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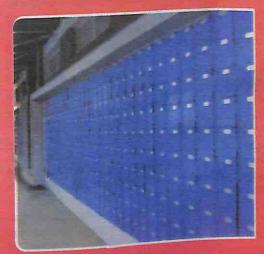
THREE IN A ROW: Young **Buffaloes** receiving the trophy from His Majesty King Mswati III for being champions of the 2019 EswatiniBank Cup where they beat Royal Leopard 1-0 at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. SEE MORE ON **PAGES** 40,41 and 44. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

# Tragedy as child

... Coates Valley community left in shock as 19-yr-old Roberto Paiva shot by 10-year-old

# accidentally shoots teen Page 3





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## KA-PHUNGA CHURCH SHAKEN BY WARDER'S 'SUICIDE'

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE Mbabane

THE Ka-Phunga Evangelical Church and the community at large has been shaken by the news and manner of Zinhle Mndzebele's

Mndzebele was an officer of His Majesty's Correctional Services, based at Sidvokodvo Correctional Services.

She was found inside her bedroom at her matrimonial homestead at Ka-Phunga hanging from the rafters.

...as inyanga, others questioned over possible murder

However, there are strong suspicions that the officer (35) was killed last Sunday night or in the wee hours of Monday, the day the body was found hanging inside the house by a local rural health motivator.

The arrest of two men in connection with the death confirms the community's suspicions that this was not suicide.

What raised eyebrows were the injuries found around her face with one serious injury found somewhere on the forehead which looked like

she got smashed with an object.

Her death has shocked the community and her church, who have described her as someone who added value in the church.

Mndzebele's corpse now awaits a post-mortem.

Chief Police Information and Communication Phindile Vilakati confirmed that two suspects were in custody in relation to the death of Zinhle Mndzebele who was found hanging at Ka-Phunga.

She added that further investiga-

tions were being conducted in relation to the death of the HMCS offi-

She would not comment further on allegations that one of the suspects arrested was known to Mndzebele.

According to sources, amongst the suspects who have been taken in for questioning following Mndzebele's death is a close family member.

According to a source, four people have been assisting the police in the investigation. The four include two males who are originally from Mpuluzi but reside in Matsapha, a traditional healer as well as the family member who is currently in custody with one of the two

Mndzebele and her family were congregates of KaPhunga Evangelical Church.

She leaves behind a child whom she had before marriage. According to one of the relatives who preferred to remain anonymous, the hit men were once hired to kill Mndzebele at the beginning of the year. Unfortunately, the people who were hired at first did not have the guts to kill her and as a result, they alerted her.

She is said to have confided to her pastor who later advised her to report the matter to her family. It was not yet established what happened after that but she returned to her marital home only to be later found dead.

It was revealed that immediately after the discovery of the lifeless and bruised body of Mndzebele, the community never suspected suicide but concluded that she was murdered.

#### BY STARSKY MKHONTA

THE arrest of two men in connection with the death of the female warder has confirmed suspicions that the woman was murdered.

What raised eyebrows were the injuries found around her face with one serious injury found somewhere on the forehead which looked like she got smashed or banged with something.

## More questions than answers

It's also said the rope that she was found hung with, was so tightened that it became clear that it was not her own doing but it was work of individuals. The doors to the house were found to have been vandalised, a clear sign of forced entry.

The door leading to the kitchen was also found partly vandalised.

#### Valuable

Sources told this newspaper last week that most of the valuable items including her cellphone and some of the family's priced assets in the house were found intact and even the other rooms not ransacked. "That's what has led to the speculation that there is more to it than meets the eye in this matter. It is clear that they were sent or hired to kill her," said a source. "She was murdered and there is no question about that and the only thing that should be investigated is who is responsible and what exactly is the reason that she was killed in this fashion and in such a cruel manner," said another well-placed source.

## Female raped by DJ at show

BY SIZWE DLAWINI Pigg's Peak

THE presence of police at a show at Gobolondlo Hall failed to prevent a rape incident.

Whereas revellers had expected to be entertained with music, they were shocked when the venue turned into a crime scene, after one headlining DJ (Disk Jockey) Gift Sibandze, allegedly raped a female fun lover.

Sibandze, who is known as 'DJ Merca', allegedly committed the rape during the successful and overcrowded show that was organised by Pigg's Peak socialites DJs Nation, Malungz and DJ 711 on Saturday evening.

The show was headlined by Eyadini hit maker Manqonqo and featured many supporting DJ's like DJ Zulu D, Smesh, Technical Revolution as well as DJ Bin.

In addition to the aforementioned DJ's, other popular personalities who performed at the show were rapper, Mr Kangaroo, Juice Candy, Double Punch, Pigg's Peak songstress Fufu, as well as dancers, The Trendsetters.

Master of Ceremonies (MCs) at the event was Miss Merlo as well as Crowd

The name of the alleged rape survivor is known but has been withheld for ethical reasons.

According to well-placed sources the rape occurred inside the Gobolondlo Hall changing room, metres away from the Pigg's Peak police.

"Information we have is Sibandze spotted the rape victim inside the venue's



DRAMA: Manqongo performing at Gobolondlo hall on Saturday evening where a rape allegedly occurred in the changing room. (Courtesy pic)

changing room, the two then had sex at around 5am.

An hour later Sibandze was then phoned and requested to go to the Pigg's Peak police station where he was then questioned for the (alleged) rape. What makes this incident complicated is the fact that the Pigg's Peak police were present at the venue when the rape allegedly occurred. These officers who were at the show, when questioned, seemed clueless about the incident" they said.

However, a Pigg's Peak police who wanted to remain anonymous said that the incident was not a rape but a business transaction that went wrong.

"This incident is not a rape. What hap-

pened was the rape survivor is an alleged sex worker who visited the venue to find clients.

During this time she ran into Sibandze who then had sexual intercourse with her at the Gobolondlo Hall changing room. We suspect that after the sex Sibandze failed to pay for the service leading to the female to report the incident to the police as rape. Currently other police are conducting multiple interviews to clarify the situation," they said.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (CPICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the allegations and the ongoing investigations that began on Saturday.

## Police allegedly tells victim to look for perpetrator

BY SABELO MAJOLA Mbabane

About two months after he was attacked by a mob at his home, there has been no justice for Boy Matse.

His home and property were vandalised by a mob following the shocking discovery of a dead girl in one of the outside rooms used by his employee.

Matse was the employer of fugitive Colani Sihlongonyane who is wanted by the police for murdering two girls aged 13 who were schooling at Nkwalini Primary School early March. Sihlongonyane is still at large and he is suspected to have left the country and headed for Ermelo in South Africa.

While the community was searching the thick forest near Matse's compound, looking for one of the missing girls after the first had been discovered in the house which was occupied by the fugitive, relatives of the deceased teenagers vandalised doors and windows at Matse's main house. The attack on Matse's property escalated as a mob was mobilised the following day and they vandalised the landscaping at the entrance of the compound, before smashing rear windows of vehicles found within the yard.

The mob also smashed windows and doors at the main house. They also destroyed a wall fence at the entrance as they forcefully gained entry. Property damaged during the attacks was valued at E20 000. On the first attack, Matse said he went to the police last week Monday to inquire on the matter and an investigating officer allegedly told him that he should go look for the perpetrator.

"I was shocked because the police have a name and they know where the perpetrator lives. It is their duty to go look for him; instead, they left that responsibility with me," he said.

On the second offence Matse said the ring leader was detained and remanded out of custody pending investigations and he was told that the matter would be going to court on June 6.

Police Information and Communication Officer (PICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said if victims are not satisfied with the way a matter is being handled by the investigating officer, they have the right to go to the police station and communicate with the desk officer or the station commander where the matter was reported.

She stated that they could also go to the regional headquarters to forward their grievances if they still felt the matter was not being handled the right way after taking it up with either the desk officer or station commander.

## 3

## CHILD ACCIDENTALLY SHOOTS 19-YEAR-OLD DEAD

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI Manzini

THE community of Coates Valley was left in shock yesterday after a teenager was accidentally shot by his relative.

The 19-year-old Roberta Paiva, who was a pupil at Enjabulweni High School, was allegedly shot by one of his family members who was reportedly playing with a loaded gun.

Even though details leading to the incident are scanty, informa-

tion gathered is that the gun, known as a pump action, was in the possession of a 10-year-old when it incidentally went off as its safety button was not switched on. The gun, which is licensed, belonged to one of the Paiva family members. The police and emergency

services were quickly called to the incident scene but unfortunately there was little that could be done to save the 19-year-old's life. The incident has left the Paiva family devastated. When contacted about the matter, the deceased's family asked for privacv

They requested that the story be not be published because of its sensitivity and the fact that there are currently investigations being carried out by the police. A member of the family asked not to be drawn to comment on the matter stating that it was too soon to talk about it as they have to gets facts on what really happened. The close relative said as a family they were still making arrangements for the funeral. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendet Phindile Vilakati confirmed the incident.

She said the police were investigating a shooting incident whereby a 19-year-old was shot dead with a firearm.



## Marwick stands by E50m investment

BY SABELO MAJOLA Mbabane

DESIGNATED Office Bearers Pension Fund (MOPADO) member and Lobamba Lomdzala Member of Parliament Marwick Khumalo has slammed the reports that suggest that the member's E50 million investment to Eswatini Mobile was 'risky'.

This comes after a local publication reported that the new term of politicians who are members of MOPADO, inherited a huge financial risk.

Khumalo said for the reporter to suggest that investing in Eswatini Mobile was 'risky', lacks any scientific proof to justify same and he was hoping Eswatini Mobile would deal with that aspect. Khumalo said the same Imbewu Yesive Investments which the reporter quoted as his authority on investments, were also advisers to some of the funds wherein, each have invested over E200 million into Eswatini Mobile and MOPADO has a 5.2 per cent stake at the mobile company.

"It is disingenuous and ill-will to incite members of the current Parliament as if the investments were made during their term of office. As the records would show, all investments under my stewardship occurred before the current Parliament was even sworn into office. During the extended period by the Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg, no investments were executed by the Supervisory Board. Furthermore, no investment was ever done without sound professional advice. Like in every professional



WORTH IT: Lobamba Lomdzala Member of Parliament Marwick Khumalo.

board, sub-committees existed precisely to process all matters, according to their portfolios," stated Khumalo.

Khumalo said it was outright senseless to even write that E50million was invested for purposes of a board seat acquisition and no minutes would reflect such.

#### Decisions

He said decisions on economic investments are made on the basis of sound and informed advice from Investments Advisors. "Fortunately, MOPADO, over and above the external advisors, has a full time highly, competent investment officer, recruited from South Africa, but a local, who happens to have applied himself fully on the matter at hand," he said.

Khumalo also labelled the letter sup-

posedly from Imbewu Yesive Investments (Pty) Ltd which was cited in the article as 'fake'. He said a certain reporter showed it to him, and it had no signature (proving that it had no authenticity) but written under the name of a certain lady. Khumalo said they never used to deal with fake correspondence, neither did they feed on trash mail, hence the illicit letter did not make it to their formal meetings. Khumalo said if Imbewu Yesive Investments (Pty) Ltd was in the business of issuing ungodly and non-official letters about its clients, then it was not in the right business.

"If the reporter understood how the Pension Fund's Defined Contribution (popularly known as DC) operates. he would not be writing articles from an uninformed perspective. For instance, all the members in the previous Parliament that qualified according to law, have been settled in full. The fund is structured such that no member of the fund may be short-changed at any given moment. The highly reputable and qualified actuary contracted to MOPADO and the FSRA as the overseer, are there to ensure that such never happens. I am also aware that Imbewu Yesive Investments (Pty) Ltd have been advising Eswatini Mobile on Investments acquisition, I therefore wonder, if indeed they told Eswatini Mobile that they are a 'risk', if the letter is anything to go by," said Khumalo.

He added that serving as a member of the Board of Trustees at MOPA-DO has been a wonderful and enriching experience for him, the man-made controversy over the last two months, notwithstanding.

## Matsapha Council commits to efficient service delivery

BY SABELO MAJOLA Mbabane

FOLLOWING the delivery of the petition by Matsapha ratepayers, particularly Tubungu Estate residents, Matsapha Town Council committed itself to providing efficient and effective service delivery.

This follows the reports that the ratepayers are unhappy with the poor service delivery from the Council which prompted them to deliver a petition last week Thursday.

Responding to the events, Matsapha Town Council Chief Executive Officer Lucky Sukati said the Council has a defined maintenance schedule which is executed for the six wards and their service delivery is based on this plan.

He stated that the submission of complaints by residents is addressed by the respective departments who then advise on progress every month and to their knowledge, the list of issues outlined are dealt with in accordance with the plan. The issues outlined in the petition delivered to the Council included overgrown plots, poor fencing which then results to cattle grazing at the residency.

"Cattle are collected frequently and we do appreciate that there are those which are a nuisance, particularly overnight and at times weekends. Overgrown plots are influenced by the rains and at times we do find ourselves behind schedule since grass grows faster on a wet season but teams are working around the clock to reduce the backlog. Street lights like any electrical appliances do go faulty and Council attends to them accordingly," he said.

Sukati said it should be noted though that the Council introduced high mast lights which equally provide the necessary lighting in some areas, thus it may be misconstrued that the garden lights or street lights are dysfunctional whereas they were replaced by these high mast lights. On the issue of the clogged drains, Sukati said drains follow a schedule and where there is an emergency Council attends to the clogging

"However the network may be complex requiring a high capital investment but even such would be looked at in totality and incorporated in our mid/long term projects. In general, Matsapha Town Council is committed to providing efficient and effective service delivery," he said. Tubungu is divided into four phases and it was residents in phase three that actually held a meeting to deliberate on the issues and they came to the resolution of delivering a petition. The meeting was held on Sunday last week at the Tubungu residency.



PROMISES: Cows pictured inside the Tubungu Estate feeding at one of the overgrown plots.

## WOMAN RAPED FOR NOT WASHING BROTHER'S CLOTHES

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

A woman has been raped by her half-brother for not washing his child's clothes.

The 22-year-old \*Deli of Tsawela was repeatedly raped by her half-brother \*Jomo (34) as punishment for not washing for his child.

Deli and Jomo share the same mother, but have different fathers.

She informed Manzini Principal Magistrate David Khumalo, who presided over the matter, that on December 28, 2018 her former convict half-brother summoned her into his house to ask why she did not wash for his child.

