hear, see and feel comes all at once," said Simelane. He also urged people to be ready for a whole new experience of entertainment and remember that it is important to support local artists.



INTERNATIONAL STANDARD: Tendanness.

Masandi set for next show

SOUTH African singer Masandi will be making his second appearance in the kingdom on December 21.

This was confirmed by Sibusiso Simelane who said the artist would be performing alongside DJ Tendanness.

"People might remember the song Tendanness did with South African singer Masandi. It is exciting to announce that he will be in the country for the next Tendamax night," said Simelane.

Sandile Mfusi, well known as Masandi, is a South African RnB singer who is taking the music industry by storm with his songs.

Climbing

His EP 'Escalation EP' is currently making rounds on both radio and TV stations.

Known for his collaboration on the song 'Change for Nobody' featuring Kwesha, Masandi is climbing the music charts quickly. Having collaborated with a number of artists including

Kwesha, DJ Tira, K.O, Duncan and represented Durban at the Red bull Culture Clash in 2017, Masandi is coming to the kingdom for the second time.

Appearance

He performed at Déjà vu, Esibayeni Lodge and Pub n Grill in Ezulwini back in June at his 'Slam' tour in Eswatini.

Masandi also confirmed his appearance for the show. "It is going to be a fired up performance," said the artist. They will perform their song 'Mosh' together on the night.

"We have a song 'Make up your mind' with Symphony, and Tiyas who hasn't performed in over a year so were are really excited for the next Tendamax Night," said Simelane.

TO PERFORM: SA singer Masandi.



International
Celebrity News

Eva pad in Hollywood Hills is a steal at \$9.8m

HOLLYWOOD - Eva Longoria is no longer a 'Desperate Housewife,' but she's definitely desperate to get you in her home, stat.

The actress is unloading this incredible pad in the Hollywood Hills. It'll cost you a pretty penny at \$9.8 million, but, considering Eva just dropped the price by \$1.2 million, it's quite the bargain. Some houses have all the bells and whistles, this one has extra houses. Seriously.

There are two houses on the nearly three acres: a four-bedroom, four-bathroom country house and a three-

**BARGAIN: Eva Longoria.**

bedroom, three bathroom French villa on the other side.

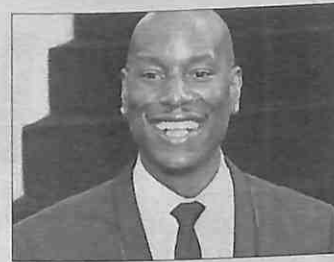
ShowBiz

Tyrese gets victory in childcare costs battle

HOLLYWOOD - A judge is siding with Tyrese, ruling there are limits when it comes to his ex-wife demanding he cover childcare costs, especially if her activities aren't work-related.

According to docs, obtained by TMZ, the judge ruled Norma Gibson can't expect Tyrese to reimburse her for babysitters to watch their 11-year-old daughter, Shayla, if Norma's running "non-work errands" or running her household.

As first reported, Tyrese was pissed about childcare bills Norma was running up -- especially one partic-

**VICTORY: Tyrese.**

ular day in August -- when she admitted she was merely "living life." He was also upset that, in his view, she wasn't making an effort to get a steady job.

TMZ

'SpongeBob SquarePants' creator Stephen Dies at 57

CALIFORNIA - There's no joy at the Krusty Krab -- Stephen Hillenburg, the creator of "SpongeBob SquarePants," died Monday after battling ALS.

Stephen first revealed his ALS diagnosis in 2017. He's survived by his wife, Karen, and his son, Clay.

Nickelodeon called him "a beloved friend and long-time creative partner to everyone at Nickelodeon, and our hearts go out to his entire family."

Steve created 'SpongeBob' in the late '90s, but he took a circuitous route to his TV and movie success. Hillenburg started out teaching marine biology in Orange County but eventually combined that knowl-

**DIES: Stephen Hillenburg.**

edge of ocean creatures with his artistic talent.

He broke into TV as a director and writer on the Nickelodeon show, "Rocko's Modern Life" -- and then eventually started creating his 'SpongeBob', which debuted in 1999.

TMZ

'Brutally honest' bombshells from Mel B's memoir

LAS VEGAS - The "America's Got Talent" judge opens up about her marriages including the love of her life, Eddie Murphy, and the alleged abuses she endured with Stephen Belafonte.

As advertised, Mel B is being "Brutally Honest" in her new book, talking about everything from drugs to mental health and, of course, her love life.

The former and future (and forever) Spice Girl has not been shy in recent years talking about the ups and downs of her life, including allegations of abuse at the hands of her ex-husband and former manager Stephen Belafonte. He has denied all of the allegations.

Spice Girls Spill on Posh Skipping

**OPENS UP: Mel B.**

Reunion, and who once puked in Mel B's mouth!

TooFab

SA Celebrity News

Ma Ruby on the hard times

SOWETO - Actress Slindile Nodangala has shared how, despite her best intentions, she is often alone in her darkest hours, away from the people who she goes out of her way to help.

The star, who starred in Lockdown and as Ma Ruby on Generations, is all about inspiration. In fact, her social media pages read like a motivational bible.

But occasionally Ma will use the platform to open her heart and talk about the issues she faces.

**HARD TIMES: Slindile Nodangala.**

She recently posted a picture of the words: "You do you boo" and explained why she had so often struggled with the concept and how her caring heart had sometimes left her broken.

"Those who know me will attest to this. I'm kind. I'm loving. I'm giving. I'll go out of my way to help the next person to a point where I have nothing. I want to see everyone around me happy. But, when I'm in need there's no one around and the same people, I helped with everything."

(Sowetan)

We are on a path to self-destruction - Thato Molamu

PRETORIA - Thato Molamu has started an academy to help people escape mental slavery and avoid self-destruction.

Thato will be hosting the Girl Without Identity event in Pretoria this week to discuss practical ways to overcome barriers to self-empowerment, entrepreneurship and mental wellness. It will feature Ayanda-Allie Paine, Beth Arendse and Rorisang Thandekiso.

Thato told TshisaLIVE that the past year and a bit had been an emotional rollercoaster that taught him the

**HELP: Thato Molamu.**

value of mental health and positivity. *Times Live*

4-track EP featuring David Guetta, Pharrell, Nyovest launched

JOHNESBURG - As Mzansi gets ready to watch big stars, including Ed Sheeran, Black Coffee and Beyoncé perform at the Global Citizen concert on December 2, the advocacy organisation as announced the launch of a Global Citizen EP 1 -- a four-track collection of songs.

The tracks are all brand new music from stars, including Pharrell Williams, Stormzy, Cassper Nyovest, Danny Ocean, Tiwa Savage, David Guetta and Wizkid.

The EP will be released on November 30. But just to get you in the mood ahead of Sunday, the track E-Lo by Los Unidades & Pharrell Williams

**FEATURED: Cassper Nyovest.**

(feat. Jozzy) is available now.

Even cooler is the fact that E-Lo is accompanied by a Nelson Mandela-inspired video.

Times Live

Beyoncé readies for massive Tata concert on Sunday

SANDTON - Beyoncé will set FNB Stadium alight on Sunday as she headlines the much-awaited Global Citizen Festival: Mandela 100.

Ahead of the festival, the US superstar penned a heartfelt tribute to Nelson Mandela.

But if you thought that a Destiny's Child reunion was about to happen, think again.

After singer Kelly Rowland was spotted in Cape Town on Monday, a social media frenzy started with many speculating that the R&B trio will be reuniting like they did at this year's Coachella Valley Music and

**ALL SET: Beyoncé.**

Arts Festival. But Michelle Williams quickly poured cold water on any hopes when she revealed on Instagram that she's in the middle of the Broadway rehearsal of Once on This Island. *Sowetan*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

**SHOCKED: Samson.**

Samson gets shocking news about his health. When Lillian finally gets what she wants, things don't go according to plan. Sibongile is forced to pay a heavy price to keep her secret.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

**KIDNAPPED: Obakeng.**

Cebisa is frantic after Obakeng's kidnapping but is faced with closed doors when she tries to get help. Wendy steps up her game after receiving a compliment from Hendrik. Lungi makes a confession which takes him by surprise.

Muvhango

TODAY

**DENIES: Gugu.**

The hostage situation at the Royal compound has everyone on edge. A big blast from the past makes a surprise return to Thathe. Gugu denies the truth that's staring her in the face.

RHYTHM CITY

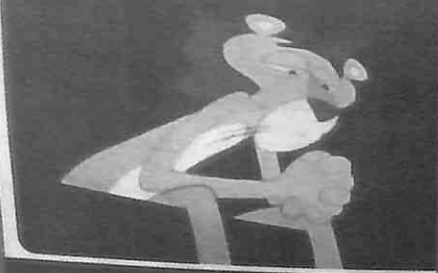
TODAY



Kop tries to come to terms with Blossom's secret. Mampho lets slip that she saw Bongi drinking at the office. Suffo finally finds out who kidnapped his child and it's not who he expected.

FINDS OUT: Suffo.

PICTURE OF THE DAY



When you're a guest pastor and about to be introduced

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TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22 – JANUARY 19

Your mood may take a bizarre twist today, Capricorn, as you calm your desire to fight for something. You're probably more interested in enjoying the beauty of something rather than trying to keep it for yourself. Allowing someone or something else to be free is the best gift you can give. Keep the lines of communication open and you will find that everything falls into place as it should.



motivated to make things happen for yourself. When you get the attention you feel you deserve, your devotion is strong.

CANCER JUNE 22 – JULY 22

You may find your emotions difficult to deal with, Cancer, especially later in the day. Consider taking an intellectual instead of emotional approach. Your feelings could send you into a drastic mood swing from one end of the spectrum to the other. The thing you really need right now - especially tonight - is balance. Tie up any loose ends to maintain more equilibrium.



AQUARIUS JANUARY 20 – FEBRUARY 18

Things are going to get better and better for you as the day progresses, Aquarius. Try to get your grounded, practical, and logical self collected during the day so you have the evening to socialise and commune with close friends. Balance is going to be a key issue for you today, so make sure you keep things in check before any one part of your life gets out of hand.



LEO JULY 23 – AUGUST 22

Communication with others could be extremely rewarding, Leo, especially later in the day. Project more of your energy outward and join others in projects that you might otherwise try to tackle on your own. Things should flow smoothly as long as you take a light-hearted, optimistic approach. Move forward with projects instead of just contemplating their completion.



PISCES FEBRUARY 19 – MARCH 20

There may be a bit of aggravation in a part of your life that's urging you to get up and do something, Pisces. It could be that you're getting overly emotional about a certain issue, and that you need to consider more of the cold, hard facts of what's really going on. You could be missing something obvious simply because you're so caught up in your emotional drama.



VIRGO AUGUST 23 – SEPTEMBER 22

Make sure you solidify your affairs early in the day, Virgo, because the sparks are going to fly after sunset. People might try to throw you off balance with fast talk and fancy ideas. You need to make sure you're on solid ground before you take the next step upward. Balance your emotions so you don't take your frustration out on others. Focus on your goals.



LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23 – OCTOBER 23

Things are looking up for you, Libra, especially later in the day. Pieces should be coming together and things flowing into place naturally. You will find that your outward-directed energy is better balanced now. You should connect with others using your keen wit, strong will, and sheer intelligence. Take your time to do the things you need to do. Don't rush.



SCORPIO OCTOBER 24 – NOVEMBER 21

The energy is apt to pick up in your life today, Scorpio. You may be asked to report to duty. Don't make promises you can't keep. Your words will be taken seriously, and you shouldn't mislead people into thinking that something is going to happen when you know it isn't. You know how that situation will turn out. Trust yourself, regardless of the circumstances.



SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22 – DECEMBER 21

There's extra aggression in your world today, Sagittarius. Realise that this is probably due more to your reaction to a situation than to the situation itself. It could be that you're in conflict with someone just because he or she wants harmony while you have a propensity to fight.



GEMINI MAY 21 – JUNE 21

Your usual lazy attitude is apt to receive a burst of energy tonight, Gemini. It's in your nature not to want to lift a finger, but for some reason you may be compelled to get up and get moving. You will find that when you connect with others, you're more



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Can you find the hidden creatures? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.

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LOL Laughing Out Loud

Junior Jouno

A cub reporter for a small town newspaper was sent out on his first assignment. He submitted the following report to his editor. "Mrs. Smith was injured in a car accident today. She is recovering in County Hospital with lacerations on her breasts." The Editor scolded the new reporter, "This is a

family paper. We don't use words like breasts around here. Now go back and write something more appropriate!" The young reporter thought long and hard. Finally he handed the Editor the following report. "Mrs. Smith was injured in a car accident today. She is recovering in County Hospital with lacerations on her (.:.)"

USELESS FACTS

1. If the population of China walked past you in a single file line, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
2. The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.
3. Google's founders were willing to sell to excite for under \$1 million in 1999—but excite turned them down.
4. Prairie dogs say hello with kisses
5. In the mid-1980s, fergie of the black eyed peas was the voice of charlie brown's sister sally.

BRAINTEASERS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterday's Brainteaser:
1. Can you think of a common word that contains double C, double S and double L? Can you think of a second one?
Answer: Unsuccessfully.

There is a door, yet no entrance or exit. What is the law?
Answer: Everything (each word) in Jack's World must contain double letters.

Today's Brainteasers

2. You are in a place called Jack's World and there is only one law. There is a mirror, but no reflection. There is pizza with cheese, but not sausage. There is pepper, but no salt.

1. What is next in this sequence? JFMAMJJASON...
2. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?



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NEWS



CLAUDIA PUTS OUT A HIT ON BANZI MOTAUNG – ISITHEMBISO

Mirror Mirror on the wall, who is the baddest of them all?

We thought we had seen all the savage that Claudia had to offer, until she rallied up Karlujah to put a bullet in Banzi Motaung! Will he kill his long time boss and friend under Claudia's instruction?

It never seems to amaze just how much Claudia is willing to do to win a seat at the table again! We don't know how to feel about this, as Banzi helped her get off the streets and even shared his own bed with her. We would prefer for the

Motaung comeback to be a tag team! Reasons why we're here for both evil villains:

It can be just like old times

Just the other day, the two were reminiscing about old times: The times were Claudia was the brains of all the operations and Banzi the man to make it all happen! You have to admit that there was so much power, when they were on the same team!

They say trust is over rated

Who needs trust when there's money involved? We think these two should just forget about

their trust issues and give money making a top priority. No games and plot twists. This way they can regain all power again.

They are both devious

The start of the brothel was the beginning of a lot of things, but this might turn out to be a human trafficking transaction! Claudia wants Cheryl dead but her hit men want more than money, and they want Bonnie as an added bonus! Will Claudia and Banzi be involved in shipping Bonnie to the rural outskirts of KZN, without her consent?

Tshepo's fate lies in their hands

Claudia and Banzi both need to get it together for Tshepo's sake, no matter how evil his parents are, he needs a chance to grow up with a family that loves him. It's no secret that Tshepo and Junior were the best of friends and a triple loss will be even harder! The fact is, he can't live in an orphanage when there are lots of people who will love him and take care of him. Who is the baddest between Banzi and Claudia? It's hard to tell. But one thing is for sure, they both need each other.

The Wedding Bashers Roundup 7 – Wining and Wedding

ROUNDING up Cassandra and Michael's wedding.

A riverside romance fuelled by cake, love, and wine. What could be better?

Here's our roundup of Cassandra and Michael's wedding.

Fashion

Cassandra's dress was a hit with the Bashers, although Zavion was none too impressed with a few jeans-sporting guests who'd clearly skipped over the invitation's dress code.

How gorgeous were the flowers? And we loved the naked tables as much as Zavion. The riverside venue provided a perfect backdrop, and plenty of ventilation too apparently!

Everyone may not have been a fan of the 100s and 1000s cake, but we loved it! It was unique and suited Cassandra's sweet spirit. The harvest table groaning with food made our tummies rumble, as did that delicious dessert table.

A daytime wedding meant no party for Denise, but there was more than enough wine flowing to keep her happy. Of course the bike she stumbled upon got her all excited, but unfortunately for her (and luckily for the rest of the Bashers) it was chained to the wall. She also had tons of fun going on a selfie mission. Loved Cassandra and Michael's wedding? You still have a chance to rate their wedding (or change your rating) and stand a chance to win a five-night getaway to Constance Ephelia Seychelles.

The Wedding Bashers was conceptualised by Gavin Wratten and is produced by [sic] Entertainment.

The show is broadcast on M-Net channel 101 every Sunday night at 18:00.



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years. Our ensembles always compliment our presenters personality and personal style, because being authentic is what we pride ourselves in! Whether it's Smash Afrika and his street style meets hippy vibe, Anele and her glamorous chic style or Lalla and her sophisticated origami, the looks come together flawlessly.

We have compiled our best looks for 2018, let us know if you approve! Only in Mzansi Magic.

Here We Go Again's LeToya Luckett on her lead role

THE former Destiny Child's singer talks about playing Maddy.

You may recognise LeToya Luckett from her days as part of Destiny's Child or as a solo artist. And although those days are long gone, LeToya is making moves and waves in the film industry. She's starred on hit series including HBO's Ballers, Preacher's Kid as well as VH1's Single Ladies.

These days we can find her on TV One's multigenerational comedic show Here We Go Again, in which she stars as Maddy, a single mother and successful lawyer. LeToya who also produces the show said that Here We Go Again puts a light twist to a not so light situation: teenage pregnancy. Maddy is convinced there is a "Walker's Women's Curse" after being born to her mother, Loretta (played by Wendy Raquel Robinson) at age 16. Maddy herself also has a child which she gave birth to at the same age.

Speaking about her underrated sense of humour, LeToya who's been seen on a few comedy dramas told Rolling Out that she added comedy to her character so that people wouldn't hate Maddy.

As far as her personality is concerned, LeToya said that although she doesn't consider herself as funny, she has a fun and bubbly personality. "I don't try to be funny and tell jokes, but I've always got something slick to say."

The former Destiny's Child singer also expressed how she managed to find Maddy. "I had no idea of how I wanted to portray Maddy, but as soon as the cameras started rolling this burst of energy came over me and I found her quickly, and she just happened to be funny."

"[Here We Go Again] is a fun show and I think it takes a heavy subject and it lightens it a little bit," LeToya told Rolling Out.

Here We Go Again airs every Friday at 18:00 on iMagic, DSTV Channel 103.

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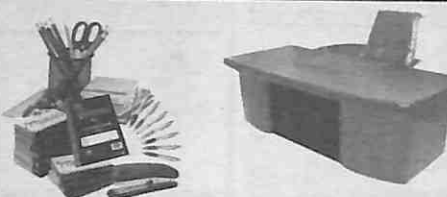
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15. DEATHS

Cedusizi Mtshali



Funeral: 02/12/2018
Vigil: 01/12/2018
Place: eMalindza

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Cedusizi Mtshali kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Shongwe baka Bulunga eNdlovini ekhabonina, baka Ginindza kuMahlanya ekhakhakhe, baka Mtshali kaLavumisa kanye nebandla lakhe, ility of Salvation. Ufihlwa ngeliSontfo 02 November 2018 emvakwemlindzelo ekhaya lakhe eMalindza eMampempane sitieshi Antioch. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguJoseph Mtshali egameni lemndeni.