When she responded that there was not enough soap, Jomo allegedly accused her of disrespecting him and for that he assaulted her on the face.

This happened at around 1800 hours. Deli alleged that Jomo then locked the house before he tied her hands and legs with an electric cable.

While doing this, Jomo allegedly threatened to kill her and further continued to slap her face with open hands.

...perpetrator to spend 15 years at HMCS

When she raised an alarm, Deli alleged that her brother stuffed her mouth with a plastic bag before he tied a wire all around her body.

"He threatened to stab me to death with a screw driver and a knife that he had in his hands. My brother then accused me of being behind his wife deserting him," narrated Deli. The accused is said to have told Deli that he would rape her as punishment for all the wrongs he levelled against her before killing and dumping her body at a nearby mountain.

Offence

He allegedly repeatedly raped her while on the floor as he reportedly said he did not want to commit the offence on his wife's bed.

While being raped, Deli is said to have attempted to scream for help but even though her voice could not come out properly as she was stuffed with a plastic bag, Jomo allegedly ripped her sweater and used it to wrap her mouth in a bid to stop her from making any sounds.

"After raping me repeatedly, he said

he was not comfortable on the floor so he put me on his bed before he continued to sexually violate me without a condom," continued Deli.

When he was done, Jomo allegedly fell asleep until the next morning. Due to being tied, Deli said she tried in vain to free herself and escape from her brother.

In the morning, the accused allegedly went out for a smoke with a friend before he returned to untie his half-sister. He further allegedly followed Deli into the main house where he instructed her to clean up so that there could be no evidence should she defy him and report the matter to the police.

"When I bathed, he kept a close eye on me," said Deli.

Before he left her, Jomo is said to have ordered Deli not to tell a soul about what befell her or he would kill her.

The accused was charged with contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 2018. He was sentenced to 15 years behind bars without an option of a fine.

## 'SODV for perpetrators of violence'

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI Manzini

RECENTLY appointed Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse (SWAGAA) Director Nonhlanhla Dlamini says the SODV Act is not targeting innocent Emaswati, but is meant for perpetrators of gender based violence, both men and women.

Dlamini has bounced back as the new director of SWAGAA.

She was once the director of the organisation where she pioneered and advocated for the enactment of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill, which is now an Act of 2018.

She is taking over from Cebile Manzini-Henwood.

Dlamini was introduced to SWA-GAA staff by the organisation's Board Chairperson Reverend Senzo Hlatshwayo during the outgoing director's farewell function.

Hlatshwayo said he is happy to introduce one of SWAGAA's trail-blazers as Dlamini is not new to the organisation.

"Nonhlanhla handed the leadership baton to Cebile about 10 years ago and I am excited that now the baton is gladly being handed back over to her. I believe the organisation is still in great hands moving forward," Hlatshwayo stated. He said the new leader comes in at a time when the organisation is due for a 30-year celebration (next year) and that would be marked as SWA-GAA's Year of Reflection. Making her remarks after the unveiling, Dlamini said she is very excited to be rejoining the organisation, especially now with the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act in effect

"I strategically and purposefully joined the parliamentary race to clear the pipelines which were allegedly blocking the bill's enactment and I am glad that I am here again to educate the nation about the Act with my team," Dlamini said. She added that with the numerous calls to have this law reviewed, one would think organisations such as SWAGAA would be up in arms worried that their advocacy work would all be in vain.

However, she said this is not the

#### Innocent

Dlamini said it is exciting for her to hear so much talk about the Act from members of the public and the media. She said this is evidennce that the Act is biting. "I want to assure members of the public that this piece of legislation is by no means targeting innocent Emaswati, but it is meant for perpetrators of gender based violence, both men and women," she said.

Worth noting is that with the increasing levels of GBV and HIV/AIDS infections, especially among young people, the former MP pioneered and advocated for the enactment of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Bill which is now an Act of 2018.

In her exit speech, Manzini-Henwood encouraged all remaining SWAGAA employees to support the new leadership coming with Dlamini.

She urged staff members to support Dlamini the way they had supported her and have faith in her the same way they did to her.



## Local Publication for Call for Proposals

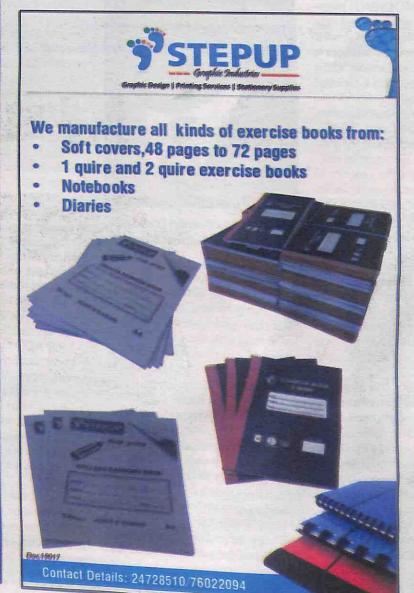
The Delegation of the European Union to the Kingdom of Eswatini is seeking proposals under the following thematic budget lines:

- Civil Society Organisations Actions in Eswatini: "Strengthening CSO-LA and media to promote accountability and to foster inclusive growth/decision-making through economic empowerment of women and youth with a focus on rural areas" Publication reference: EuropeAid/164205/DD/ACT/SZ
- European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) "Support to Civil Society, Women and the Media towards
   promoting human rights, gender equality and women
   empowerment in Eswatini" Publication reference:
   EuropeAid/164078/DD/ACT/SZ

The full Guidelines for Applicants are available for consultation on the internet site from publication date of 30th April 2019. <a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome</a>

The proposals (concept notes) must be submitted online via PROSPECT <a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prospect">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prospect</a>. Submission by other means such as by hand or by email/fax will be rejected. The deadline for submission of the Concept Notes via PROSPECT for both calls for proposals is 14th June 2019, 16.00 hrs.

An information session on the two calls for proposals will be held on Wednesday, 8th May 2019, at 9.00 AM at the Happy Valley Hotel, Ezulwini, Eswatini . Kindly confirm attendance to **DELEGATION-ESWATINI-CFP@eeas.europa.eu** by Monday 6th May 2019.





I want to assure members of the public that this piece of legislation is by no means targeting innocent Emaswati, but it is meant for perpetrators of gender based violence, both men and women



LEAD BY EXAMPLE: Conference of Churches sent these items including clothes and food parcels. These will be part of the next consignment to be sent later in the week.

## Emaswati really come through for Idai victims

BY NOKUZOLA THWALA Mbabane

THE last consignment to Mozambique for Idai victims will need about six trucks, the DPM's office has said.

Items worth about E1 million must be ferried to the country's neighbours before the end of the week...

Deputy Prime Minister's National Disaster Management Department Disaster Manager Zandile Mavuso said the next consignment will need six trucks as it is more than what was sent the first time which filled five trucks.

She added that they were hoping to send these before the end of the week, adding that they had alerted their Mozambique counterparts of this and were awaiting a signal from them so that they send the items.

Mavuso appreciated Emaswati for their help.

She also thanked NDMA and Baphalali Eswatini Redcross for overseeing the collection of the donations.

"Just last week, we received differ-



MORE DONATIONS: Blankets and other food items for Idai victims.

ent items from both houses of Parliament worth about E18 000, Mahewu from Logico, water from Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC) worth E40 000, clothes and food items from Mbabane City Council, Conference of Churches and Eswatini Television Authority (ETVA). So that tells you that Emaswati are really compassion-

ate and care for their neighbours when they go through trying times," Mavuso said.

Other items received included blankets, shoes, mealie-meal, rice, sugar, cooking oil, tin staffs and other non-perishables foods. They are for now stored at an NDMA warehouse in Matsapha.

## Swazi Mageu, Logico donate items worth over E100 000 to Idai victims

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI Matsapha

AS neighbouring Mozambique continues to be hit hard by cyclones more and more companies have come through to donate for the disaster struck country.

Last Thursday, Logico Company and Swazi Mageu heeded to Their Majesties' call to help neighbouring Mozambique. Logico donated clean water while Swazi Mageu donated *emahewu*.

Logico Sales Manager Mthunzi Mtsetfwa said the company saw it fit that they support their fellow Africans who were hit hardest by the tropical cyclone called Idai, which swept through Southern Africa Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi, early March, leaving a trail of unmatched destruction of property and loss of human and animal life. Mtsetfwa said they decided to come through for the people of Mozambique in these trying times. He said they donated water that could cater for over 2 000 people.

Mtsetfwa said the reason they went for water was because after Cyclone Idai, water in Mozambique was contaminated which led to outbreak of diseases such as cholera

outbreak of diseases such as cholera.

He said therefore there was a dire need for clean water supply

in Mozambique. He said with the donation they made they hoped that over 2 000 people would have access to clean water.

Mtsetfwa said they helped because Mozambicans are the country's neighbours and a lot of Emaswati have relatives there.

Mtsetfwa added that as a company they were somehow affected by the disaster which took place at Mozambique.

Meanwhile, Swazi Mageu Administration Manager Aaron Dlamini said they donated with *emahewu* that could feed up to 11 900 people. Dlamini said as a company, they decided to heed to Their Majesties call of helping out in Mozambique.

## Suffered

He said they donated Mageu worth over E100 000, he said what happened in Mozambique could happen to any country even Eswatini. Dlamini said they also extended their helping hand as far as South Africa in the KZN province as they have suffered a natural disaster too.

Dlamini said they made a donation of *emahewu* through Shoprite South Africa. Worth noting is that after being hit by cyclone Idai another cyclone dubbed Cyclone Kenneth followed suit and had devastating effects in Mozambique which include the loss of life and destruction of property.



DONATION: A truck from Logico with the donated water and Mahewu.



## 6

## Five nabbed with dagga at Ngwenya Border

BY VUYILE DLAMINI Mbabane Magistrate's Court

EMASWATI continue to resort to dagga dealing as the only means to support their families.

At least five people were nabbed attempting to cross the Ngwenya Border Gate with the illegal herb this past week.

Makhosazana Ginindza, Celumusa Nhlabatsi, Andile Shongwe, Manqoba Sihlongonyane and Mpendulo Hlophe all contravened the Pharmacy Act after being found in possession of an illegal substance without a permit or licence.

Ginindza was found to have attempted to cross the Ngwenya Border Gate on May 1 with a 1.35 kilogram consignment of dagga in her possession.

The consignment was contained in a two litre *Mahewu* container.

In her appearance before Mbabane Magistrate Lenhle Zulu on Thursday, Ginindza claimed to have four high school children who she needed to pay school fees for.

#### Welfare

She claimed that although her husband was gainfully employed, the amount he was contributing to the family's welfare was meagre, so she took the decision to sell dagga to a buyer in neighbouring South Africa to make ends meet.

Magistrate Zulu expressed her disappointment with Ginindza's actions, stating that it was disheartening to see a woman resorting to dagga dealing.

"So many children end up abusing this drug and it is the very children that you claim to support by selling it.



They will end up abusing the substance. I urge you to find other means to earn a living than selling this substance," the magistrate stated.

Magistrate Zulu further commented that there were many women who made a living by selling fruits and vegetables, and others who travelled all the way to Mozambique to buy bales of clothes to sell.

#### Support

"This cannot be the only way for a woman to make money to support her family. Selling wares is not embarrassing, in fact, I implore women to continue selling fruits and vegetables as we will support them," Magistrate Zulu emphasised.

Magistrate Zulu sentenced Ginindza to a year in prison, with the option to pay a fine of E1 000.

Also, Celumusa Nhlabatsi (29) cited his pregnant girlfriend being admitted at the Mbabane Government Hospital as the reason why he resorted to selling dagga.

This was after Nhlabatsi was accused of having contravened the Pharmacy Act, after he was found in possession of 7.615 kilograms of dagga in the Toyota Noah he was attempting to drive through the Ngwenya Border Gate. The consignment was contained in 30 blocks wrapped in brown masking tape and was discovered in the boot of his car by immigration officers. In mitigation, Nhlabatsi said his pregnant girlfriend would be admitted at the Mbabane Government Hospital soon to deliver his first child, and claimed to not have a cent to do so.

The court informed Nhlabatsi that if he was convicted, the state would confiscate the vehicle he was driving.

Unfortunately for Nhlabatsi, after evidence was presented before the court, he was convicted and found guilty of the offence. He was sentenced to two years in a correctional facility with the option to pay a fine of E4 000.

# Four steal EPTC's copper wire worth E107 800

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Manzini

IN just a month, Eswatini Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC) lost E107 800 worth of copper wire.

This was a result of thievery by four suspects from Mehlwabovu under Chief Mlayeto.

Nhlanhla Mtshali (26), Samkeliso Mtshali (20), Nhlanhla Dlamini (21) and Siyabonga Ndwandwe (19) appeared before the Principal Magistrate's Court facing three counts of theft.

On the first count, Nhlanhla Mtshali and Nhlanhla Dlamini are said to have jointly hit a bigger score as they made away with 150 metres of EPTC's copper wire valued at E45 000. The offence is said to have

happened on February 17, near Ngculwini area.

According to the charge sheet, three of the suspects started the copper stealing business on February 6 at about 0930 hours where they stole 100 metre long copper wire valued at E31 400. The accused are Nhlanhla Mtshali, Samkeliso Mtshali and Siyabonga Ndwandwe and they allegedly committed the crime at Ngculwini area.

On the last count, another offence was committed on February 8 where all the accused persons allegedly stole another 100 metre-long wire valued at E31 400.

The accused persons are said to be part of a bigger group that specialises in stealing copper wire, presumably for sale.

They were remanded in custody pending trial.



CONFIRMED: Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

## E12 000 bail for EWSC job scammers

BY VUYILE DLAMINI Mbabane Magistrate's Court

AS job opportunities in the country are relatively scarce, the unemployed youth continues to fall victims to job scammers who promise them jobs for cash.

The latest company to be misrepresented is the Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC), after three men claiming to be employees of the parastatal approached three unsuspecting youths for jobs.

The Mbabane Magistrate's Court learned that between the months of March to April in Ezulwini, Bonginkhosi Mamba was approached by Sabelo Dlamini, Mzwandile Dlamini and Bhekithemba Dlamini, who presented him with the opportunity to work at EWSC. The trio misrepresented themselves as human resources officials of the company, claiming that with the payment of E11 600, Mamba would be employed by the company, after which he paid.