Ginile Thobile Shongwe



Funeral: 01/12/2018
Vigil: 30/11/2018
Place: eSiyeni

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani baGinile Thobile Shongwe kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekhabonina, basemsebenini wakhe kaMasoso, belibandla lakhe eGod at work kuMadonsa. Ufihlwa ngeMgcibelo mhlaka 01 November 2018 emvakwemlindzelo ekhaya kubo eSiyeni. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni.

Isabel Jabu Dlamini



Funeral: 01/12/2018
Vigil: 30/11/2018
Place: eZibonele

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Isabel Jabu Dlamini lebekatiwa nga Ntsontso lebekahlala eMsumpe kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Nkhosi eMayangeni nebase Mshingishini nebase Gogo wakhe kaMagagula eBulandzeni kutaba nemlindzelo ngaleSihlanu 30 November 2018 ekhaya kubo kaHhohho eZibonele abekwe endlini yakhe yekugcina ngeMgcibelo mhlaka 01 November 2018. Lala ngekuthula Gwalagwala.

Borden David Bantu Dlamini



Funeral: 02/12/2018
Vigil: 01/12/2018
Place: eGebeni

Kwatiswa umndeni netihlobo nebangani ba Borden David Bantu Dlamini kutsi soshiyile emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bakubo bakaNkhosi endlini lembi (eGebeni) nebekhabonina ka Dladla eNcabaneni, bekakhakhe kaMkhonta eMahlalini nebakaMtsetfwa kaLobamba. Umlindzelo ungeMgcibelo mhlaka 01 November 2018 afihlwa ngeliSontfo mhlaka 02 December 2018 ekhaya kubo endlini lembi eGebeni ngelisiko leMalangeni. Inkonzo yesikhumbuto ngeMgcibelo nga 4:00pm eBosco Hall. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguyise Lobovu Dlamini.

Solomon Richard Simelane

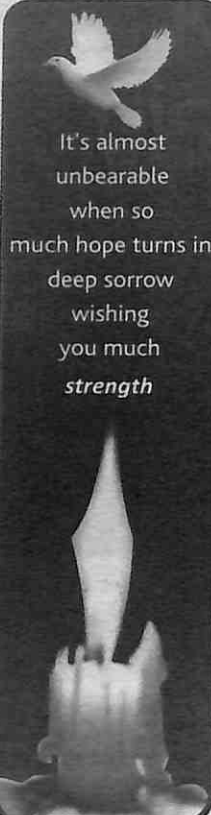


Funeral: 01/12/2018
Vigil: 30/11/2018
Place: LaMgabhi

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Solomon Richard Simelane waka LaMgabhi Etiyeni kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekakhakhe kaNdlangamandla eSihlutse nebe Lisontfo lakhe batochuba emsebeni. Utofihlwa ngeMgcibelo emvakwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu David Simelane babe wakhe lomncane.

Our Deepest Condolences

Death is only a bridge towards eternal life with God. Certainly Heaven is rejoicing for another soul has finally reached his true home.



It's almost unbearable when so much hope turns in deep sorrow wishing you much strength



May the gates of heaven open up to reveal strength and comfort in your times of trial and sorrow God will comfort you.

Death brings pain that time can only heal, no words could ease what we truly feel; but with God, her joy is eternally sealed, and cherish her memories that death can't even steal



Condolences

JOB 13:15

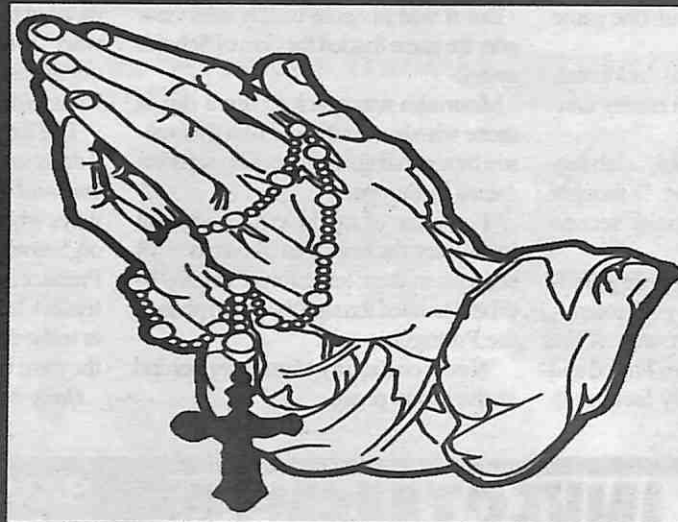
Though He slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face.

The LORD is close to the broken-hearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

It's almost unbearable when so much hope turns in deep sorrow wishing you much strength



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SCHOLES LETS RIP AT JOSE

Man Utd boss slammed after Champions League win

CHESTER - Manchester United boss Jose Mourinho may have guided his team into the knockout stages of the Champions League but he certainly didn't receive any plaudits from the fans.

Manchester United recorded a narrow victory over Young Boys at Old Trafford as Wayne Rooney scored a late winning goal.

The win for the Red Devils means Mourinho's men have secured progression from Group H with one game to spare.

Mourinho's display was lacklustre, unentertaining, and hardly convincing.

"They were awful," club legends told BT Sport. "I thought it was terrible, especially second half."

"If they play against a half-team there, they'd get beaten. It reminded me very much of the game last year. They huffed and quality was really lacking in

every area of the pitch.

"I feel really sorry for Young Boys. I thought they were excellent second half and, if they had a little bit of quality about them, they win that game."

Despite Fellaini's goalscoring heroics it was Mourinho's antics that made the back pages this morning.

Mourinho's wild celebration as Fellaini scored the winner, picking up a drinks carrier and smashing them onto the floor, left fans and pundits stunned.

But it was his post-match interview after the game that left the likes of Scholes angry.

Mourinho was quick to fire a dig at those who have criticised him this season by reminding everyone of his achievements in Europe.

"For some of my lovers, I just want to say, for the ones that like stats - 14 seasons in the Champions League, 14 times qualified through the group phase," the Portuguese said.

"Never one of my teams stay behind in the group phase."

"The season I didn't play Champions League, I won the Europa League. It's a good record."

But Scholes was not impressed with Mourinho's attitude - suggesting he was selfish to talk about his own record and not the team.

"It's always 'I': 'I won the title, I won the Europa League'," he said.

"The last time I looked, football was a team game."

"Why does he think he needs to remind us what he's won? We know what he's won." With United's place in the knockout stages confirmed, Mourinho can get back to domestic matters.

The Red Devils played out a dull 0-0 draw with Crystal Palace on Saturday and will look to get back to winning ways when they travel to Southampton on Saturday. United sit seventh in the Premier League table, 14 points behind leaders Manchester City, and are closer to the relegation zone (13 points) than they are their rivals.

Daily Mail

'We showed personality'

MANCHESTER - Pep Guardiola felt Lyon were a step up from domestic opponents after Manchester City scrambled a draw in the Champions League.

The Premier League leaders twice needed to come from behind as they were outplayed for large spells by the French side in Tuesday's Group F clash in France.

The result ensured City qualified for the last 16, but Guardiola felt the game should serve as another reminder of how tough competing in Europe can be.

The City manager said: "Today the Champions League showed me again that it's a different competition, the players are better, the demands are so high."

"They have weapons on set-pieces, defensively are so strong, they have quality up front. When people say it's easy for the Champions League, you cannot imagine how confused people are."

"After losing the first game, here was not a surprise."

"But in February we'll be there, another year for City. We can focus on the Premier League and

try to compete against the best teams in Europe when February comes."

Guardiola, who twice won the Champions League as Barcelona coach, feels the demands are completely different from the Premier League, which City won comfortably last season.

He said: "You don't have time. You can lose games in the Premier League and still have 38 games. Here there is huge quality for 180 minutes."

"We showed personality. We got the point that we needed for February. Qualifying for the last 16 is the happiest time for November and December."

City twice fell behind to goals from the outstanding Maxwell Cornet, who also hit the woodwork, but responded with headed equalisers from Aymeric Laporte and Sergio Agüero.

There had been speculation Guardiola might start 18-year-old Phil Foden after being hit by a spate of injuries, but Raheem Sterling instead played a central midfield role. *Daily Mail*



WELL DONE: Pep Guardiola goes to embrace goalscorer Aymeric Laporte after the 2-2 draw in Lyon.

Solari believes his side bounced back from shock Eibar defeat

MADRID - Sergio Ramos labelled it "mission accomplished" after Real Madrid sealed top spot in Champions League Group G.

Goals from Gareth Bale and Lucas Vazquez earned a 2-0 win at Roma as Real recovered from the embarrassing LaLiga reverse at Eibar.

"Mission accomplished: qualified and top of the group," Ramos wrote on Twitter.

Real Madrid head coach Santiago Solari now has two wins from his two Champions League games in charge and was pleased with the victory.

He said on uefa.com: "The

players showed they can take responsibility and we're really happy to get the win."

"We had to work hard and suffer, but sometimes that's just what you need to do and we won playing like that."

"We worked hard throughout and in football that's what you need to do. Games are 90 minutes long and you have to grow into them sometimes."

Bale netted his 20th goal in 58 Champions League appearances, punishing a poor clearance from Robin Olsen and a misjudged header from Federico Fazio.

The Welshman said: "We like

playing against the best and this brings out the best in us."

"The objective is to keep improving. Obviously we've got a new manager so it's going to take a little bit of time, but we just have to keep proving everybody wrong and fighting for each other." Cengiz Under spurned a golden opportunity to give Roma a half-time lead and the hosts were left to rue the miss from close range.

Roma coach Eusebio Di Francesco said: "We're playing against a side of champions and the difference can be seen when they score with their first chance." *Daily Mail*

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UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

CR7 PRAISED AFTER BRILLIANT ASSIST

TURIN - Even when he doesn't score Cristiano Ronaldo is breaking footballing records, and fans have been full of praise for him as usual.

He's already the highest scoring player in Champions League history, and on Tuesday, he became the first player in the history of the competition to reach 100 wins.

Juventus beat Valencia 1-0 with a goal from Mario Mandzukic, but it was all thanks to a brilliant assist from Ronaldo.

Picking the ball up inside the box, a quick stepover took him away from Gabriel Paulista and gave him enough space to fizz the ball across to Mandzukic for a simple tap in.

Another moment of magic from the Portuguese might have given Mandzukic another goal, but after a spectacular piece of chest control and another cross, the Croatian couldn't add to his tally.



CELEBRATION: Mario Mandzukic and Cristiano Ronaldo celebrate their winning goal.

So far for Juventus Ronaldo has 10 goals, and Tuesday night's assist takes him up to six, meaning he's been involved in 16 goals in 17 games for the club

since joining in the summer. Ronaldo's skillful play lit up Twitter as usual, with one person dubbing him 'The ultimate Mr. Champions League.' *AFP*

Bayern Munich have not sacked under-pressure boss Niko Kovac

MUNICH - Bayern Munich have not considered sacking under-fire Manager Niko Kovac, the club's sporting director has insisted.

Having won the last six Bundesliga titles, Bayern find themselves languishing in fifth place in the table, nine points off league leaders Borussia Dortmund.

Kovac succeeded Jupp Heynckes last summer but, after 12 games, has an increasingly difficult job of defending their league title.

The club's convincing 5-1 win over Benfica on Tuesday night in the Champions League, however, will help quieten talk of Kovac's departure - at least for the time being.

And Bayern's top brass moved quickly to give Kovac their public backing, with Director Hasan Salihamidzic claiming they are not actively seeking the manager's replacement.

"No, we have not," Salihamidzic said when asked if Bayern had considered Kovac's successor.



NOT YET: Niko Kovac.

"We did not think about whether we would hire another coach."

Bayern President Uli Hoenes said after the 3-3 draw with Fortuna Dusseldorf this past Sunday that the club would hold talks after Tuesday's European clash. Given the nature of the Bavarian's win at the Allianz Arena, Salihamidzic expects the talks to be fairly uncomplicated.

"We said that we will talk after the game and the conversation will certainly be very pleasant," he said. *AFP*

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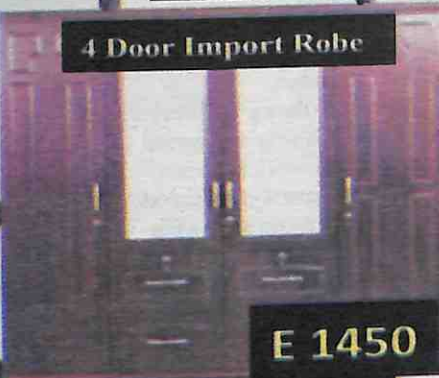
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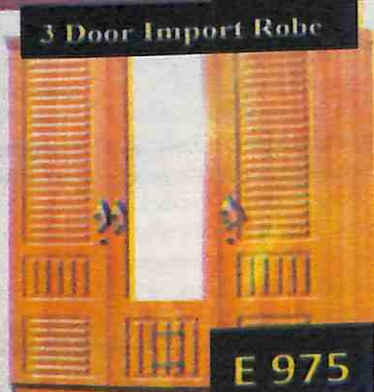
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ACE VILAKAZI EXPECTS TO MAKE HIS RETURN EARLIER

BRIEFS

Teko tips Pirates, Sundowns to win Champions League

CAPE TOWN - Cape Town City midfielder Teko Modise reckons that SA stands a great chance of having a local team winning the tournament with Orlando Pirates and Mamelodi Sundowns leading the charge. "Looking at the form that Pirates are in now and their experience in Africa, we are standing a better chance because Sundowns are also there," Modise told The Sowetan. "We have two quality teams, with the experience, to go all the way and change the history of South African football," says Teko Modise. "Now we have two quality teams, with the experience, to go all the way and change the history of South African football. I know the Champions League is a different ball game, but if they have the same mentality as they have locally, I don't see them failing," he added.

Phakathi

Lebese keen on Kaizer Chiefs return

JOHANNESBURG - Want-away Mamelodi Sundowns winger George Lebese seems to be missing his former club Kaizer Chiefs. Lebese was asked a question by a fan on Instagram about which team he would like to join when he leaves Sundowns and the winger said he would like to play for Amakhosi again. "Which team do you dream of playing for now that the Sundowns chapter is about to close," Lebese was asked on Instagram. "Kaizer Chiefs," was Lebese's reply. Lebese, who left Chiefs last year to join Sundowns, has struggled to get game time at the Brazilians. The 29-year-old has told the Sundowns management that he would like to move to another club in January, either on loan or on a permanent move.

Citizen

Youngster wanted for PSL deal after training With Bucs

JOHANNESBURG - The Siya crew has learnt that Cameron Paulse, who has been training with Bucs as part of the Nedbank Ke Yona Team search initiative, has attracted interest from Free State Stars. As part of the Nedbank Ke Yona Team search initiative, each of the 16 players who make it to the final squad to play against the Nedbank Cup champions, get an opportunity to trial with PSL clubs. Following a selection process made by the organisers, Paulse was chosen to go to Pirates for training with their first team. News reaching the Siya crew is that Ea Lla Koto are keen on signing the player for their PSL team.

Soccer Laduma

JOHANNESBURG - Mamelodi Sundowns' attacking ace midfielder Sibusiso Vilakazi says he expects to be back in training "by next month" as he continues his recovery process from an Achilles injury he suffered in October while on national duty with Bafana Bafana.

The 28-year-old Vilakazi sustained the much-feared injury during a Bafana practice match against SuperSport United while in camp ahead of the national team's record 6-0 2019 Africa Cup of Nations (Afcon) qualifying win over Seychelles at FNB Stadium in October.

No specific timeframe was put on the dribbling wizard's comeback at the time but it was expected that he would be out for the rest of the ABSA Premiership season.

But the Sundowns' star revealed that his rehabilitation has gone well and that he may be back in training sooner than expected.

"So far so good..... my recovery and rehabilitation is going well," said Vilakazi, who is still walking with the assistance of crutches, on the sidelines of the launch of the 16th edition of the annual Discovery Walter Sisulu Soccer Challenge in Sandton



RETURNING: Mamelodi Sundowns midfielder Sibusiso Vilakazi speaks alongside Orlando Pirates' AC Monaco-bound striker Lyle Foster during the media launch of the 16th edition of the annual Discovery Walter Sisulu Soccer Challenge at Discovery Place in Sandton. (AP)

on Tuesday.

"Day by day there is progress. I take it a day at a time. The little that I do at rehab makes all the difference. So who knows maybe the earliest can be next month.

"Time will tell. It all works out in the mind so hopefully the Lord will

help me get a speedy recovery. We'll see all that in time," said the former Bidvest Wits captain.

Players nursing an Achilles injury need to wear a cast or walking boot for six to 12 weeks.

Vilakazi watched from the comfort of his couch at home when his

Sundowns' teammates took on Leones Vegetarianos of Equatorial Guinea at the Estadio de Ebebiyin in the capital Malabo in the CAF Champions League's preliminary stages yesterday afternoon.

SA teams traditionally struggle in West Africa and it has been no different for the Brazilians.

Sundowns will have to create club history and beat a West African opponent having failed to do so in their 113 matches in CAF competitions over the years. But Vilakazi said that statistic would only serve to motivate the team to do well. "It's simple. We haven't done well against the West Africans and it's an opportunity to put that right and do well in this match," added Vilakazi.

The Bafana forward's first participation in the Discovery Walter Sisulu Soccer Challenge was in 2006 and he said the opportunity went a long way in opening doors for him to turn professional. "It was huge," he said. "At the time I was very young and not so mature when I played in this tournament for the first time to know that this opportunity might expose me to different teams."

Times Live

Mhlongo, TS Sporting smoke peace pipe

JOHANNESBURG - Benson Mhlongo has returned to resume his head coaching duties at Mpumalanga-based National First Division (NFD) outfit TS Sporting, the club announced yesterday.

Sporting released a statement on November 19 in which they revealed that the former Orlando Pirates assistant coach had not reported for duty since November 13 and had consequently been replaced by his second in command Mfanimpela Maseko.

At the time, Sporting said Mhlongo's absence was triggered by the request made by the club to him to work closely with newly appointed Technical Director Sammy Troughton, who was appointed on November 5.

However, it seems sanity has finally prevailed at the NFD newcomers after a meeting with Mhlongo's manager and the

club's management reached a resolution.

"We would like to inform the public in general and our supporters in specific that we have reached an agreement with our head coach Mr Benson Mhlongo that he returned to work on Tuesday," Sporting said in a statement.

"It's been pretty stressful to have a hanging issue, especially in relation to a special position like that of a head coach but the great thing is that we have been able to find each other.

"The road to the top will never be easy that is why we agreed that we need to work as a team."

Sporting won 2-1 away at University of Pretoria at the weekend in Mhlongo's absence with his assistant Maseko taking charge.

Sporting are sitting pretty on the NFD log table in second spot with 22 points after 12 matches and are four points behind leaders Stellenbosch FC nearly at the half way mark of the season.