It is said Sabelo and Mzwandile further approached Samkeliso Gwebu, who they managed to defraud a sum of E11 100, promising him a similar job at the same company.

The first accused, Sabelo Dlamini is said to have acted alone in defrauding



YOUR WORSHIP: Magistrate Lenhle Zulu.

Lindelwa Nyawo, who he managed to defraud from a sum of E1 960, with the promise to help her gain employment within the water utility company.

The trio was charged with theft by false pretences, as they are said to have misrepresented themselves with the intention to defraud and steal.

Appearing before Magistrate Lenhle Zulu yesterday, the trio were represented by an attorney, who submitted that the trio be granted bail as they were family men.

The trio was granted bail fixed at E12 000, E11 000 and E5 000, respectively. Magistrate Zulu accepted the prosecution's application for the trial date to be set for July 8 and the three men were remanded back into custody until May 17.

## One dead, two admitted after accident

BY SABELO MAJOLA Mbabane

A fatal road accident in Big-Bend left one dead and two admitted after a BMW collided with a Bell front loader tractor.

The accident occurred on Saturday evening near Nkilongo area along Big-Bend/Lavumisa MR8 public road.

A BMW sedan driven by a 50year-old man of Phuzamoya knocked from behind a Bell front loader tractor driven by a 42-year-old man of Phuzamoya. A passenger on board the BMW being a man aged 20 of Phuzamoya was seriously injured and was rushed to Ubombo Clinic where he died while undergoing treatment. Meanwhile, both drivers and another passenger on board the BMW are currently admitted at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital after sustaining serious injuries.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the matter.

## 85 arrested for drink and driving

BY SABELO MAJOLA Mbabane

MEMBERS of the Royal Eswatini Police Service have arrested about 85 motorists for drink-driving.

The number shows a slight decrease from last week's 101 motorists who were arrested for the same offence.

The statistics were contained in the reports released to the media by Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

The number of drink-drivers keeps increasing despite the steep fines imposed on the offenders. Motorists found to have surpassed the legal alcohol limit face a minimum E1 000 and up to E5 000 in fines.

## MANZINI COUNCILLOR LAID TO RI

BY SIFISO DLAWINI Sihhoye

FAMILY members, friends and co-workers came in their numbers to pay their last respects to the late Manzini City Council Ward 12 Councillor Sipho Nkosingphile Masuku who passed away on April 22, 2019.

Masuku lost his life in a tragic car accident, where the car he was travelling in was involved in a head on collision with another one during the Easter holidays.

The councillor who was loved and admired by many was laid to rest at his parental home at Sihhoye.

The late politician who was described by many as a generous and peace loving person is said to have touched a lot of people and further mentored other politicians who were new in the city council as he had 15 years experience in office.

Speaking on behalf of his children, his son Siboniso Masuku said they were at a loss for words as their father died an untimely death. He said he was shocked when he learnt the news about his father's passing.

He also pleaded with his siblings to remain united and look after each other as the loss of their father was not the end of the world, it was only a challenge they had to overcome together by staying united and supportive of one another. "We are asking for all the support we can get and to my siblings, I urge you



EMOTIONAL: Manzini City Council Ward 12 Councillor Sipho Masuku being laid at his final resting place.



GOODBYE: LaMchobokazi says her final goodbyes to her late husband.

to stay united, love and respect one another. In times of trouble we should all support one another and seek council and advice from our elders. We should not allow the devil to come between us," he mentioned.

A representative of the Manzini market vendors passed her condolences to the Masuku family. She said as vendors they had lost a representative who always did what was in their best interest.

She mentioned that whenever they had problems, the deceased would always be available to offer his help and support. She said as an

informal sector they were saddened by Masuku's passing as he played a huge role in organising them as an informal sector in Manzini city.

Meanwhile, Chairman of the Masuku Reunion Setsabile Masuku said her late brother was pivotal in the establishment of the reunion group. She described the deceased as a family man who always insisted on unity and always taught them to respect each other regardless of their status in life.

## MESSAGE FROM HIS WIFE LAMCHOBOKAZI

MASUKU'S wife pens letter to deceased husband.

"To Babe Masuku, my husband and the father of my children, I am heartbroken by your untimely death as I did not even get a chance to say goodbye. I am left alone with all our children with no one to help me raise them as you are gone. I loved you with all my heart and my love for you is eternal.

I have been left with a lot of questions and challenges I am bound to face alone, why did this happen to me. I surrender everything to God almighty who knows everything; I pray that your soul is welcome into heaven.

Lala ngekuthula Masuku, you will always be in my heart, lala kahle thundabathole bafokazane, these are my last words to you your wife LaMchobokazi."

## **OBITUARY:**

## Sipho Nkosingphile Masuku - 1972 to 2019

Nkhosingphile Sipho Masuku was born on January 12, 1972. He was born at Mkhuzweni Health Centre to his father Mangisi Masuku and his mother Sophie Matibuko.

He attained his education at Mavula School and later opened a business in Manzini.

In 1999 he entered the Manzini City Council elections where he was first voted in as a councillor and was further voted in for three more terms. He was a councillor in the city for a period of 15 years, which showed the Manzini citizens trusted him as one of the leaders of the

In 2016, he was voted in as the Deputy Mayor where he worked with dedication, transparency and honesty. He met his untimely death on April 22, 2019. He is survived by his wife LaMchobokazi, his sister and his nine children. His favourite song was 'Kubo bonkhe bothixo, akekho onjengawe'.

## SACCO INDABA WEDNESDAY

BY BONGIWE DLAWINI Manzini

THE Eswatini Association of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (ESASCCO) will host the Savings and Credit Cooperative (SACCOs) big meeting on Wednesday.

President Cambridge Mdlalose said the conference would be held on Wednesday ending Thursday at Esibayeni Lodge in Matsapha.

He made the announcement at The George Hotel last Friday.

The objective of the Indaba was to address challenges that are faced by the SACCO movement and possibly come up with solutions.

The Indaba, according to Mdlalose, would also create capacity among SACCO leaders and management on the ideal operations of SACCOs based on the cooperative principles, cooperative laws of the country and acceptable stan-



of Credit Unions and the grow the SACCOs and make International Cooperative them sustainable under the cur Alliance.

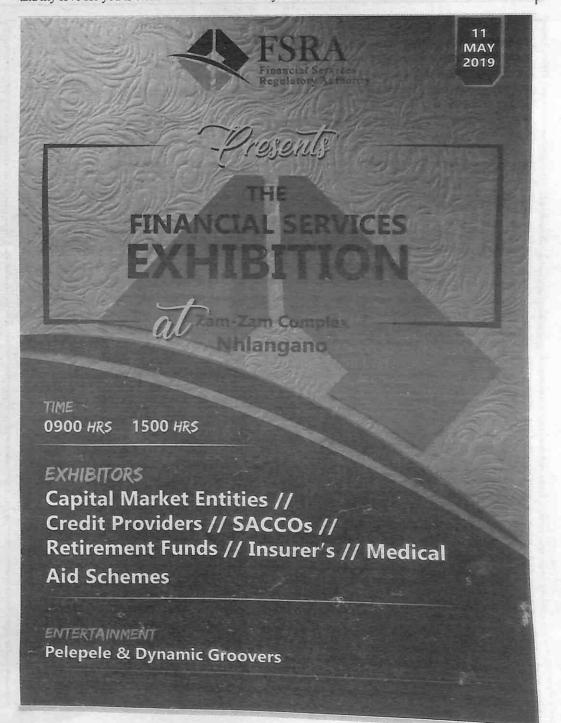
As per this year's theme; Transformation of SACCOs for a stronger economy, Mdlalose said ways of positively improving the lives of the SACCOs' members would also be looked into because this would help members contribute more to the growth of the country.

"Since we are also looking at contributing to the growth of Eswatini's economy, we will also share critical information with the cream of the leadership and management of the

dards set up by the World Council SACCO movement which will rent economic challenges," Mdlalose added.

Also on the agenda is discussing the importance of smaller SACCOs' affiliation to the apex body as well as how these could be assisted to attend congresses and managers' conferences where they would obtain knowledge to help them grow.

Another way of growing smaller SACCOs for better performance and growth is said to be merging, hence the benefits and disadvantages of such would be discussed with the SACCOs.



# EX-CHANNEL S NEWS ANCHOR

BY OBSERVER REPORTER Mbabane

#### FORMER Channel Swazi news anchor Zakithi Motha-Siliya has been ordained a pastor.

She moved to South Africa to further her education and ended up working there after graduation. The former news anchor who is now married to George Siliya, has three children and currently works at Masscash a division of global entity WalMart and owns a communications agency called Maia Digital.

"Recently the Lord God made known to me the call upon my life into ministry and he spoke into existence God Is Love Ministry International.

On April 27, I was ordained as a minister in the office of an apostle. The word Apostle means, "one sent forth." An Apostle is sent forth by God to minister with God-given authority. He/she is a pioneer who establishes churches and lays foundational truth in people's lives (Ephesians 2:20). I have been ordained into the highest rank of the Five-Fold Ministry. The Five-Fold Ministry is a model that functions with the gifting's of an



WITH THIS ANOINTING: Apostle Phiri, Overseer of God's Grace Ministries International anointing Zakithi Motha-Siliya with oil. (Courtesy pics)

Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor and Teacher with a proven anointing to grow and edify the church. (Ephesians4:11)."

The Ordination took place at the Amsterdam Estate in Olivedale, Johannesburg and was attended by: Apostle Eprhaim Phiri Alex - Overseer of God's Grace Ministries International in Phalaborwa, SA; Apostle Vincent 'Shotgun' Simelane - Overseer of Jubilee Worship House in Manzini,

Also present during the ordination were Apostle Ken T. Akunwafo -Overseer of Fellow Workers Ministry in Soweto, SA; Pastor Nkululeko Mabuza - Senior Pastor of Sibetsaphi Evangelical Church in Siphofaneni, Eswatini and Christabel Motsa - mother to the ordained minister.



NEWLY ORDAINED: Apostle Zakithi Motha-Siliya on her big day.



FAMILY: Apostle Ken Akunwafo-Apostle Vincent 'Shotgun' Simelane, Pastor Nkululeko Mabuza, Apostle Zakithi Motha-Siliya, Prophetess Fledoll Pebetse Phiri Alex and Apostle Ephraim Phiri Alex.







## CONSULTANCY FOR THE GHG INVENTORY TEAM LEADER

The Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs is looking for suitable and qualified consultancy to enhance the capacity of the team in the GHG inventory and prepare the National Inventory Report on Greenhouse Gas in the preparation of the Fourth National Communication and Initial Biennial Update Report for Eswatini, in fulfilment of the reporting requirements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

BACKGROUND:

National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) prepared periodically containing updates on actions undertaken, including the status of its GHG emissions and removals by sinks, as well as on the actions to reduce emissions or enhance sinks. The Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, has thereby, received grant support from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) through UN Environment to prepare its Fourth National Communication (NC4) and the First Biennial Update Report (BUR1. The project is expected to run; beginning October 2018 and ending January 2022. One of the major components within the framework of the Project is a detailed National Inventory for Greenhouse Gas emissions and sinks and the preparation of National Inventory Report for the period of 1990 to 2018.

he main objective of the consultancy is to develop and strengthen the capacities of national stakeholders so that they can be able to actively articipate in the preparation of the GHG inventory in line with the appropriate reporting methodologies and support the GHG inventory teams the development of the 2018 National GHG Inventory Report under the Fourth National Communication and Initial Biennial Update Report

- Conduct in country trainings on the IPCC GHG inventory sectors and the appropriate methodologies for the GHG inventory technical
  working groups

- working groups

  Create a GHG inventory data exchange platform for sustainability and for future preparation of GHG inventories

  Develop quality assurance and quality control plan (QA/QC) for the GHG inventory

  Provide support and guidance to GHG sector experts

  Develop GHG inventory projections up to 2050.

  Compile the National Inventory Report (NIR) for Eswatini and a summary on GHG Inventory as a Chapter for the FNC and BUR1

  Prepare the National GHG Inventory and Projections info graphics

- DELIVERABLES
  The consultancy is expected to deliver on the following:
  a) Work plan at the start of the consultancy, which clearly indicates the methodology and anticipated target outputs;
  b) Training materials and training reports
  c) Quality Control/Quality Assurance plan
  d) National GHG Inventory Archiving System, an MRV for GHG emissions and sinks including a manual describing the steps for conducting National GHG Inventory for sustainability and future preparation of GHG Inventories;
  e) A National Inventory Report (NIR) and National GHG Inventory Chapter for the Fourth National Communication and First Biennial Update report

- report
  f) GHG Inventory improvement plan
  f) GHG Inventory improvement plan
  f) A presentation of findings at a validation workshop and info graphics on the inventory and projections

a) A Master's Science degree in a subject related to environmental studies/management, Energy related or Statistics or any other relevant qualification in related fields

- - 2006 IPCC galostines to Carlo Inventory Software.
     User manual for the Guidelines on the preparation of National Communication from Non-annex Parties.
     Experience in reviews for annex I countries.

#### SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS s must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:

Personal information (CVs of the consultancy team) - with three references. 3. Financial proposal specifying a total lump sum amount, against the deliverables

SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED THE AREA OF INTEREST LE. GHG Inventory Team Leader. Submissions should be addressed to the Climate Change Programme Coordinator, Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Department of Meteorology P.O. 25 Mbabane. Email: climatechange@swazimet.gov.sz by 24 May 2019. Any inquiries should be addressed to the same email address.







## CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT THE GHG INVENTORY FOR THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND OTHER LAND USES (AFOLU) SECTOR AND INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES (IP) SECTOR

The Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs (MTEA), is inviting suitably qualified consultants to submit their proposals for TWO consultancies to conduct the Greenhouse Gas inventory for reporting to the UNFCCC. One consultancy will conduct the inventory for AFOLU sector and the other for IP sector.

National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Update Reports (BURs) prepared periodically containing updates on actions undertaken, including the status of its GHG emissions and removals by sinks, as well as on the actions to reduce emissions or enhance sinks. The Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, has thereby, received grant support from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) through UN Environment to prepare its Fourth National Communication (NC4) and the First Biennial Update Report (BUR1). The project is expected to run; beginning October 2018 and ending January 2022. One of the major components within the framework of the Project is a detailed National Inventory for Greenhouse Gas emissions and sinks and the preparation of National Inventory Report for the period of 1990 to 2018.

The main objective of this consultancy is to produce reports, detailing the anthropogenic emissions (by sources and removals by sinks); of the greenhouse gases under the AFOLU sector and the IP sector, utilising the 2006 IPCC guidelines to contribute to the 2018 National Inventory Report (NIR) as part of the NC4 and BUR1 Reports.

#### TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**OBJECTIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY** 

- Review the 2006 IPCC Guidelines to understand the default methods, data sources, basic QA/QC, uncertainty assessment, and reporting procedures using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines
   Identify areas where recalculations are necessary, plan strategy to ensure consistency and recalculate the GHG inventory for chosen time series.
- chosen time series

  Estimate and compile GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks (1990-2018) using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines and software for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.

  Develop GHG inventory sector projections for up to 2050

  Finalize and submit the sector report for contribution to the NIR chapters for the Biennial Update Report (1990-2018) and

  National Communication (1990-2019).

- DELIVERABLES
  The Consultant shall deliver the following:

   A work plan at the start of the consultancy, which clearly indicates the methodology and anticipated target outputs.

   A draft Report after review and validation by various stakeholders.

   Final Report, including the methodologies used in compiling the inventory, activity data and data sources and other procedures. REPORTING;

the guidance of The Inventory Team Leader and coordinator and be responsible to The National Climate Change Coordinator for the completion of the tasks and duties related to this assignment

## QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCIES

- At least 10 years of relevant experience in the field of climate change, with a focus on GHG inventories.
   A Postgraduate degree in a subject related to environmental studies/management, biodiversity, agricultriched.

## Demonstrated knowledge and application of the methodologies for preparing GHG inventories Experience working on a diverse team of individuals with different technical backgrounds and specialties; and

#### SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

- Designation of PROPOSALS
  arested consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their qualifications:
  Technical Proposal explaining how applicant responds to each of the qualification requirements and why they are the most suitable for the work (particularly providing details on the previously implemented similar assignments and previous experience in the fields related to this consultancy as described in the terms of reference).

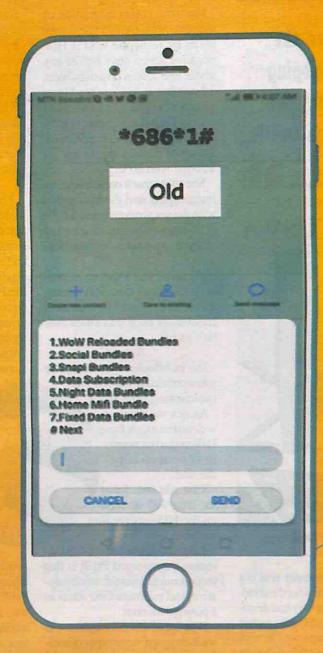
  Personal information (CV) sinclusting records of past experience in similar assignments and concrete outputs obtained with three Personal information (CV) -including records of past experience in similar assign
- Financial proposal specifying a total lump sum amount, and payment terms around specific and measurable (qualitative and quantitative) deliverables

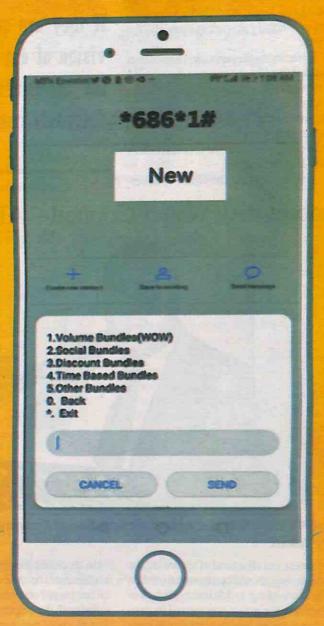
SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED THE AREA OF INTEREST I.E. AFOLU sector OR IP sector. Detailed TORs can be requested in the email below. Interested parties should send their submissions to the Climate Change Programme Coordinater:

P.O. Box 2852 Minabase. Email: All sectors and their submissions to the Climate Change Programme Coordinater:

P.O. Box 2852 Minabase. Email: All sectors are submissions to the Climate Change Programme Coordinater: National and Environmental Affairs
P.O. Box 2652, Mbabane. Email: climatechange@swazimet.gov.sz Deadline: 24 May 2019. Expected duration of assignated assignation of a specific days spread over a period of 4 months.

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## 'Unity can make LaMgabhi greater'

BY NONGCEBO DLAWINI Mbabane

PRESIDENT of the League of African Churches Bishop Samson Hlatshwako has called for unity in the constituency of KaLamgabhi.

The bishop made this statement during a thanksgiving function that was held at KaLamgabhi under the Manzini region on Saturday.

The function was to thank God for the appointment of the Member of Parliament Makhosi Vilakati, who is also the Minister of Labour and Social Security.

Bishop Hlatshwako urged the *Bucopho*, *Indvuna Yenkhundla* and the Member of Parliament to work in peace and unity whilst taking the constituency to greater heights.

The bishop also appreciated the visitation of other Members of Parliament and Cabinet ministers in their con-

stituency to support such beautiful gatherings

Hlatshwako encouraged the politically elected to put on a united front and work as a team in all that they do in developing the constituency.

"When you read (Acts 4:32-33), all the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

With great power, the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all," he said.

Referring to the scripture, Hlatshwako added that like the apostles they should also work as a team and if one of them acquires good ways of prospering the constituency, they should not want to try and achieve it on their own to get the credit, but also involve the others for it to be attained.

"If they are one, the vision of devel-

oping the constituency will definitely come to life", he said

Hlatshwako then prayed for peace, love and respect not only for the *Bocupho*, *Indvuna Yenkhundla* and MP, but also the people of the constituency of KaLamgabhi.

He also appreciated that the people behaved well amongst the officials of the country.

f they ar

If they are one, the vision of developing the constituency will definitely come to life



## Minister needs to appoint new Wages Council - ATUSWA

BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI Mbabane

AMALGAMATED Trade Union of Swaziland (ATUSWA) is crying foul for the Minister of Labour and Social Security to appoint new wages coun-

The Amalgamated Trade Union of Eswatini (ATUSWA) has pleaded with the Minister of Labour and Social Security Makhosi Vilakati to appoint a new Wages Council, since the removal of the previous one. According the Secretary General Wonder Mkhonza, the previous wages' council never followed proper procedures when passing the Legal Notice No. 51 of 2018 – The Regulation of Wages (Textile and Apparel Industry) Order, 2018, which said that workers' wages should be increased by eight per cent.

Mkhonza stated that the previous wages council allegedly did something that was against the law because they discussed matters that would affect workers in 2019 even when they knew they would have left office by then. Mkhonza added that the council knew that its time in office was going to lapse.

He mentioned that even when the federation selects the council, a meeting should be called, and if appointed



APPOINT: Minister of Labour and Social Security Makhosi Vilakati.

council feels the need of reviewing the order they should be allowed to review it. According to Mkhonza, this was because the notice was passed by people who were already preparing to leave office. "As a result, workers are bonded for two years because of this order," he said

However, Mkhonza stated that in October of 2018 they met up and had re-negotiations with the employers concerning the notice, where they agreed on an increase of eight per cent.

He disclosed that the order was not implemented because of what the council had passed and what they had negotiated with the employers, they gather that the total percentage was low in comparison to what workers had already been receiving. The Secretary General further pleaded that the minister of labour and social security appoint the new wages council, so that the matter at hand would be resolved because a gazette to this effect was supposed to be issued in March.

# We want PrEP pills - Sex Workers

BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI Mbabane

SEX workers in the country have expressed their desire to lay their hands on the newly introduced PrEP pills in order to prevent themselves and their clientele from contracting HIV.

This pill is said to have been introduced in 23 health facilities in the country and seems to be favoured by sex workers.

The drug is a combination of antiretrovirals (ARV) that is only taken by someone who is HIV negative seven days before any sexual interactions on a daily basis.

According to Voice of our Voices Director Lungile Khumalo, introducing the pill will help negative sex workers, as it is an additional means of prevention, to not get infected with HIV.

She added that it could also eliminate stigma and discrimination with the sex workers community, as no one will be pointing fingers to those who take oral medications.

"As we all know that most people now know their HIV status, maybe this pill will be a demand creation for people to know their HIV status.

Access

This includes sex workers because you won't access this pill without knowing your status.

As sex workers, we welcome it as we have HIV negative people in this community," she said.

Khumalo stated that the drug will strengthen the HIV prevention methods.

Khumalo further added that the reason they wanted PrEP, is that the community would remain negative, and maintain their status in a positive manner.

"The use of this pill maybe could wash away the stereotypes of society as they believe that sex workers are the modes of HIV transmitters", she said. She added that the drug would help the society and all HIV fighters to see how much sex workers care for their lives as they too want an Aids-free world. On the other hand, Ministry

of Health National PrEP and Key Population Coordinator Sindi Shongwe warned that the drug was not a replacement of condoms but an additional HIV prevention method. She stated that the drug only protects against HIV infection and does not protect against pregnancy or other sexually transmitted infections.

"PrEP is an extra HIV prevention option and where possible, should be used in combination with condoms", she said.

Shongwe added that using condoms was still the best way to prevent HIV infection and that condoms protected against STIs and pregnancy when used correctly and consistently.

Khumalo highlighted that after taking oral PrEP for seven days one is fully protected, but must continue to take it daily to remain protected.

Safe

According to inpud.net, clinical trials have shown efficacy for PrEP, and subsequent open label extensions have shown PrEP to be safe and effective as a prevention tool. Studies have demonstrated that PrEP can reduce HIV transmission among serodiscordant heterosexual couples (an ongoing sexual relationship where one partner is living with HIV and the other is not), men who have sex with men (MSM).

transwomen who have sex withmen, and people who inject drugs. People who took pre-exposure prophylaxis every day were significantly less likely to get infected with HIV.

In an open label study, involving men and Trans women where participants were offered PrEP at the end of the trial, there was zero new HIV incidences amongst those who took between four and seven doses per week, suggesting that PrEP could be somewhat forgiving with regard to missed doses. However, as with antiretroviral therapies more generally, adherence to PrEP should be regarded as critical since PrEP effectiveness is strongly correlated with daily adherence.

## 1851 boys circumcise during school holiday

BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI Mbabane

THE Ministry of Health, with the help of its partners, has announced that it successfully circumcised over 1 851 boys for the back to school campaign.

According to the National Coordinator of the Voluntary Male Circumcision

Vusi Maziya, the boys were circumcised during their back to school campaign which started on April 23 and ran till Friday.

Maziya explained that the campaign was a voluntary male circumcision aimed at reaching male school boys who otherwise did not get the chance to circumcise because they were in school

The aim of doing this campaign was

to give the boys enough recovery time, taking advantage of the school holidays.

#### Mobilise

He said that it was normal for the clinical and demand generation teams to mobilise high numbers of clients during this time because there was strong support for the campaign from the ministry of education and training and from parents who wanted to

have their children circumcised during this period.

He further stated that after every circumsion they made sure that the boys were reviewed and this was done after two days of the session and also after seven days, mainly to change the bandages and avoid any infections in the wound.

"The campaign is also open to males who wish to lead by example and be good role models for their sons. The ministry of health is leading the campaign as one of the HIV prevention effort aimed at reducing new infections in Eswatini so that epidemics control is reached by 2022," he said.

Maziya added that according to what science entails, when five males are circumcised one of the five is automatically prevented from acquiring HIV/AIDS. He further went to plea with the nation to support them in this campaign, which will help get the country where it is aims to be where HIV prevention is concerned.



# FOCUS on DD cases



## MAGISTRATE PARDONS CERNABBED FORD

STORIES BY BONGIWE DLAWINI Manzini

"BECAUSE I want you to visit Eswatini again, I'll forgive you."

These were the words of Magistrate Mthokozisi Dlamini during the matter of a South African biker who was arrested and found guilty of driving while under the influence of alcohol. Rapelang Mohladile (42) of Middelburg was one of the drink-driving accused persons who appeared at the Manzini Magistrate's Court yesterday.

According to his charge sheet, Mohladile was arrested in the early hours of yesterday along the Sigodvweni MR31 public road. His alcohol reading is said to have been 0.50mg/l and was above the legal limit of 0.38 mg/l.

When mitigating, the accused informed the court that he was tempted to drink after a charity ride event. Before drinking, Mohladile said he was informed of the legal limit and when he took two cans of Amstel, he thought he was within the 0.38mg/l mark.

"I have been driving for about 11 years and not once have I gotten behind the steering wheel while intoxicated or have I ever been convicted for such an offence,"

He added that beside the two cans

of beer he drank, he suspected that it was pertinent that one drank fatigue and the medication he took contributed to the excess alcohol content in his system.

## Arrested

"After a fun-filled and successful event, I thought I would come back to Eswatini because it's a beautiful country but after being arrested, I'm not sure anymore,' he told the court.

In response, Magistrate Dlamini said the accused should only blame himself for landing in the dock. He also told him that this was a serious offence that carried a stiff penalty both in South Africa and Eswatini.

For that, Magistrate Dlamini said

responsibly and respected other road users.

The South African managed to escape jail time as the magistrate pardoned him so that he could return to visit Eswatini in the future.

After a fun-filled and successful event, I thought I would come back to Eswatini because it's a beautiful coun-

try but after being arrested, I'm not sure anymore," he told the court

it was parked," he said. Spotting

He further alleged that the officers claimed that he only jumped into the passenger's seat after spotting them heading his way.

When Magistrate Dlamini asked if he was telling the truth, Nkambule responded to the affirmative and further said he had a sober driver who was not on the scene at the time he was arrested.

'The matter could be taken to trial but from where I'm standing, I foresee the officers winning so let the matter continue based on the recorded statement," he said.

He was eventually sentenced to six months imprisonment with an option of E800 fine.

## Man claims cops nabbed him at his home

AN alleged drink-driver claimed he was arrested while parking his car

Sikhumbuzo Mtshali (35) of Mbhuleni area informed Magistrate Dlamini that he was arrested while parking his vehicle, a BMW sedan at Matsapha SEC staff quarters.

According to the charge sheet, Mtshali was arrested yesterday along the 5th Avenue road, near Matsapha SEC

He is said to have been under the influence of alcohol with a reading of 0.74mg/1.

Narrating his version of events, the accused said he had left the car outside the premises and was driving it inside when the police accosted him.

#### Accosted

He said he had just been dropped off by his friends when he decided to drive the car into the premises.