Mhlongo was appointed at the beginning of the current season having served as assistant coach at Pirates in the previous season.

"We welcome him back with open hearts and wish him well in his duties."

Times Live

PEACE PIPE: Benson Mhlongo.



Bloemfontein Celtic fans air grievances

JOHANNESBURG - A group of Bloemfontein Celtic supporters have given Free State Premier Sonia Ntombela 14 days to respond to a memorandum delivered to her office on Saturday.

Celtic fans marched in Bloemfontein on the weekend, calling on the provincial government to ensure the club, which is for sale, stays in the Free State.

They also demanded Phunya Sele Sele keep all their home

games in the City of Roses after reports emerged some could be moved to Port Elizabeth.

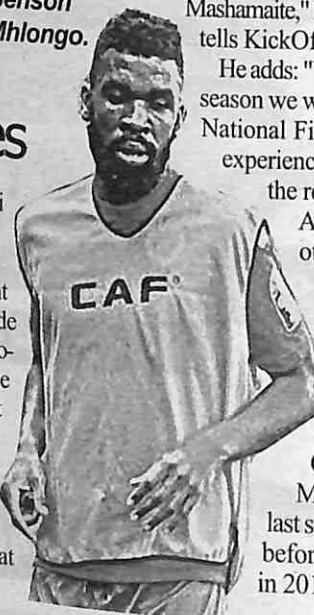
Celtic national supporters' Chairperson Mabena Pule says they were happy with the reception they got from Ntombela.

"The march was basically to ask the premier and government in particular to intervene about the proposed sale of Celtic," Pule tells KickOff.com.

"We see there is also dragging of feet with regards of selling

the club after Sinki Leshabane and partners have made an offer. "We don't want the team to go outside the province after a proposal to move some of the games to Port Elizabeth.

"Fortunately the premier told us that she has already set a task team to look at the matter."



Ex-Kaizer Chiefs star Tefu Mashamaite joins ABC Motsepe League side

JOHANNESBURG - Former Kaizer Chiefs star Tefu Mashamaite has ended his spell in the wilderness by joining ABC Motsepe League side Baberwa FC.

'Masha' had been clubless since being released by SuperSport United at the end of last season, a campaign that was wrecked by injury as he only played four league matches.

The 34-year-old previously spent close to two years with Swedish outfit Hacken prior to reuniting with current Bafana Bafana coach Stuart Baxter in 2016 at Matsatsantsa, initially on loan. "Yes, we have signed Tefu Mashamaite," Baberwa official Joe Seneago tells KickOff.com.

He adds: "Why are we doing this? Next season we want to be promoted into the National First Division. And with his experience, I hope it'll rub off well to the rest of the players."

At Baberwa, Mashamaite joins other ex-PSL players such as former Orlando Pirates and Bloemfontein Celtic attacker Khethokwakhe Masuku, former Polokwane City and Chippa United winger Linda Shiba, and former Chiefs striker Lucky Khune. Mashamaite starred in his last season at the Glamour Boys before heading to Scandinavia in 2015.



MOVE:
Chelsea
star Eden
Hazard.

HAZARD HINTS AT MADRID MOVE

LONDON - Chelsea star forward **Eden Hazard** has hinted he may consider leaving the Blues at the end of the season with his next destination said to be Real Madrid.

The Belgium international has continually being linked with the Spanish La Liga giants who appear to be looking for a long term successor to all-time leading goal-scorer Cristiano Ronaldo, who moved to Juventus.

However, Hazard, who is contracted with the London-based outfit until 2020, also suggested he may end his career at Stamford Bridge.

Speaking to Canal+, he said: "For now I'm staying at Chelsea. I have one year

left in June. If I don't extend, it is possible I can't see myself leaving in January. I wouldn't do that to the club, to the fans.

"Next summer it's a possibility, but it's also possible that I spend the rest of my career at Chelsea."

Return

In addition, the 27-year-old is reportedly being monitored by Paris Saint-Germain in France's Ligue 1, though the player ruled out a return to France until the latter end of his playing days.

He concluded: "If I have to go back to France one day, it would be to Lille (his first professional club). But today, there is no chance that I'll come back to the French league." *Sport 24*

WHY ARE FANS NOT WILD FOR WILDER VS FURY FIGHT?

LONDON - The list of legendary American heavyweights rolls off the tongue.

Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, George Foreman, Evander Holyfield and Mike Tyson. Pure box office, A-list megastars whose fights would stop the world in its tracks. Tyson Fury vs Deontay Wilder? It's just not the same, but that's not to say it won't excite. Make no mistake, US fight-followers love hard-hitting action, and hardcore boxing nuts know all about Wilder.

The massive puncher from Alabama has been shouting from the rooftops - and sending opponents crashing to the canvas - for years, albeit in front of mostly small crowds. The standard of American heavyweights has slipped dramatically since those halcyon, unprecedented days of Ali and Co. There was, remarkably, an eight-year gap between Shannon Briggs losing his

crown in 2007 and Wilder picking up the mantle once again. Nevertheless, in such an over-saturated sporting market, Wilder operates firmly in the shadows and will remain there until something cataclysmic happens. His role as a knock-out artist certainly appeals, but earning universal recognition is challenging.

Consciousness

"We'd be fooling ourselves if we said this fight was at the forefront of American sporting consciousness," said Peter Kahn, a boxing industry veteran of over 30 years who was by Tyson's side during those crazy, 'baddest-man-on-the-planet' days. Walk into most sports bars here, and questions about Wilder will earn puzzled looks from casual fans. If, and it's a big if, he comes face-to-face with Anthony Joshua next year, interest would grow.

Daily Mail



HISTORY: Banyana Banyana celebrating their 2-0 victory against Mali.

Jordaan hails Banyana Banyana after historic march into the history books

JOHANNESBURG - SA Football Association (SAFA) President **Danny Jordaan** has hailed Banyana Banyana's triumphant march to a maiden qualification to the FIFA Women's World Cup as the culmination of years of hard work by all those who are associated with the domestic game.

Goals from tournament leading scorer Thembi Kgatana and Lebogang Ramalepe saw the South Africans beat Mali 2-0 in the semi-finals of the 2018 African Women's Championship in Ghana on Tuesday night to book a place in next year's global showpiece to contested by 24 countries in France.

"It was a tremendous effort on the part of the team," said Jordaan after Banyana also earned a place in Saturday's Women's Championship final against 10-time continental champions Nigeria.

"From the first match and perhaps it was a good to start off against Nigeria.

"The fact Banyana managed to beat Nigeria gave them a boost and huge level of confidence that if they can beat Nigeria that we can beat everybody.

"It was a good start for them to the tournament."

Asked if he was surprised by

Banyana's progress under coach Desiree Ellis, Jordaan said Banyana got the best preparation before the Awcon in Ghana. "We saw this team grow," he said.

"Look, we took this team to the United States in Chicago and we lost 1-0 and at that time the US were the world champions.

"Banyana also played a 0-0 against Brazil and in Reunion against France we lost 2-0 and 2-1 against the Netherlands and Sweden 2-1.

"In all those matches, you could see that they had opportunities to draw or even win the match.

Fumbling

"In the match against the US, I can still see that cross and the goalkeeper fumbling it. Other than that, when it comes to playing, these girls can play football.

"Banyana are in my view the best team in this African Cup of Nations.

"So I believe that we've got a very good chance to win against Nigeria on Saturday."

Jordaan said he was leaving South Africa today to support Banyana in the final which will be played in the Accra National Stadium on Saturday.

Banyana have never won the Awcon but have been runners-up on more than one occasion.

Times Live

Sarri called players in for one-to-one meetings following defeat

LONDON - Maurizio Sarri hauled his Chelsea team in for one-on-one meetings as he demanded answers following Saturday's demoralising 3-1 defeat at Tottenham.

In a damning verdict on his team's performance, he accused his players of lacking 'determination' and 'motivation' during the match at Wembley and said Spurs 'destroyed' his team in the space of 15 minutes.

He also insisted that N'Golo Kante will continue to play in a more attacking midfield role and criticised the Frenchman's performance at Wembley.

Speaking ahead of tonight's Europa League match against PAOK Salonika, Sarri also said he saw the result coming after a dip in

recent performances against Everton and B A T E Borisov.

He said: "The problem was with the approach in the last three matches. If you go to the pitch with that approach and the opponents are very strong, like Tottenham, and determined like Tottenham were, the problem is bigger. So they were able to

destroy us in 15 minutes, but I saw the same problems also in the match before.

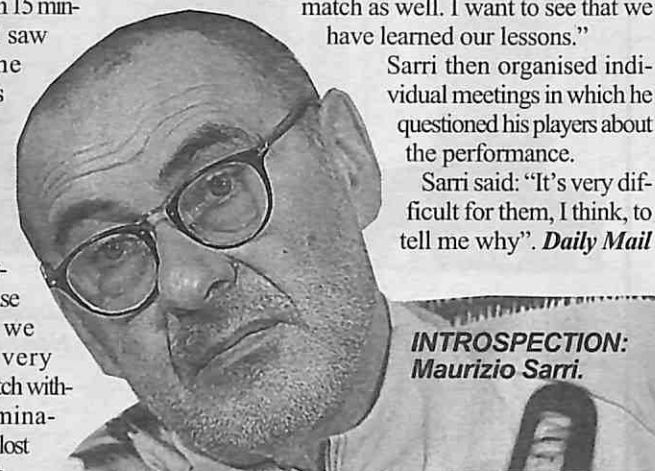
"I have to think about everything because Saturday we played very badly, a match without determination, but we lost one match

after 110 days, so the team did well, generally. But we have to understand why we played against Tottenham without determination.