When the police accosted him, Mtshali said he was only opening the gate into the compound and not on the driver's seat. Even so, he claimed that he was arrested because he was drunk.

When asked why his version contradicted what was written on the statement, Mtshali was adamant that he was telling the truth.

He said if it were not for the fact that he would be at work today, he would have allowed the court to parade witnesses in the matter.

He was eventually sentenced to 12 months imprisonment with an option of E1 500 fine.

## Man accused of DD claims cops made wrong arrest

YET another alleged drunk driver has informed the court that the recorded statement was a far cry from what actually transpired before he was arrested.

Celumusa Nkambule (38) of Nkwene area was arrested near Mshayazafe in Matsapha on Saturday and his reading was 0.55mg/l.

His charge sheet stated that he was arrested for driving while under the influence.

However, he informed Magistrate Mthokozisi Dlamini that he was at the back passenger's seat with another when the police approached

#### OTHER OFFENDERS:

- 1. Tshapile Bayandza
- Magagula Derrick
- Tsabedze Thokozani
- Vilakati Sebenele
- Mdluli Sicalo
- Shiba Celumusa
- Mabuza Zweli
- Mngometulu Mvuleni
- Shongwe Sikelela

12 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine 12 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine 12 months imprisonment/ E2 000 fine 18 months imprisonment/ E2800 fine 17 months imprisonment/ E2 500 fine 8 months imprisonment/E2 100 fine 12 months imprisonment/E2 000 fine 12 months imprisonment/E2 000fine

Instead of asking who was driving the vehicle, Nkambule said the officers asked for the owner of

the car and he availed himself. "They said since it was my car they were sure that I drove it to where

12 months imprisonment/E2 000 fine

## Msunduza 'hotspot' for drink-drivers

BY VIIVILE DLAWINI Mbabane Magistrate's Court

WITH only eight people appearing before the Mbabane Magistrate's Court to answer for their drink-driving charges, five drivers nabbed in Msunduza recorded the highest alcohol content readings.

The highest alcohol content reading of the five was from Sifiso Mbhamali, who recorded a shocking 2mg/l when he was found to have driven his Toyota Corolla into the Mbabane Police Post.

In his appearance before Magistrate Lenhle Zulu yesterday, Mbhamali claimed that he was actually at the Mbabane Police Post to report his brother for assault, as they had engaged in a physical altercation earlier that evening.

"Your Worship, I am hurt by the fact that I was nabbed for drink-driving when I was the one offended by my brother. He assaulted me and I had gone to lay a charge against him.



Unfortunately, I had to drive my vehicle there as it was too late at night and I could not find alternative transport. I am hurt that I was the one who ended up languishing in a prison cell last night," Mbhamali stated.

He is said to have been nabbed just when he was about to leave the police

Mbhamali was sentenced to pay a fine of E2 000 or serve two years imprisonment.

Joel Shongwe of Msunduza recorded the second highest, with an alcohol content of 1.64mg/l when he was nabbed sitting on the driver's seat. Officers of the law are said to have found Shongwe sitting on the driver's seat of a two door Nissan when he was apprehended.

Appearing before Magistrate Zulu, Shongwe claimed he was attempting to exit the vehicle from the back seat and somehow landed on the driver's seat, unintentionally.

Exit

"Your Worship, my friend who was just as inebriated as I was refused to vacate the passenger's seat so I could exit the vehicle without getting myself in trouble with the law. I swear that I was not intending to drive, as I do not even know how.

I promise, I did not intend to break the law in any manner Your Worship," Shongwe pleaded, much to the amusement of the court gallery.

Magistrate Zulu decided to give Shongwe the benefit of the doubt, as it seemed possible that in the two door car, for the accused to exit the car he would have to go through the driver's door if there was already someone occupying the passenger's seat

In that regard, Shongwe was sentenced to serve a period of two years in a correctional facility, with the option to pay a fine of E2 500. Half of Shongwe's sentence was suspended, meaning he would have to part with E1 250 to gain his liberation.

Meanwhile, Colani Sihlongonyane of Msunduza claimed that he was also nabbed while parked on the side of

the road, and that he has six children to take care of.

Sihlongonyane was alleged to have contravened the Road Traffic Act, after he was found to have an alcohol content reading of 1.03mg/l.

He was sentenced to serve two years in prison, with an option to pay a fine of E2 000.

Another driver nabbed for drink-driving at Msunduza was Mandla Shongwe who was found to have an alcohol content reading of 1.02mg/l, while Mandisa Tsabedze, a Grade 11 pupil of Mbalenhle Private School, was found to have a reading of 1.11mg/l.

In his appearance before Magistrate Zulu, Tsabedze was advised to always choose education before fun, as alcohol was for those who were done with their education and were employed.

"No school going child should be engaged in these activities.

You need to choose one and leave the other my boy," the magistrate warned.

Both drivers were sentenced to pay a fine of E2 000 or serve two years in prison for contravening the Road Traffic





## POLLO MAPHALALA HEA NEW ROAD SAFETY C

BY COLISILE SACOLO Mbabane

MINISTER of Public Works and Transport Chief Ndlaluhlaza Ndwandwe has appointed 11 new members into the Road Safety Council.

It is headed by Nhlangano Town Council Chief Executive Officer Apollo Maphalala.

The minister said the Road Safety Council would serve for a period not exceeding three years from the date of publication of the gazette, which is April 12, 2019.

Ndwandwe said the members are expected to promote road safety in the country with a view to reduce road traffic crashes, especially fatal and serious ones.

The Council is also expected to coordinate road safety activities in the country and enshrine the spirit of shared responsibility in road safety issues.

"Government alone cannot win in the fight against road traffic deaths if we do not all join in.

#### Shared

The shared responsibility principle is also articulated by the Africa Road Safety Charter signed by the heads of states of the African Union Commission in 2016 which advocates for participation of private sector, civic society organisations, and non-governmental organisations in road safety matters."

The minister said there is need to have a picture of how the scourge of road traffic crashes is costing the country and a national road safety strategy to detail how the coordination of the various road safety activities shall be done.

He also presented a summary report on how the Easter road safety campaigns progressed.

Ndwandwe said the biggest objective was to revive the peak holiday visibility campaigns which give them an opportunity to have a personal interaction with drivers and also advance the message of driving with due care to avoid road traffic crashes.

He said traffic was heavy as anticipated in almost all roads leading to ports of entry.

"Eswatini Tourism Authority says the highest number of entries into the country was through the Ngwenya Border Gate."

The minister said the country's goal is to promote tourism and generate revenue through same, thus it is important that the road network is free of fatal and serious crashes.

"We achieved the success with a lot of support from government as well as some private sector companies and organisations. Whilst we did not wish for any road traffic crash to happen, however, we experienced such. Condolences are sent to the families, relatives and friends of all those who lost their lives during the Easter period and prior," he added.

Road Safety Council members • Chairman: Apollo Maphalala

• Deputy Chairman: Vusi Mabuza Members;

Mandla Ntshalintshali Charles Magagula Lucky Dlamini Robert Hlanze Eric Kunene Makhose'langeni Magongo Sindisile Horton Muzi Masuku Mlondi Nsibande.





## LIMKOKWING TACKLE MENTAL HEALTH

BY COLISILE SACOLO Mbabane

LIMKOKWING University students have embarked on a campaign to raise awareness on mental health

The event was held at Limkokwing Hall last Thursday.

The university's public relations students held a seminar that was designed to be an educational tool to raise awareness on depression, anxiety and low self-esteem in both young and old peo-

Limkokwing's nurse Mary Ndlela said during the three-hour seminar, students highlighted the importance of encouraging young people to talk about their feelings before it is too late and thereby saving life.

#### Conducted

Public Relations student Langelihle Mabila said as future relations practioners, students conducted an intense research and through their findings they recognised that most of their peers are uncomfortable discussing their mental issues with others, as some will not understand them.

As a result, some of them have resort-

ed to drug abuse and the 'blesser craze'.

"Our research findings revealed that a large proportion of students experience high levels of depression symptoms.

Since we started our research two weeks ago, we observed that a number of tertiary institution students crambars not because of depression but they are trying to fight off the demon of depression by imbibing in alcohol which later causes more problems," she said.

Meanwhile, Raleigh Fiktin Memorial Hospital (RFM) psychologist Sewele Ndzimandze encouraged the students to seek help before attempting suicide



## Sprinter catches fire

BY STARSKY MKHONTA Nhlangano

A thick smoke almost engulfed the whole town of Nhlangano last Monday when a sprinter bus burst into flames. The incident attracted scores of onlookers.

Fortunately, there was no one injured when the foreign registered sprinter affiliated to KaNgwane Taxi Association caught fire whose cause is still unknown.

The vehicle had just finished filling up at a Galp Filling Station.

It is said as the driver tried to switch on the engine, there was no response and as a result, there were attempts to have it kick-started but still that did not work. The driver then resolved to park it with the intention of checking the battery if it was causing the fault.

A few minutes after having turned off from the main road along the Skonkwane Street and the vehicle already stationary between some buildings, it burst into flames. Its driver was still inside and he had to use the passenger's door to bolt out of the burning vehicle.

The front part of the vehicle was engulfed by raging flames.

The incident attracted scores of people with some businesses nearby nearly closing as there were fears that the buildings could catch fire as the flames gained momentum.

A barber shop owner Bheki Hlanze, who operates his business close to where

...The vehicle had just finished filling up at a Galp Filling Station and the cause of fire remains unknown



SMOKE: A sprinter which had parked between business buildings along Skonkwane Street in Nhlangano burst into flames recently. (Pics: Starsky Mkhonta)

the incident occurred, said he did not notice anything as it all happened so

"I don't know what caused the fire. I just saw the flames and smoke engulfing the vehicle.

"The driver was already out and some of us operating our businesses were worried as we feared that the flames might reach our business structures. There are also salons, clothing shops, a butchery and car workshop businesses

apart from my barber shop undertaking here. Not much damage was done to these businesses, however, although the vehicle was badly burnt," said Hlanze. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the incident.

She said it was still unclear what exactly led to the vehicle bursting into flames.

"We are still investigating but no life was lost," said Supt. Vilakati.



AT YOUR SERVICE: Fire personnel upon arrival to put



Members of the public watching as means were made to put out the fire.

## Uproar as National Court sentences minor to four years no fine

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI Siteki

THE Eswatini National Court's stance to hand down a four-year custodial sentence to a 17-year-old has caused an uproar.

The accused was appearing before the court for a string of house breaking charges.

\*Fanelo of Malindza was charged with four counts of house breaking and theft. The charges reflect that the juvenile offender has been going around the community breaking into various homesteads and stealing chickens which he would braai. On another count, he was charged with assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. The accused person was eventually found guilty on all four counts after witnesses were called in to present evidence in the matter. He was accordingly found guilty and sentenced to a year in a correctional facility without an option to pay a fine on each count.

This is what has raised concern amongst law practitioners who have viewed the sentence as unlawful. When sought for comment, some of the law practitioners who preferred not to be named first highlighted that national courts were duty-bound to always issue sentences with the option of a fine. Only the Magistrate's Court and other higher judicial institutions are at liberty to issue a custodial sentence on some cases.

Moreover, the law practitioners also pointed out that National Courts were also duty-bound to issue sentences not exceeding 12 months, a sentence which must have the option of a fine. Following the 'ridiculous' sentence, the mother of the juvenile filed an affidavit at the Magistrate's Court where she sought redress. In the affidavit, Cebile Sukati asked the court to at least issue an order

for her son to be kept at the correctional juvenile facility so that he could access education while serving his sentence.

"I therefore ask this honourable court to order the respondent to cause that my son, \*Fanelo, who is now a convict there, to serve his sentence at the Malkerns Juvenile Centre where he can also be enrolled at a school or engaged in any form of occupational skill," reads part of the affidavit. The affidavit was tabled before Principal Magistrate Dumisani Magagula yesterday.

In his ruling, the principal mag-

istrate pointed out that the law was not accordingly followed when dealing with the matter which involved a minor, according to the Children's Protection and Welfare Act 6 of 2012. Magagula noted that the court which should have dealt with the matter was the Children's Court, which is a section of the Magistrate's Court.

He therefore ordered that the said convict be taken to the juvenile facility at the instance of his mother, and be enrolled in a learning institution.

\*Not his real name







## SHISELWENI NEWS Starsky Michonta

Nhlangano office

Tobacco Complex, Cnr King George Masengule Streets Opposite SEDCO Premises

Tel: 2207 5159 Cell: 7621 5081 Email: Starsky@realnet.co.sz

partnering with the local leader-

ship of the region. We are look-

ing forward to a successful event

and hopefully, we will receive the

necessary support from all the rel-

Mojele said sponsors were need-

ed and made a special appeal to

companies and organisations to

sponsor the event with anything.

Tickets are now available and gen-

eral ticket is E100, for VIP it is

E250 while for VVIP it is E500.

evant parties," said Mojele.

## Minister Ntshangase to stage one more thanks giving

MINISTER of Public Service, who is also Shiselweni I Member of Parliament (MP) Christian Ntshangase, will host one last thanksgiving ceremony which is scheduled

events in several chiefdoms, he has seen it a

He said it was not enough to celebrate in chiefdoms and forget to honour the family

"I decided to have the thanksgiving with the Ntshangase clan as they are the ones that contributed to my success. So it is important to recognise those who have contributed to my journey. The Ntshangase clan is big, it would not be a good idea to leave them out when celebrating my success. My success is

for Saturday at his home area, Mkhwakhweni.

the constituency hosting thanksgiving event.

good thing to finally stage one more at his home which would specifically for the Ntshangase family who will be joined by the clan from South Africa.

members.

theirs too," said Ntshangase.

The Minister said the function which he pre-

## Ntshangase has been to the chiefdoms under Minister Ntshangase said having staged these

ferred to refer as a family gathering would also be graced by several prominent figures including ministers as well MPs.

## Four beasts to be slaughtered

FOR the one day ceremony, which Shiselweni I MP Christian Ntshangase will stage on Saturday, four cows will be slaughtered.

The MP said he has budgeted for the ceremony and all his guests would have enough to eat as they will be treated to a lot of fun.

He said there would also be various dishes served on the day.

"It will be food galore and I can assure you that no one will complain of hunger

Ntshangase said while part of the expenses would be catered for by him, some individuals had also contributed in different ways.

'Some of my friends will assist in making the event a success and I can assure you that everything will be taken care of.

This is an event where we will also seek the Almighty God's guidance while we xecute our role as the inkhundla team, said Ntshangase.



HOSTS: Minister of Public Service, who is also Shiselweni I Member of Parliament Christian Ntshangase.

## Shiselweni Annual Fu Festival preparations on course show this Saturday and we are

PREPARATIONS for the much anticipated Shiselweni Annual Fun Festival are progressing well, organisers have said.

The event is organised by The World of Saints (WOS).

WOS is an events management company from South Africa. It has a committee in the kingdom comprising of Emaswati.

Its President is Menzie Collen Mojele.

The event is slated for June 29 at the King Sobhuza II Stadium

IT was good business for many

during the recent May Day cel-

Trade Unions Congress of

Swaziland (TUCOSWA) cele-

brated May Day at the King Sobhuza II Stadium last Wednesday.

To some of the workers, it was about fun as liquor at the stadium was flowing like a fountain. A

liquor outlet operating as Pasadas Restaurant and Bar had a stall which attracted a number of guzzlers and

according to one of the owners,

Mphikeleli Tsabedze, it was good

"We brought at least four drums

of draft comprising of Sibebe, Castle

Lager and Castle Lite and we have

been selling by the glass and I must

We have enjoyed the support

from the workers as you can see

we have them all around our stall

here," Tsabedze told Shiselweni

A hawker, Nondumiso Ndaba

from Matsapha who was selling

say, it's been going well.

business for them.

News.

ebrations in Nhlangano.

in Nhlangano.

The event will feature SA known comedians Spinach and Popayi as well as some of the big names in the music industry and other local gospel artists.

Expected

Former Kaizer Chiefs player Hendrick Pule Ekstein and Orlando Pirates player Thabo Qalinge are also expected to grace the show, which is likely to draw a huge

Mojele these days has been in

and out of the country promoting the event and also meeting those expected to perform.

He has already held discussions with the two soccer players who will be guest players in a soccer match as part of the fun.

This past Saturday, the organisers had planned a first roadshow as a marketing strategy.

The show, which is planned to be held yearly, is likely to attract a huge crowd.

"We are staging the first road-

Business was flourishing for some on May Day

BUSY: Pasadas Restaurant and Bar had a stall at King Sobhuza II Stadium in Nhlangano during last week's Workers Day celebrations.

clothes and airtime, said she did not regret traveling all the way to do business in Nhlangano. She said she was happy with the support from the people.

'It's not been good for me with the clothing items as I have not sold much but with airtime, I was impressed with the returns," said Ndaba.

#### Believed

Meanwhile, a number of liquor outlets in town are believed to have made good money on May Day.

Some of the workers spent much time in the liquor outlets more than at the stadium.

"It's been good business for us and it's not what we usually make on any normal day.

We have enjoyed support today (May Day) more than what we normally do," one of the liquor outlet operators commented.

we brought at least

four drums of draft comprising of Sibebe, Castle Lawyer and Castle Lite and we have

been selling by the glass

and I must say, it's been

going well



RELAXING: Nondumiso Ndaba, a hawker, sold clothes and artime on the day.

## SIKHATSI, MANGALISO ESTATE BATTLE REFERRED BACK TO HIGH COURT

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE Supreme Court

THE Supreme Court of the land has referred the estate court battle between Mbabane Councilor Sikhatsi Dlamini and Mangaliso Dlamini back to the High Court.

The Supreme Court last week ordered that the appeal application which had been filed by Mangaliso is upheld and the judgment of the Court aquo (High Court) is set aside and further ordered that the judgment of the Court aquo dated September, 2017 is hereby rescinded.

#### Down

Handing down judgment in the appeal application filed by Mangaliso, Judge Robert Cloete who was sitting with Judge Phesheya Dlamini and Acting Judge Judith Currie referred the matter back to the High Court for it to be heard de novo (start afresh) and that



BACK TO COURT: Mbabane Councillor Sikhatsi Dlamini.

judgment of September, 11 shall be

the status quo prevailing before the maintained pending the outcome of the hearing at the High Court.

The two, Sikhatsi and Mangaliso are involved in an estate wrangle which saw them dragging each other to court. The judgment of the High Court in 2017 rescinded another judgment of the court which had ruled in favour of Mangaliso and Sikhatsi became victorious.

#### Dismissed

An application was thereafter filed by Mangaliso at the High Court seeking an order for rescission of the judgment of Judge Hlophe which application was dismissed by Justice Nkosinathi Maseko.

Mangaliso felt he was not given a fair hearing in the matter in 2017 as he was not properly served with court papers.

It was on that premise that Mangaliso not being satisfied with the High Court judgment, filed an appeal application at the Supreme Court arguing that the High Court misdirected itself in holding that the late Samson Dlamini by

means of a will bequeathed plot 1438 Extension 2 Msunduza location to the late Vusi Dlamini.

Sikhatsi is the executor in the estate and the two were in and out of court over the estate until Sikhatsi became victorious which did not go down well with Mangaliso.

Mangaliso further argued that the High Court misdirected itself in holding that despite that no notice of set down had been served to his attorneys for July 2017.

Judge Cloete in his judgment stated that the appellant's (Mangaliso) attorney Xolani Mthethwa having filed extensive heads of argument conceded that the ground of appeal was not applicable as it related to the merits of the matter whereas the appeal before court related to the issue of rescission and as such that ground fell away. Judge Cloete said it was clear and trite law in Eswatini and specifically in terms of the Constituion that a litigant is entitled to a fair hearing according to the maxim audi alteram partem (both parties must be heard).

Capacity

Sikhatsi in his capacity as executor of the estate had admitted that he made a mistake in not complying with Rule 6 (16) in filing a notice of set down for the matter in July, 2017 as soon as the registrar had allocated the date.

## FESWATU expresses concern over country's roads

BY SABELO MAJOLA Bhunya

THE Federation of Swaziland Trade Unions (FESWATU) has expressed concern over the state of the country's roads.

It has since called for government to prioritise the needs of the

FESWATU President Mashumi Shongwe said government had to prioritise the needs of the nation and that budgets needed to be people driven.

This was during the Workers Day which was hosted by the organisation at Bhunya Sports Ground on Wednesday.

#### Concerned

"We are very concerned about the state of the country's roads. We do not have access to var-

ious places in the kingdom. Our vehicles are prematurely worn out yet still the law enforc-

ing agents penalise us for wrongs we do not have control over.

It is disturbing what is happen ing with the Nhlangano, Gege he said.

and Sicunusa road hence we are making a call to government to take action," he said.

Shongwe hoped that one day the country's authorities and other structures involved allow regional parliaments with regional premiers that would implement regional development strategies and decentralise national services.

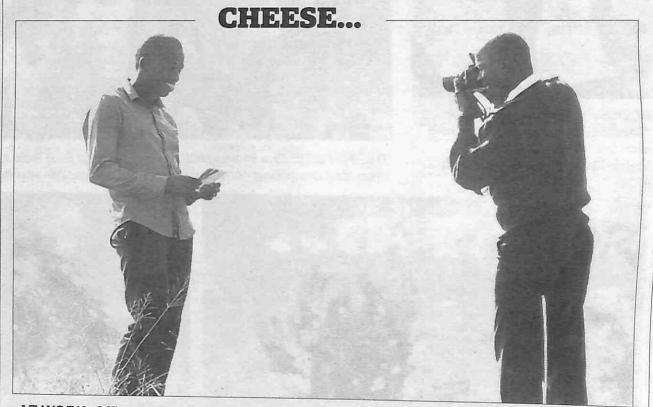
#### Called

Shongwe also called for government to openly educate workers on all the taxes and proposed

"It is for this reason that we call for government to explain the need for the new taxes for appreciation of the benefit from the taxes.

We demand that the government focus on increasing investment that shall create adequate revenue to sustain our budget plan whilst creating vast job opportunities for the unemployed to be employed.

We pray for the investment that shall empower and improve the economical status for Emaswati,



AT WORK: Officers from the police media office taking pictures at the Cabinet offices yesterday.

(Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

## With more revenue govt can pay CoLA – PM

Mbabane

PRIME Minister Ambrose Dlamini said with more revenue, government would be able to pay the Cost of Living Adjustment (CoLA) to public service workers and improve infra-

Dlamini said the country's private sector had to expand as it only contributes a mere nine per cent to the overall national revenue.

Unlike in many developes or developing countries where the private sector is the major employer and main con-

tributor of revenue to the national revenue, the government of the Kingdom of Eswatini has remained the major employer and the main contributor to the national revenue.

The PM said this during his visit to the ministry of Labor and Social Security on Monday.

Dlamini said one of Cabinet's main mandates was to grow the private sector to create more job opportunities for the populace and also to see to it that the corporate tax contributes at least 30 to 40 per cent to the overall national

"Our private sector is too small hence government remains the major employ-

er and it is our utmost priority to grow the private sector so that it contributes a reasonable percentage to the overall national budget.

The ministry has a huge role to play in terms of ensuring that the environment is conducive for foreign investors to invest in the country as we gear up for the task ahead," he said.

Dlamini said they were looking at the ministry to strengthen the relationship between the public service and business community as per their mandate to build a comprehensive and well integrated social security programme and also to maintain a high sense of integrity to curb corruption.

"We are very concerned about the state of the country's roads. We do not have access to various places in the kingdom. Our vehicles are prematurely worn out yet still the law enforcing agents penalise us for wrongs we do not have control over.



FOR A GOOD COURSE: Some of the bikers leave Gigi's Place at KaKhoza after making a donation during the Impisi Rally organised by the Hyena MCC held at Tum's Water World over the weekend. Hundreds of bikers from all over Southern Africa were in attendance. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

# IMPISI RALLY



JOLLY: A couple enjoying a ride through Manzini streets.



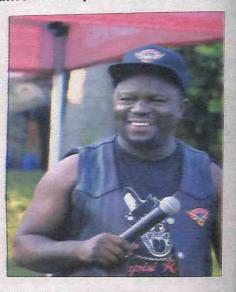
FRIENDS LIKE THESE: Swazi Boyz President Brian Carrington having a great time with captain Davie.



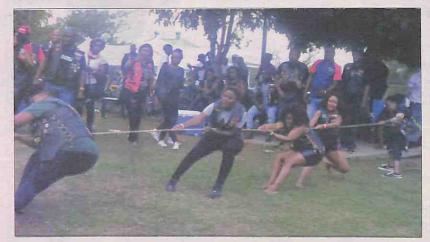
DUDES: Manzini based lawyer 'Tsotsi' Ndlangamandla relaxing with his friend businessman Mongi Dlamini from the Hyena MCC.



THE FUTURE: The Hyena MCC crew pose with Gigi Reid and some of the children that the biking community donated to over the weekend.



DIRECTION: One of the organisers of the event Aya Masina, captain of the Hyena MCC, directs the proceedings.



WOMEN POWER: Lady bikers doing a tug of war.



GROOVY SOUNDS: DJs Wicked and Crooks doing their thing on the decks. Looking on is Sakhile from the Good Fellas MCC.



**GUEST: Minister of Education Lady** Howard-Mabuza being welcomed by Hyena MCC's Hhukwini MP Nkhanyeti Ngwenya and businessman Senzo Mkhabela.



SWAZI BOYZ: Some members of the Swazi Boyz MCC in a relaxed mood.



GETTING DOWN: Dancing was the order of the night during the rally.

# BUSINESS UPDATE YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

## SA TOURISM MINISTER URGES COUNTRIES TO SIGN SAATM

STORIES BY SIMON SHABANGU

SOUTH African Minister of Tourism Derek Hanekom has highlighted the need for all African countries to sign the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM), a project he said could boost tourism in Africa.

The minister said during Africa's Travel Indaba, which ended at the Durban ICC on Saturday, that only 23 countries have signed up to be part of this important project. He described this project as a tool that would contribute to the reduction of air fares and create competition among the airlines.

The Kingdom of Eswatini is one of the 23 countries which have already signed the SAATM.

The SAATM is a project of the African Union aimed at creating a single market for air transport in Africa. Once completely in force, the single market will allow air transport freedom in Africa, advancing the AU's Agenda 2063. Sierra Leone, South Africa, Togo, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Ethiopia, Mozambique and Egypt are some of the countries which have already signed the SAATM.

"We need to ensure that countries sign the SAATM, which intends to reduce airfares by allowing more



airlines to freely access and increase frequency of flights to more countries.

We need to be united in our aspiration to build and brand Africa as a continent of successes and opportunity," he said, much to resounding applause from the gathering which included Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati.

Hanekom said the African continent had potential for domestic tourism growth.

"Intra-continental tourism from Africa's rapidly growing economies and growing middle class is an opportunity begging to be exploited. We need improved collaborative efforts between our countries to achieve this. We need to action the AU Agenda 2063, especially with respect to free movement of people everywhere on the continent, and the easing or dropping of visa requirements in the next few years to enable this," he said.

The minister said in 2018, Africa reached 67 million international tourist arrivals, a growth of seven per cent when compared with 2017, comfortably ahead of the world average growth of six per cent.

This, according to the minister, represents five per cent of all global international arrivals, up nearly 14 million from the low of 2015, a year when the continent faced the challenge of Ebola.

"We have grown on average of almost eight per cent for three years in a row. In total, directly and indirectly, our sector contributed 8.5 per cent to African GDP in 2018, supporting more than 24 million jobs on the continent, or 6.7 per cent of all jobs. When you think of the people one income earner often supports in our societies, this is significant," he said.

The minister also observed that Africa prides itself with a unique blend of culture, heritage, nature-based, rural and urban experiences which makes it a rich and varied, all-year destination, which can offer real value for money. He added that such could also provide a quality visitor experience that is diverse and unique to the world. The minister said infrastructure and venues could also be used to lure tourists through the hosting of international big events.

"Most countries in Africa have world class international convention centres, like the one we are in right now, theatres, museums, galleries, libraries and parks, and many other cultural offerings, not to mention beaches and waterfronts interwoven into the fabric of some of our cities," he added.

## CONTACTS

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## VITALS

Prime Rate 10.50%

First National Bank Inflation Rate 5.1%

Central Statistical Office
Mortgage Rate 10.25%

Swaziland Building Society
Bank Rate 7.0%

Central Bank
Petrol (u) E12.80 per litre
Replacement E12.85 per litre
Diesel E12.80 per litre
Paraffin E 9.15 per litre

Engen Garage

**FOREIGN** 

Canadian Dollar/SZI

Mozambique

Meticals/SZI

Euro/SZL

Gold

Oil

## South African delegation coming in a few weeks

A delegation from South Africa is expected to visit Eswatini for talks on the proposed community projects.