"It's not normal. First of all I want to see a reaction, but I want to see a reaction in the next Premier League match as well. I want to see that we have learned our lessons."

Sarri then organised individual meetings in which he questioned his players about the performance.

Sarri said: "It's very difficult for them, I think, to tell me why". *Daily Mail*



INTROSPECTION:
Maurizio Sarri.



CAPTAIN:
Nikola
Tavares.

Tavares target named Crystal Palace captain

JOHANNESBURG - Bafana Bafana teenage target **Nikola Tavares** has been named captain of Crystal Palace's Under-23 side that competes in the English Premier League reserve competition, despite being only 19 years old, a sign of the esteem he is held in at the London club.

The centre-back led Palace in their 4-0 victory over Charlton Athletic on Monday as he continues his rapid development that must put in him the frame for a first team place under coach Roy Hodgson in the near future.

But any hopes that Bafana coach Stuart Baxter, who has already met with Tavares, might have of roping him in to help the national team could be dashed by a successful few games the defender enjoyed with the Croatia Under-20 side this month. It could turn into a tug-of-war between the two countries. And, for now, it looks like the European side is winning.

"[Playing with Croatia was a] really good experience. We won both games out there and I played well and impressed, so that's all I can do," Tavares told the Palace website.

Tavares was leading a number of senior players in the Palace U-23 side, including Norway international Alexander Sorloth and Senegal defender Pape Souare. "[Playing with first-team players] was really good because they understand their roles and are disciplined, so it makes your job a lot easier. I've done the last few games as captain now and I'm enjoying it."

Injury

Tavares recently returned from long-term injury after injuring his anterior cruciate ligament but says he is now back to full fitness and ready to kick on. "It was devastating when it happened but since the injury, it's almost like it hasn't happened because my rehab was so good. So thanks to the physios for taking care of me. There are little things you do in the gym to stay on top of it but it's like it didn't happen." *Times Live*



SHUKUMA



ESWATINI



By Dumisani Ntiwane
(SNSRC Media Officer)

SHU...shu...shu...Shukuma
Eswatini!

It is often said by the wise that the closer to the bone, the sweeter the meat! Indeed, we cannot wait for the start of the African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Region 5 Games, which will be staged in Gaborone,

Botswana. The games start on December 6 and will run until December 16. Our column continues to serialise

Team Eswatini's respective teams. Today, we feature the ladies football side. In all honesty, it looks to be the

strongest we have had in years. Under the guidance of coach Friday Myeni, they look set to rewrite the history

pages. Enjoy the profiles....

TEAM ESWATINI - PART 3

...ladies football team looks to be the strongest we have had in years

LADIES SOCCER TEAM



Dlamini
Nokwanda.



Dlamini
Nondumiso.



Dlamini Nosimilo
Thandeka.



Dlamini
Temalangen.



Gadlela
Nomthandazo.



Gama
Sakhile.



Gamedze
Ncedo.



Hlatjwako
Ciniso.



Kunene
Phumelele.



Lukhele Bhekiwe
Nonhle.



Mamba
Bindzile.



Mathunjwa
Bongiwe Hleliwe.



Matsebula Tonkhe
Sabusiswa.



Mavuso
Nonduduzo.



Mvubu Khanyisile
Siphile.



Myeni
Sbhekiwe.



Ndlovu
Nokuthula.



Ndlovu
Siphilisiwe.



Ndwandwe
Nonhle.



Ndzinisa
Sisanda.



Shabangu
Nonduduzo Faith.

NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS UPDATE: 123 DAYS TO GO!

THE second edition of the National Sports Awards is slated for March 30, 2019. Remember this date.

Please note that nominations for each category of the Awards are unlimited in number. Respective nominating organs may, therefore, nominate as many nominees as they wish for any of the respective award categories in the period between 1st January 2017 and 31st December 2018;

Generic Criteria for Nominees:

- All Nominees must
- Be Swazi citizens

- Conform to the definition of a National Sports Association in terms of the regulations for Recognition of Sport & Recreation Bodies, if applicable;

- Be a recognised/registered member of a National Sports Association recognised by SNSRC and SOCGA;

The respective National Sports Association must be in good standing with their respective international federations;

Have excelled during the considered Awards qualifying period;

2019 Awards Categories

1. Outstanding Junior Sportsman;
2. Outstanding Junior Sportswoman;
3. Outstanding Sportsman;
4. Outstanding Sportswoman;
5. Outstanding Paralympic Performance – Sportsman;
6. Outstanding Paralympic Performance – Sportswoman;
7. Outstanding Sports Team;
8. Outstanding Sports Coach;
9. Outstanding Sports Leader;
10. Outstanding Sports Administrator;
11. Outstanding National Sports Association;

12. Outstanding Sports Journalist;
13. Sports Star;
14. Lifetime Achievement Sport Award

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zwakele@sportscouncil.org.sz

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "YOU MAY HAVE TO FIGHT A BATTLE MORE THAN ONCE TO WIN IT" – MARGARET THATCHER

MANZINI STRIDERS 21KM RACE



WINNERS: Champion of the inaugural champion of the 'Green themed' Manzini Striders 21km race Nkululeko Gama poses with runner-up, teammate Ntokozo Nkambule and third-placed Swazi Slojos' Sifiso Ngcobo. This was after they were presented with their prizes during the presentation held at the Manzini Club on Saturday. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini).



EAST-SIDE: Siteki based TZD Sports Club were also in the competition.



LESS IS MORE: The Swazi Slojos team.



IMPRESSIVE: 10km champion Melusi Khumalo poses with second-placed Sikhumbuzo Sihlongonyane and third-placed Ntokozo Dlamini on the podium.



FUTURE: 19-year-old Sebenele receiving her prize.



STOMACH ISSUES: The Striders team dishing out food for the athletes.



A-TEAM: The UEDF team pose for a picture after the event.



HAPPY AND HEALTHY: The host club Manzini Striders celebrating a successful outing.



WOMEN POWER: 21km women's category winner, REPS's Winile Mnisi poses with second-placed TZD's Sthembile Nzazo and third-placed Swazi Slojos' Gugu Mthembu on the podium.



● Ex-England left-back Ashley Cole, 37, has been offered a new deal by LA Galaxy - just days after being released by the club. (Sun)

● Former Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger would prefer an executive role for his next job, rather than a return to management. (Sky Sports)



● Manchester United boss Jose Mourinho is eyeing 20-year-old Porto and Brazil centre-back Eder Militao. (Daily Record)

● France forward Ousmane Dembele, 21, has told Barcelona he does not want to leave in January. (ESPN)

● Eric Abidal, the Catalan club's sporting director, had dinner with Ajax's 19-year-old Netherlands centre-back Matthijs de Ligt last week. (Catalunya Radio via Sport)

● Manchester City are closing in on a deal for Columbus Crew and USA goalkeeper Zack Steffen, 23. (Sky Sports)

● Croatia midfielder Ivan Perisic, 29 is not ruling out moving to a Premier League side, as his Inter Milan side prepare for their match against Tottenham yesterday. (Mirror)

● A number of scouts from Football League clubs are set to watch Wolves defensive duo Dominic Iorfa, 23, and Ethan Ebanks-Landell, 25, in training with both players apparently surplus to requirements at Molineux. (Birmingham Mail)

● Former Chelsea and Ivory Coast striker Didier Drogba says he learned a lot from former Blues team-mate Frank Lampard, who now manages Derby. (Goal)

● Ex-Chelsea and Republic of Ireland winger Damien Duff is in talks to coach Celtic Under-20s. (Sun)

● Bradford City Joint-chairman Edin Rahic wants to leave the club. (Telegraph)

● PSG goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon believes Liverpool's front three - Mohamed Salah, Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino - is the best in the world. (Mirror)

INYATSI SWAZI FRONTIER 2019 ENTRY OPENS ON SATURDAY

By Qondile Ntiwane

CYCLING - ENTRIES to the 14th edition of Inyatsi Swazi Frontier will open this Saturday.

Race organiser Lesley Foss said yesterday that the next race would take place on October 10 - 12, 2019.

"Since it is a stage race taking riders on a journey around the north-west corner of Eswatini, riders should enter early to secure their place. They also need to commit to an appropriate training programme over the coming months to ensure that they are fit enough to take on the tough challenge."

"Inyatsi Swazi Frontier is renowned as a tough adventurous race for

experienced riders. It is an aspirational race for riders who wish to test their technical skills in the remote mountains and valleys of the north-west corner of Eswatini," she said.

She said entries would be open to teams of two and that these may comprise pairs of men, ladies or mixed.

"Team partners are expected to ride together for the duration of the race and cross the finish line together. Choosing a compatible partner and training together in the lead up to Inyatsi Swazi Frontier is, therefore, important," he said.

The last edition of the race held over a month ago was won by the local veteran pair of William Kelly and Thulani Gule.



JOIN NOW: Cyclists at the start of the 13th edition of the Inyatsi Swazi Frontier MTB Challenge last month.

THIRD EDITION OF MALKERNS OPEN DARTS TOURNAMENT THIS WEEKEND

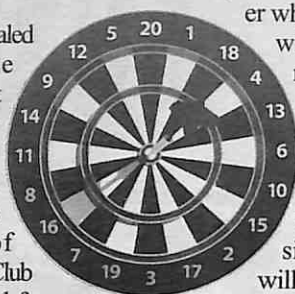
By Jongile Xuba

DARTS - MALKERNS Dart Club will hold the third edition of the Malkerns Open Darts Tournament this weekend.

This was revealed by one of the tournament organisers Jay Hall. The E30 000 tournament which is the brainchild of Malkerns Dart Club

will be played from Saturday until Sunday. Auditing firm KPMG are the main sponsors of the competition which will have two categories; singles and doubles competition.