KZN Acting Head of Department for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Siza Sibandze said the department had set aside enough funding to ensure a speedy implementation of this project.

"The plan is to have all stakeholders and partners involved in this. We want to develop a framework that will inform the implementation of this project so that all the partners understand their role and expectations thereof. "We also want to ensure economic development for people around the affected areas.

#### **Implementation**

Once we are done with the paperwork, our principals will come in and endorse the implementation process," he added.

He said the delegation would include officials from the nearby municipalities, Tourism, Trade and Investment and that of Umkhanyakude Municipality which will work closely with tourism KZN. He said they were keen to see the collaboration between the three countries enhanced.

## Minister Moses calls for community friendly projects

MINISTER of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati has called for community friendly tourism developments.

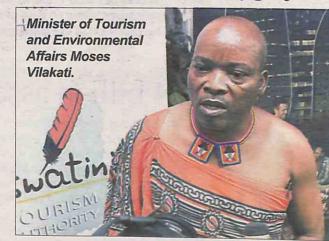
Addressing stakeholders from KZN and Eswatini during a meeting held at Hilton Hotel on Friday morning, the minister said the communities in which the projects and products would be implemented need to be part and parcel of the whole process so they can have a buy-in and support the project as it would also benefit them.

The meeting was meant to discuss the proposed tourism development projects between Eswatini and South Africa through the KZN part of the country and Mozambique.

"It is one thing to start an initiative and impose it to the communities and another to have the buy-in of the community.

For such initiatives to be a success, the communities must be part and parcel and they must also benefit from this.

"I am excited that the pro-



posed projects bring along adventure tourism which will in turn attract more tourists to the various communities around the area," he said.

Implemented

The minister said such initiatives must be properly planned and implemented with timelines attached.

He said as agovernment, they were open and willing to support such initiatives.

He said they were prepared to go an extra mile to ensure that the projects become a success. Also part of the meeting were Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA) Board Chairperson Nomsa Mabila, ETA CEO Linda Dlamini, Director of Tourism Hermon Motsa, Product Development Officer Sipho Simelane and Seth Maphalala from Boundless Southern Africa, among others.

The South African side was also represented by representatives of different departments and stakeholders, including municipality representatives.

#### EXCHANGE Correct as at 03 MAY 2019 CURRENCY BUY SELL US Dollar / SZL 14.5016 14.5516 British Pound/SZL 18.9049 18.9701 Japanese Yen/SZL 7.6617 7.6875 Swiss France/SZL 14.2186 14.2634 Botswana Pula/SZL 1.3399 1.3562 Australian Dollar/SZL 10.1467 10.1846

Standard Bank Global Markets Department Direct Lines: +268 2404 1543 / 1544 Email: gmswaziland = stanbic.com

10.7690

5.5211

16.2011

70.7

1,271.9630

10.8045

5.5942

16.2570



Standard Bank



## OMBUDSMAN

Umlamuli wetindzaba tetimali

OMBUDSDAY FREE FOR ALL

# RISURE YOUR ECELVE TERMINER OR YOUR WORK

"WORK is about more than making a living, as vital as that is. It's fundamental to human dignity, to our sense of self-worth as useful, independent, free people" ~Bill Clinton.

At the office of the Ombudsman, we continue to recognise the importance of our role in ensuring that a worker is afforded the dignity of getting the full reward for their work in instances where they use their hard earned money to purchase non-bank financial services' products.

As International Workers' Day is celebrated annually on 1 May, it is a reality that not all workers do celebrate at the stage of their retirement as they would have anticipated.

Amongst the five types of complaints we take at the office of the Ombudsman, namely: savings and/or consumer credit complaints, insurance complaints, retirement funds complaints, medical aid schemes complaints, and investment or securities complaint, 40 per cent of the complaints we received in our previous financial year related to retirement funds

We make every effort to assist in the complaints that fall within our jurisdiction in order that individuals who have journeyed through years of work receive the amounts due to them. A complaint can be brought to the office of the Ombudsman by an individual, an organisation/business or a group of people. Recently a group of employees approached the office of the Ombudsman querying the amount they received from their pension. The office of the Ombudsman began its investigations. According to the guidelines issued, under the FSRA Act 2010, to provide guidance on resolving disputes involving financial services providers, a dispute is a specific grievance relating to authorised financial services and alleging:

• That an authorised financial services provider has failed or is failing to honour its obligations and commitments emanating from a financial services agreement.

 That an authorized financial services provider has made a decision outside its powers, to mention but a few

From the initial interactions with the complainants, we learnt that certain amounts of money were deducted monthly by their employer for pension.

During the course of investigation by the office of the Ombudsman, the employer produced factual evidence that yes, the employee and the employer contributed 50-50 per cent towards the retirement benefits of the employees. However, the employees had not read the fund rules which stated that the employer's contribution was used also to purchase risk benefits and to pay for administrative and commission costs for the fund. Subsequently, the employee contributions, would be allocated towards the money to be received by the employees at retirement. For this reason, the complaints were not upheld as there was no wrongdoing by the employer. The employer had acted in accordance with the fund rules which the employees ought to have made themselves familiar with during the course of their employment.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF A FUND**

According to the Retirement Funds Disclosure Guideline 2017 (Disclosure Guideline), issued in terms of the Financial Services Regulatory Authority Act of 2010, trustees of a fund must disclose information to a member in writing and in clear, unambiguous and simple language.

Also, trustees must hold meetings with members annually, on an ongoing basis, or on the occurrence of a particular event. At these meetings members should be given the opportunity to express concerns, ask questions and participate in the governance of the fund.

Furthermore, a fund must provide each employee who is eligible to join the fund with a copy of the rules of the fund within three months of its establishment or where a new employee is hired. Where membership is voluntary, employees must be given at least 30 days to exercise their option to join. A member must also be given a written summary and explanation of any amendment to these rules and its effect on their entitlements and obligations within 60 days of coming into effect of that amendment.

## DISCLOSURE TO NEW MEMBERS

Within 60 days of joining the Fund, a member must be provided with:

- Contact information for purposes of enquiries.
- Information on how to lodge complaints and the relevant officer designated to handle the complaints.
- A statement that if a complaint is not resolved within the structures of the fund, the complaint may be referred to the Ombudsman of Financial Services.
- An overview of the expenses of the fund, including premiums paid for ancillary benefits and fees paid to administrators, investment managers and any other service providers.

## ANNUAL DISCLOSURES TO ACTIVE MEMBERS

It is important for you to know that a fund must also, annually and within three months of the end of the financial year of the fund, provide members with information on changes, if any, in the administration of the fund, including changes in trustees, principal officer, address of the Fund, or service providers; also about changes, if any, in the calculation of contributions or of ancillary benefits.

## DISCLOSURES TO RETIRING MEMBERS

The disclosure guideline further provides that a retiring member must be furnished with information detailing:

Name of retirement fund, registration number, complaints procedures, employer contributions for the year, accumulated employer contributions.

Similarly, when you retire, you should be given no less than 30 days to exercise any options available, failing which the retirement benefits would be processed in accordance with any default provisions specified in the fund rules.

#### CONFIRMATION OF RETIRE-MENT BENEFITS

Within thirty 30 days of options having been chosen by the retiring member or having become applicable as a default under the rules of the Fund, the retiring member must be given a statement confirming the benefits. Such a statement must include, among other things:

The amount of lump sum benefits under the option chosen, whether individual, joint with spouse, and the guarantee period applicable, amount of monthly benefit under the option chosen and method of payment.

N.B Ombudsday is a monthly consumer education column compiled by the office of the Ombudsman of Financial Services in the country. Do not miss the next column which is published on the first Monday of every month. For more information, contact the office of the Ombudsman at: 3rd floor, West Wing,

Ingcamu, (PSPF) Building, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane. Tel: +2682 404 7653/2404 4464 Website: www.ombudsfs.org.sz Facebook:

Ombudsman of Financial Services.

## Banking sector amasses E20.4 billion assets

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

THE local banking sector's total assets were E20.4 billion in the fourth quarter of 2018 from E20.3 billion in September 2018, depicting a slight 0.72 per cent increase.

The banking system was adequately capitalised with an inclustry capital adequacy ratio (CAR) of 20 percent. However, the banking system is threatened by deteriorating asset quality as evidenced by an increase in non-performing loans (NPL) ratio. The NPL ratio worsened to 9.3 percent in 2018.

This was revealed by Central Bank of Eswatini (CBE) Governor Majozi Sithole when presenting the Annual Monetary Policy Statement at the Happy Valley Hotel last Thursday.

He said the on-going surveillance of the domestic banking system was equally important in the Bank's pursuit to foster financial sector stabili-



CONFIRMED: Central Bank of Eswatini Governor Majozi Sithole.

ty as it provides financial soundness indicators that serve as early warning signs in the detection of vulnerabilities in the banking sector.

He said the health of the banking system was integral in stimulating economic growth and development in the country.

"In line with the Basel II imple-

mentation blueprint, the bank went live on 1st April 2018, with the first Pillar 1 compliant returns submitted in the second quarter of 2018. The bank has developed an implementation work plan for the two remaining pillars.

"This year also saw the bank issuing a banking licence to a new entrant namely; Farmers Bank (Pty) Ltd., which is a 100 per cent foreign owned centity and is yet to commence operations," he said. The governor said he was looking forward to establishment of more banks in the country.

"Having more banks will increase competition and that is good for business. Yes, a lot has been said about the farmers' bank and its location but as the CBE we don't have a say on where they should set place up shop,"

"But as long as that place is occupied by Emaswati we are content and can also assure the nation that they will have other branches in the country," he said.

## Shopping centre, filling station on the cards for Nkambeni

BY SANDZASIVE NXUMALO

A shopping complex worth E3 million is on the cards for the community of Nkambeni.

The shopping complex will beal-so house a filing station and a sports and tecreation club. Secretary General of the Nkambeni Sports and Recreational Club, Emmanuel Mkhwanazi said they have, over the years, been in talks with investors and that the deal was close to being finalised. He said the complex would have a positive impact on the nine zones that make up Nkambeni as well as areas such as Mhlume, which currently do not have a shopping centre.

"The inhabitants of the community are currently forced to travel 74 kilometres to reach the nearest city, Manzini. This is an added cost on it means that in order for them to do their household shopping, they have to travel a round trip of 142kilometres a day. "There's an investor willing to fund the whole project but we are working on finalising a few logistics and hopefully commence the project," says Mkhwanazi.

He also mentioned that the complex would also create jobs for the Nkambeni populace. He added that the club was given 60 hectares of land on which they would build the infrastructure. "We already have water and electricity in the area and this was enabled by a partnership with ESWADE and partners. The land is also allocated next to an already tarred road and we have cell-towers and telephone lines in the area.

"There are a few retailers that have already confirmed interest in renting out space at the complex and all the major banks in the country have been approached," he said.

"The sports centre will also be a tourist attraction as we expect tourists to visit the area and see for themselves the state-of the-art sports centre," he said.

## **ESEPARC INSIGHTS** @www.separc.co.sz knowledge@separc.co.sz Download Separc App: SEPARC Insights App Store Google Play **ESEPARC** By Mangaliso Mohammed and Thabo Sacolo

THERE is growing interest on the shadow economy in Eswatini, especially questions about what it is and how it relates to the taxation of individuals and businesses.

The Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC) conducted a study on the size and drivers of the shadow economy in Eswatini following observations that unemployment was too high at 28.1 per cent, with 38 per cent of the formally employed dependent on the shadow economy for extra income.

In other words, the shadow economy is an important piece of the economy in Eswatini and drawing the country's attention to it can stimulate policy changes for economic recovery by increasing the contribution of private sector businesses to gross domestic product (GDP). Understanding the nature and dynamics of the shadow economy informs policy interventions needed to nurture and transition business activities occurring in the shadow economy into the mainstream formal economy.

#### What is the shadow economy and why does it matter?

Schneider (1994) defines it as all unregistered economic activities that would contribute to a country's GDP if observed. The shadow economy is all legal business activity that happens between people or businesses that is not accounted for by government. These activities do not fall under government's regulation radar, particularly tax regulation.

What it means is that if all business activities were to be registered and monitored by government, the value of goods and services produced within the Eswatini economy would be greater than current GDP estimates.

# Explaining the Shadow Economy in Eswatini

At the same time, there would be a larger tax marginalised in a country. base from which government could generate national revenue for social and economic development.

The motivation for complete registration and monitoring of business activities is not just a one directional benefit to government only: it also benefits entrepreneurs and businesses.

With more businesses operating in the open under the same set of government regulations, it creates more opportunities for private sector growth where both individuals and businesses can compete and seize opportunities in a fair footing for income generation and wealth creation.

However, the idea of a completely formal economy where all business activities/transactions are registered is a utopian and impractical dream. There simply isn't enough government time and resources to monitor all economic activities. The point of investing resources to understand the dynamics of the shadow economy is to acknowledge its contribution to the economy and create a conducive environment, including economic incentives so that a much larger share of businesses find it in their best interest to operate in the formal economy.

Every country will therefore always have a shadow economy, in fact, the contribution of the shadow economy worldwide is estimated to be 13.7 per cent of the world's GDP.

In Eswatini, there tends to be mixed views on the contribution of the shadow economy to the overall national economy.

Those against it view the shadow economy as a hindrance to the mainstream economy because it encourages tax evasion, which leads to a reduction in the country's tax base.

When the shadow economy grows much faster than the formal economy, it imposes serious penalties on the government's ability to generate income to drive development and can be a significant contributing factor to the country's deficits and slowing economic growth.

On the other hand, advocates of the shadow economy argue that it is the cornerstone of the small and medium enterprises (SME) sector as it promotes entrepreneurship and income generation. They see the shadow economy as an enabling engine for employment creation for unemployed people within the economy.

In this view, the shadow economy offers an alternative economic pathway to support basic livelihoods, especially among the poor and

At a national policy level, Eswatini adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, which committed the country to creating decent work and economic growth as part of SDG 8 as well as reduce inequality as part of SDG 10.