Hall said registration for the tournament opened yesterday



and will end on Saturday at 8am. "All interested players can make their way to the Malkerns Club where I will be taking down names for registration," said Hall. Singles will part with E200 per player whilst for doubles it

will cost E200 to

register. This year's prize money is an increase from last year and this will be a winner takes all competition. The singles champion will walk away with

E10 000 prize money whilst the double champions will get E20 000.

Hall added that the tournament will be graced by international players.

"We will have players from Zimbabwe, Durban, Cape

Town to mention a few at the tournament. Last year's double champions were actually from Cape Town," said the organiser. He said the main aim of inviting international players was to benefit local players. "Eswatini dart players get the chance to play against international opponents. We encourage as many local players as possible to attend," said Hall.

This means that the Eswatini Royal Insurance Corporation (ESRIC) Dart League will suspend its games this weekend in order to make way for the tournament. This was revealed by the Eswatini National Dart Association (ENDA) PRO Bafana Nkambule. He said they wanted to give players within the league a chance to compete.

BUFFALOES DEFEAT DIVAS TO CLAIM TOP SPOT

By Jongile Xuba

SOCCER - YOUNG Buffaloes jumped to the top of the Women's Football League after beating Divas 2 - 0 over the weekend.

Buffaloes now have 12 points after games.

Olympafrica are still second after they only picked up a point against Siteki.

They now have 10 points from four games. Manzini Wanderers moved to third from fifth with nine points after their third 8-0 victory against Sikhuphe.

S Divas occupy the fourth after losing 0-2 to Buffaloes and have the same number of points with Royal Leopards and Kappa Ladies.

Other results saw Mbabane Swallows play to a 1-all draw against Langeni FC.

Green Mamba managed to turn their fortunes and recorded their win of the season, beating Illovo 2 - 1. Mbekelweni, Mhlume as well as Illovo are still winless.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE RESULTS:

Olympafrica	1 - 1	Siteki
M Wanderers	8 - 0	Sikhuphe
S Roses	0 - 0	Kappa ladies
(abandoned)		
S Divas	0 - 2	Buffaloes
M Swallows	1 - 1	Langeni FC
Happy Girls	2 - 0	Mbekelweni
G Mamba	2 - 1	Illovo
Mhlume	0 - 7	R Leopards

Women's Football log

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1. Y Buffaloes	4	4	0	0	7	0	7	12
2. Olympafrica	4	3	1	0	13	1	12	10
3. M Wanderers	4	3	0	1	13	2	11	9
4. S Divas	4	3	0	1	12	2	10	9
5. R Leopards	4	2	0	1	13	6	7	9
6. Kappa Ladies	3	3	0	0	5	1	4	9
7. Happy Girls	4	2	1	1	5	2	3	7
8. Langeni	4	1	2	1	6	2	4	5
9. Siteki Ladies	4	1	2	1	6	6	0	5
10. Swallows	4	1	1	2	5	5	0	4
11. S Roses	3	1	1	1	1	7	-6	3
12. Sikhuphe	4	1	0	3	9	12	-3	3
13. G Mamba	4	1	0	3	2	10	-8	3
14. Illovo	4	0	0	4	1	10	-9	0
15. Mhlume	4	0	0	4	2	18	-16	0
16. Mbekelweni	4	0	0	4	0	16	-16	0

City Inn cueing way to Mema's glory

By Sabelo Gwebu

POOL - ON the snooker table, it will seem City Inn is unstoppable this season.

Eleven wins from as many matches, City Inn have opened a five point gap at the summit of the Hhohho Regional Pool Association (HRPA) Mbabane Pool League sponsored to the tune of E12 000 by Mema's. This weekend, City Inn will be competing against bottom half side Bashwaphanisi and is expected to record their 12th straight win.

Singapore II and Maduma remain relatively close with 34 points apiece with Mini-Bar completing the top four with 32 points as the Mema's Mbabane Pool League approaches the halfway mark.

E12 000 MEMA'S POOL LEAGUE RESULTS

City Inn	15-10	Mini-Bar
Ka-Mchoza	13-12	The Garage
Bashwaphanisi I	2-13	Cueball Masters
Mdzangwini	16-9	Malagwane
Maduma	15-10	Singas
Funtown	16-9	Ginger's

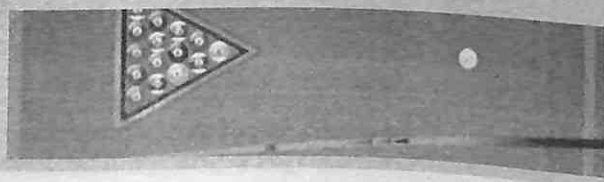
E12 000 MEMA'S POOL LEAGUE FIXTURE

Saturday, all games start at 2pm

Malagwane	vs	Ginger's at Malagwane
Singas	vs	Funtown at Singapore
Singapore II	vs	Mdzangwini at Singapore
Maduma	vs	Martin's at Maduma

Sunday, all games start at noon

City Inn	vs	Bashwaphanisi at Game Room
Ka-Mchoza	vs	Singapore at Ka-Mchoza
Mini-Bar	vs	Fonteyn at Mini-Bar
The Garage	vs	Cueball Masters at The Garage



2ND LEG ALL ABOUT ATTACK-DOMINIC

Stories by Sabelo Gwebu

SOCCER – YOUNG Buffaloes coach Dominic Kunene evaded media questions yesterday, choosing to focus on next Wednesday's return leg at Mavuso Sports Centre.

The country Total CAF Confederation Cup envoys suffered a crippling 2-0 defeat at the hands of Green Eagles away in Choma's Independence Stadium.

In his post-match interview, Kunene chose not to focus on the match officials' decisions as their job as coaches is to train and improve football players.

Disgruntled Buffaloes players reportedly questioned the refereeing after the final whistle following unfavourable decisions that included a dubious penalty in added time.

"As coaches, we know little about the laws of the game and referees

decisions are final. Coaches do not dwell on referees' performances as ours is to train and improve players," Kunene said.

Buffaloes were accused of delay tactics in the second half but Kunene enlightened that coaches never tell players to wind up time and that FIFA says the game must be fair.

"Going to this game, the plan was not to concede and after this result, it means we cannot sit back. We will attack and if Eagles managed to get two goals on their own backyard, nothing can stop us from doing same," he said.

Meanwhile, the second leg match next Wednesday at Mavuso Sports Centre will be handled by Botswana match officials.

"Like I said here before, we knew it was not going to be an easy game. We might've lost but I am proud of my boys.

They fought especially in the sec-

ond half, we created some chances, but football results are decided by goals.

You might create chances but if you don't convert them definitely you will lose the game

and even though we might've lost, am still happy with the players' performance."

ATTACK: Young Buffaloes coach Dominic Kunene.

Buffaloes boast CAF experience - Eagles coach

SOCCER – ZAMBIA'S Green Eagles coach Aggrey Chiyangi noted from Young Buffaloes display on Tuesday afternoon that they boast CAF experience.

Chiyangi saw his side score two second half goals to take an early advantage in the preliminary round of the Total CAF Confederation Cup in Choma. The strategist said he was happy with the two goal cushion following a very dif-

Confederation Cup by the way they played. We were playing home and we had to make sure that we get a positive result and that's what we did.

We know that it was not easy to get the two goals but the most important thing for the players is that they have played for the first time in continental football and I know they were under a lot of pressure when we started the game.

The most import thing is we told them to relax and just play their game.

Otherwise it's been a good game and at least we have managed to score two goals," he said.

TOTAL CAF CONFEDERATION CUP SECOND LEG

December 5
Mavuso Sports Centre
Young Buffaloes vs Green Eagles
3pm

Referees: Tshepo Mokani Gobagoba (BOT) - Oamogetse Godisamang (BOT) - Meshack Medupi (BOT).

Seychelles, Botswana refs for Birds, Buffs games

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER – THE CAF Champions League preliminary second leg clash pitting Mbabane Swallows against Simba Sport will be officiated by referees from Seychelles.

The local giants will host the Tanzanian side at the Mavuso Sports Centre on Tuesday and kick off time for the game is 3.30pm.

The referee Nelson Emile Fred will be assisted by Hensley Danny Petrouse and Gerard POOL (SEY), as first and second referees, respectively.

Meanwhile, the CAF Confederations Cup clash between local army outfit Young Buffaloes and Green Eagles of Zambia will be manned by officials from Botswana.

The return leg will also be played at the Mavuso Sports Centre on

Wednesday starting at 3pm.

The referees are Tshepo Mokani Gobagoba, Oamogetse Godisamang and Meshack Medupi. Eswatini Football Association (EFA) Marketing and Communications Officer Muzi Radebe confirmed the appointments when contacted yesterday. "We have received the correspondence from CAF on the officials that will be in charge of the return legs of the CAF games," he said.

The referees:

Swallows game

Nelson Emile Fred (SEY)
Hensley Danny Petrouse (SEY)
Gerard) Pool (SEY)

Buffaloes game

Tshepo Mokani Gobagoba (BOT)
Oamogetse Godisamang (BOT)
Meshack Medupi (BOT)

Manyovu boost for Leopard ahead of 'Buffs' clash

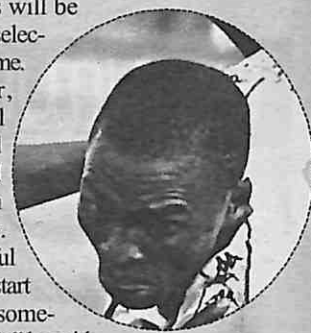
By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER – POLICE side Royal Leopard will welcome back speedy winger Bonginkosi 'Manyovu' Dlamini and Lindelwa Dladlu when they take on Young Buffaloes on Saturday.

The much anticipated forces derby will be played at the Killarney Stadium in Pigg's Peak starting at 3pm. Leopard PRO Frank Hurube yesterday said the two players had recovered from their injuries which saw them miss the MTN league encounter against Mweni Pirates last weekend. "Manyovu suffered a knock at Mhlume and he has since recovered from that as well as Lindelwa. Both players will be available for selection for this game.

"However, Lungelo is still on plaster and Junior is still nursing an ankle injury. We are hopeful that they will start light training sometime next week," he said.

The PRO said they were looking forward to the game as well as getting the maximum points. "This will not be an easy game but we have prepared hard for it. Buffaloes are a strong side but our players want this game. They are determined to win this one and we are hoping for nothing but the best," he said. He then invited football lovers from Pigg's Peak to come and see the teams in action. "We haven't been to Pigg's Peak in a long time and I do invite our supporters to come and see the teams in action," he said. With three games remaining before they end the leagues first round, Leopard are placed on third position with 20 points and are two places before Buffaloes, also on 20 points but on a better goal difference.



MALANTI'S ASIVE LANGWE TO MISS VOVOVO CLASH

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER – MALANTI Chiefs will be minus trusted servant Asive Langwe when they take on Vovovo this weekend.

Vovovo and Malanti, who are fresh from a 1-0 victory against giants Mbabane Swallows, will lock horns at the country's Mecca Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday, starting at 3.30pm.

The South Africa-born forward

has been nabbed by the infamous yellow card rule hence missing the league encounter.

Malanti Chiefs PRO Lungile Dube confirmed the developments when sought for comment yesterday.

"We have received the said correspondence from the PLE.

It is a blow for the team but we have other players in the squad who are capable of bringing in positive results," she said. Also set to miss the upcoming league games

are MTN National First Division trio of Linda Mbuli of Milling Hotspurs, Simanga Mavuso of Seven Dreams and Hub Sundowns' Nkosinathi Bread Lushaba.

The suspensions were confirmed by Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) CEO Simanga Nhleko in a statement yesterday.

"By virtue of having three yellow cards these players will according to article 6.2 of the rules and regulations be automatically sus-

The suspended players

MTN Premier League

AsiveLangwe Malanti

MTN National First Division

Linda Mbuli M Hotspurs
Simanga Mavuso Seven Dreams
Nkosinathi B Lushaba Hub Sundowns

pended in the next match to be played by the respective teams," he said.

HUB GAME MOVES TO KILLARNEY STADIUM

By Sabelo Gwebu

SOCCER – HUB Sundowns game against Seven Dreams that was initially scheduled for Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday has since been moved to Killarney Stadium in Pigg's Peak.

MTN National First Division

League action begins tonight with a Lubombo derby between Madlenya and City Warriors under floodlights at Mayaluka Stadium.

Table toppers Pigg's Peak Black Swallows will travel to Nhlanguano's King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium to visit Hlathikhulu Tycoons on Saturday.

The rest of the MTN Premier League fixtures remain unchanged.

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURE

On Saturday

Somhlolo National Stadium

Mbabane Citizens vs Matsapha Ut 1:30pm

Green Mamba vs Tambuti 3:30pm

Killarney Stadium

Young Buffaloes vs Royal Leopard 3:30pm

On Sunday

Somhlolo National Stadium

Vovovo vs Malanti Chiefs 3:30pm

King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium

Manzini Sea Birds vs Wanderers 1:30pm

Mbabane Highlanders vs Mweni Pirates 3:30pm

MTN FIRST DIVISION FIXTURE

Tonight

Mayaluka Stadium

Madlenya vs City Warriors 5pm

Tomorrow

Somhlolo National Stadium

Tinyosi vs Red Lions 6:30pm

Milling Hotspurs vs Mbabane City 8:30pm

King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium

Hlathikhulu Tycoons vs Black Swallows 3pm

Tambankulu Stadium

Tambankulu Callies vs Rangers 3pm

On Sunday

Killarney Stadium

Hub Sundowns vs Seven Dreams 1:30pm

RESULTS

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE		
Atletico Madrid	2-0	Monaco
Lokomotiv Moscow	2-0	Galatasaray
CAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE		
Orlando Pirates	3-1	Lightstars FC
Simba SC	4-1	Mbabane Swallows
Leones Vegetarianos	0-2	Mamelodi Sundowns FC
CAF CONFEDERATIONS CUP		
Kaizer Chiefs	4-0	Zimamoto
Free State Stars	0-0	Mukura
ABSA PREMIERSHIP		
Bloemfontein Celtic	0-0	SuperSport United

Phiri believes Birds can come back from 1-4 defeat

By Qondile Ntwane

SOCCER—MBABANE Swallows consultant coach Kina Phiri believes the team can still come back from the 1-4 defeat against Simba Sport.

Making his remarks during a press conference after the CAF Champions League preliminary round first leg clash in Tanzania yesterday, the coach said he believes they could still qualify for the next round despite the loss.

"They have scored four goals away and we scored one goal away. This means we have a 3-0 deficit and that is not much. We can still turn around the scales when they play at home in Eswatini next Tuesday. We have seen teams turn around a 3-0 score in 20 minutes and we have 90 minutes to do that. This was the first time seeing the boys play having arrived a few days ago. I had my first session with them just before the game and from what I have seen; these boys have the potential to go far."

He, however, expressed disappointment at the number of goals scored by the opposition during the game. "This was bad luck. We didn't lose the game but we gave it to them. They really didn't deserve some of the goals they scored. But in football once you make mistakes you get punished," he said.

Meanwhile, Simba Sport coach Patrick Aussems said he was happy with the result on the day but noted that they would work hard when preparing for the second leg encounter. "We knew before the game that we would be facing tough opponents hence needed to put pressure from the beginning and that is why we scored as early as the eighth or ninth minute," he said.

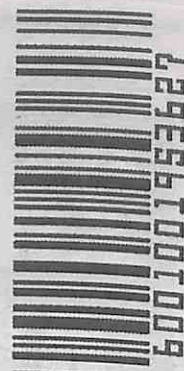
The coach said he was also happy with the recreation from his charges after Swallows scored their goal, as they continued with their fighting spirit and didn't give up.

"We were troubled by Swallows players in the first 20 to 25 minutes of the second half and as a result made adjustments to that. In football there is luck and we were lucky to score our third and the fourth goal. We are, however, half way and still to need to prepare hard for the game in Eswatini," he said.

SWAZI OBSERVER Sport

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Thursday November 29, 2018



SWALLOWS CHANCES OF PROGRESSING HANGING BY A THREAD...

BIRDS HUMILIATED IN TANZANIA

● Country's Total CAF Champions League envoys suffer biggest defeat in a continental premier club tournament since the 5-0 home defeat to SA's Orlando Pirates in 2006

By Sabelo Gwebu

Simba Sports..... (2)4
Swallows..... (1)1

SOCCER—EXPERIENCED Malawi-born coach Kinnah Phiri watched in awe at the Mbabane Swallows technical bench as Tanzania's Simba Stars ran riot, humiliating the country's sole Total CAF Champions League participants in a 4-1 bashing at the state-of-the-art Da er Salaam National Stadium.

The result in all honesty leaves the red and white glamour side's chances of progressing to the next round and possibly better 2016 group stages finish all but hanging by a thread. With a passionate crowd behind them in the 60 000-seater stadium, officially opened in 2017 costing US\$56 million (about E784 million), Swallows were humbled, crushed, flattened- thanks to erratic defending and endless howlers from goalkeeper Sandanezwe Mathabela.

It is a mammoth task; actually it is a mountain to climb for Swallows to stage a remarkable comeback during the return leg next Tuesday at Mavuso Sports Centre. A comeback from this result will surely go down as one of the best ever seen in the continental premier club tournament. Swallows will have to score three un-responded goals to scrape through.

Phiri, who sat on the bench in the absence of



TEAMS

SIMBA: Aishi Manula, Nicolas Gyan, Mohammed Hussein, Erasto Njoni, Pascal Wawa, James Koteli, Clatous Chama, Jonas Mkuze, John Bocco, Meddie Kagere, Emmanuel Okwi
SWALLOWS: Sandanezwe Mathabela, Richard Sewu, Stevy Nzambe, 'Tower' Ndaba, Siboniso Ndabandzaba, 'Papi' Sikhondze, Wonder Nhleko, Njabulo Ndlovu, Sellie Tarawille, Tony Tsabedze, Sandile Hlatshwako

suspended Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati had his game plan tattered by an early eighth minute goal from John Bocco who finished ferociously at the back post.

The red and white giants somewhere got themselves back to the game three minutes before the half hour mark with a thunderous rare-as-hen-tooth goal from the boot of Gabonese left back Stevy Nzambe, who unleashed a shot from just outside the big box.

Clumsy

Goalkeeper Sandanezwe committed floored attacker Bocco six minutes later and the Burundian match officials rightly spotted to the spot. It was a clumsy foul from the national team Sihlangu number that proved costly. Bocco dusted himself

to restore the host lead.

After a gallant second half showing, Sandanezwe was at it again. A seemingly harmless looking back pass from second half substitute Richard McCreesh had a heavy first touch from the goalkeeper allowing Meddie Kagere to close in with the towering shot stopper losing his footing as he tried to recover. Like a thief in the night, Kagere seized the opportunity, sticking his foot before passing the ball into an empty net with just six minutes remaining.

Simba were not done, in added time, the Tanzanians continued their onslaught- this time Clatous Chama finished expertly between two defenders.

Simba has taken a healthy advantage heading to next Tuesday's return leg which may prove 'mission impossible' for Swallows.

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