Whether against or in support of the shadow economy, and noting that it is impossible to completely get rid of it, Eswatini has to formulate its own policy direction for graduating shadow economic activities into the formal economy to achieve the country's developmental goals. Jutting and de Laiglesia (2009) provide evidence that the size of the shadow economy grows rapidly in periods of economic crisis because people who lose their employment in the mainstream economy are absorbed by the informal sector.

#### Drivers of the shadow economy in Eswatini

ESEPARC conducted the study to provide a benchmark on the drivers and magnitude of the shadow economy in Eswatini so that at a policy formulation level, government could determine an acceptable level of the shadow economy locally. Also, government could choose to influence the drivers of the shadow economy in order to reduce the number of people who depend on it as their main livelihood source by making the formal economy a much more lucrative business choice.

The study found that:

I. The main drivers of the shadow economy are indirect taxation, self-employment, and formal employment.

As expected, taxation is positively associated with the size of the shadow economy. This implies that an increase in the tax burden translates to an increase in the size of the shadow economy.

Worth noting here is that tax evasion through opting to operate in the informal sector can be a cost to the society.

Since government uses tax revenue to provide public goods (such as road infrastructure), theoretically at least, some of which are used by businesses.

In light of this view, informal businesses are free riding on the formal sector's contribution to government tax revenue.

However, informal businesses can also create a stimulating effect since part of the income creates

demand for goods and services produced in the formal economy.

II. Indirect tax, agriculture value added, regulation, and self-employment are positively associated with the size of the shadow economy. In other words, an increase of these variables is associated with an increase in the size of the shadow.

The relationship between the agriculture sector and Eswatini's economy is that when the share of the agriculture sector's contribution to GDP increases, the size of the shadow economy also increases.

This is not surprising given that Eswatini is an agro-based economy and implies that a significant portion of shadow economic activities occur within the agriculture sector.

I. Contrary to a prior expectation, unemployment has no impact on the magnitude of the shadow economy in Eswatini.

This implies that high level of unemployment in Eswatini does not directly translate into a relatively large size of the shadow economy.

This result implies that Emaswati are more inclined towards job seeking than entrepreneurship. Such inclination might be a factor of the education system that leans towards white-collar jobs to the detriment of technical and vocational education and training (TVET).

II. The shadow economy in Eswatini (2016) was found to be 37.4 per cent of the formal economy and has been declining slowly over time. This means if all shadow economic activities were registered, they would contribute 37.4 per cent more towards the current GDP value.

In monetary terms, the shadow economy would add E20.5 billion towards the GDP value of

This provides a valid case for the transitioning and harnessing of shadow economic activities in to the mainstream economy because of their economic potential.

#### Conclusion

The shadow economy accounts for a significant proportion of the formal Eswatini economy and its magnitude has been declining at a slow rate between 2000 and 2016.

Policymakers should create a conducive business environment that can fast-track the reduction of the shadow economy and see more business activities in the formal private sector.

## Politicians pump E50m into Eswatini Mobile

MAY I declare at the outset that I am not writing as a trustee of or on behalf of MOPA-DO but as a member of the fund.

Who happens to have an insight and whose sing to their portfolios. name has been cited several times on the newspaper article that appeared on the Times SUNDAY of 5th May, 2019 under the headline: 'POLITI-CIANS PUMP E50 MILLION INTO ESWA-TINI MOBILE'.

The sentiments to be expressed below, will present accurate information by sifting sensation and fiction from FACTS.

1. It is d singenuous and ill-will to incite members of the current Parliament as if the investments were made during their term of office. As the records would show, all investments under my stewardship occurred before the current Parliament was even sworn into office.

During the extended period by the minister,

NO investments were executed by the Supervisory Board. Furthermore, no investment was ever done without sound professional advice. Like in every professional board, sub-committees existed precisely to process all matters, accordank (Pay) Lid.

2. For the reporter to suggest that investing in Swazi Mobile is 'risky', lacks any scientific o proof to justify same. I hope Swazi Mobile will deal with that aspect.

However, the same Imbewu Yesive Investments (Pty) Ltd he has quoted as his authority on investments, are also advisers to some of the FUNDS wherein, each have invested over E200 million into Swazi Mobile. MOPADO has a 5.2 per cent stake at Swazi Mobile.

3. It is outright senseless to even write that E50 million was invested for purposes of a board seat acquisition. No minutes would reflect such nonsense.

Decisions on economic investments are made on the basis of sound and informed advice from investment advisors. Fortunately, MOPADO, over and above the external advisors, has a full time highly, competent investment officer, recruited from RSA, but a local, who happens to have applied himself fully on the matter at hand.

4. The letter purportedly from Imbewu Yesive Investments (Pty) Ltd cited in the article is fake. A certain reporter showed it to me, and it had no signature (proving that it had no authenticity) but written under the name of a certain lady. We never used to deal with fake correspondence.

Neither did we feed on trash mail, hence the illicit letter did not make it to our formal meetings. Clearly, if Imbewu Yesive Investments (Pty) Ltd is in the business of issuing ungodly and non-official letters about its clients, then it is not in the right business.

5. If the reporter understood how the Pension Fund's Defined Contribution (popularly known as DC) operates, he would not be writing articles from an uninformed perspective. For instance, all the members in the previous Parliament that

qualified according to law, have been settled in full.

The Fund is structured such that no member of the Fund may be short-changed at any given moment. The highly reputable and qualified actuary contracted to MOPADO and the FSRA as the overseer, are there to ensure that such never happens.

6. I am also aware that Imbewu Yesive Investments (Pty) Ltd have been been advising Swazi Mobile on investments acquisition, I therefore wonder, if indeed they told Swazi Mobile that they are a 'risk', if the letter is anything to go by.

To have served as a member of the Board of Trustees at MOPADO has been a wonderful and enriching experience for me, the man-made controversy over the last two months, notwithstanding. In conclusion, it is my fervent hope that in future, one will be treated with human decency and that a request for a formal interview will be made before resorting to calculated dissection and malicious disdain in the media. Such media spectre never gets the necessary/accurate information out to the public, but only serves to appease the reporter's handlers.

Marwick T. Khumalo.

News

Focus on

## SA Scene

## Your Daily Mzansi News

# WITH ONLY DAYS TO GO BEFORE:

# #ELECTIONS2019 APATHY IS ON TH

CAPE TOWN - There are only four days to what is said to be the most important election since 1994 and voter confidence remains at an alltime low.

The commission of inquiry into state capture, Eskom load shedding in March and rising unemployment rate have all had an impact on voter apathy, particularly among the youth.

To make matters worse, the ANC's national list included people like Environmental Affairs Minister Nomvula Mokonyane, who allegedly received gifts including R50 000 a month for many years from Bosasa. It also included Minister in the Presidency Bathabile Dlamini and former finance minister Malusi Gigaba, whose names have also come up in the state capture inquiry.

Support

According to the 2019 Q1 South African Citizens Survey report released late last month and based on an expected turnout of 77 per cent, four per cent more than the 2014 voter turn-out, EFF support has risen to 11 per cent, which is two per cent more than what it was in February this year. The survey also revealed that the number of apathetic voters in South Africa has reached an all-time high. More than 5 million registered voters, or about 19 per cent, are unmotivated ahead of the upcoming

ANC provincial spokesman Faiez Jacobs said the party was expecting a clean sweep next week.

'We have taken note of different polls. The real poll will be on May 8 when our people will go to different voting stations to vote for the party that brought liberation and democracy to South Africa, the ANC.'

#### Poor People

The ANC is expected to win 53-56 per cent of the vote, which is a drop from the 62.15 per cent it got in the 2014 general elections. In the same elections, the DA secured over 22 per cent of the vote, but the survey predicts that will drop to around 13 per cent in Wednesday's election. According to the survey, Ramaphosa's favourability rating has held steady despite commotion in his party, and sits at 57 per cent, up from 55 per cent at the end of last year.

DA leader Mmusi Maimane is at 28 per cent and EFF leader Julius Malema is right behind at 27 per cent.

EFF Provincial Chairman Melikhaya Xhego said the party's growth could be "attributed to the tireless engagement with poor people, listening to their concerns and also responding through mass actions to ensure that their challenges and concerns are handled by the EFF".

Jacobs remained confident and said: "Our focus now is not on forming coalitions, but to give the president the deci-

sive victory that he is calling for. The EFF and the DA are in coalition in Johannesburg and Tshwane. The EFF, like the DA, bubbles with resentment against the ANC.'

DA Communications Manager Mireille Wenger said the party "wants to keep the Western Cape DA and keep the ANC and EFF out of the Western Cape. It will be a close race and that is why it is important that citizens turn out and vote DA. Voters have a choice between a vote for DA service delivery and clean government, or a vote to let the ANC back into government with a smaller party," said Wenger.

"We can unlock so much economic potential in this province. We can have abundant energy, but only if we take over electricity generation from the ANC. We can give every child a worldclass education, but only if we protect our schools from the ANC.

"We can continue providing excellent health care, but only if we protect our healthcare system from the ANC. We can deliver more housing and basic services, but only if we oppose the policies of the ANC. We can get the trains to run on time, but only if we take over the rail service from the ANC. We can win the war on crime, but only if we take over policing from the ANC," she

Weekend Argus

## Ramaphosa offers condolences to Malema

PRETORIA - President Cyril Ramaphosa has offered his heartfelt condolences to Economic Freedom Fighters leader Julius Malema following the death of Malema's grandmother Koko Sarah Malema on Saturday morning.

"The president's thoughts and prayers are with Mr Malema, his family, and his organisation as they take leave of a matriarch who had played a significant role in her family and in the life of Mr Malema in particular," the presidency said in a statement.

"This bereavement is felt more sorely because of the special relationship Malema enjoyed with his grandmother. I too have fond memories of Koko Malema following an opportunity I had to speak to her when she was in hospital. It is my hope that Malema will draw strength from his beloved grandmother's values and her

presence in his life," Ramaphosa said.

Earlier, the African National Congress also offered its condo. lences to Malema. The ANCharl learnt with sadness about the death of Koko Sarah Malema, the party said in a statement.

"The ANC joins many South Africans in conveying our deenest and heartfelt condolences to the Malema family and the EFF. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during their moment of grief. Its unfortunate that this loss takes place while Malema was intensely involved in leading his party in the election campaign. We wish him strength during this difficult and painful time." the ANC said.

In a statement earlier, the EFF said Koko Sarah had died at her home in Seshego, Polokwane in Limpopo on Saturday morning. ANA



REST IN PEACE: Mantwa Malema with the late Koko Sarah Malema and EFF leader.

## Makhura rules out coalitions in Gauteng because they 'don't get things done'

JOHANNESBURG - ANC Gauteng Chairperson David Makhura has stuck to his guns on the eve of the elections, saying the party will not consider entering into a coalition if the party does not win a firm majority in the province.

Speaking on the sidelines of the ANC Siyanqoba rally - its last rally before the elections on Wednesday - Makhura said he was already considering the formation of his gov-

"We don't believe in coalitions because coalitions don't get things done. The wranglings amongst coalition partners can lead to compromises on issues of values and principles," he said.

Makhura added: "You will end up appointing people not because they are the best but because you need support of the coalition part-

Makhura has criss-crossed the province, often supported by ANC President Cyril Ramaphosa, in an effort to retain the party's majority in the province.

The ANC is currently on 53 per cent, with most polls placing the



NO WAYS: David Makhura.

province at too close to call.

Makhura, who is expected to return as premier if the ANC wins the vote, said he did not believe the opposition, particularly the DA, an effective campaign against the ANC. He said the opposition's canpaign focused on the ANC while his party focused on the people

"Their campaign is to march to Luthuli House; that's a no campaign," Makhura said.

The DA has fronted former Tshwane mayor Solly Msimanga as its premier candidate for the province. Times Live

## 'SIES, I WON'T DO IT', SAYS MALEMA

JOHANNESBURG - Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) leader Julius Malema has responded to a report in The Sowetan indicating that a lawyer's letter from African National Congress (ANC) activist Mike Maile has ordered him to retract claims that he'd made about the Alexandra renewal project at a rally on Worker's Day this past Wednesday.

Malema said in his address that Maile as well as Gauteng Premier David Makhura and ANC treasurer-general Paul Mashatile need to explain what happened to the R1.6 billion allocated

by government for the Alexandra Renewal Project. This inspired a lawyer's letter from Maile demanding the retraction of Malema's statements, stating that there is "no truth or basis, either in fact and/or in law, entitling you to attribute the aspersions relating to the alleged 'stolen' money [if any] to him".

Responding to The Sowetan's tweet sharing their story, Malema made it clear that he will not back down.

"Mxm sies, I won't do it," he tweeted. The EFF took Workers' Day as an opportunity to flex its muscles in Alexandra township as tens of thousands of residents painted the Sankopano Stadium red in an area where the Democratic Alliance (DA) and ANC have been jostling for power in recent months.

He said the ANC needed to account for allegedly stealing millions of rands that were meant for the R1.7 billion Alex Rejuvenation Project, which was aimed at changing infrastructure, the economy and the social environment of the township.

"If you want to know what the ANC has done, come to Alex. They've done nothing. That's why you'll find nothing in Alex," Malema said. News24



Focus on

## World News

## Global News

## 21 000 DISPLACED AFTER SECOND CYCLONE IN MOZA

MAPUTO - Cyclone Kenneth has displaced around 21 000 people since it hit last week causing "unspeakable" damage, the International Organisation for Migration said Friday.

More than 40 people were killed after Cyclone Kenneth made landfall causing heavy flooding. It was the second major storm to hit the Southern African country in about a month.

"The damage caused by Cyclone Kenneth is unspeakable," said IOM Mozambique Chief of Mission Katharina Schnoering. "The area is heavily affected; thousands of families are displaced with their homes and livelihoods destroyed."

The IOM statement said around 21

000 people in northern Mozambique were displaced and were either living in accommodation centres or staying with host families.

"When the cyclone first hit, in the heavy rain and wind, the entire settlement around our house started to slide away. We ran for our lives. Everything that we had, our home and belongings are gone, all gone," the IOM quoted one displaced woman, Maria Semao. The government of Mozambique says about 200 000 people have been affected by the latest cyclone. The IOM has been delivering shelter kits to those left homeless. When another cyclone, Idai, hit in March, hundreds of people were killed and tens of thousands displaced. It also affected Malawi and

Zimbabwe. Also on Friday, the World Bank announced it was releasing some 700 million dollars to help the three Idai-hit nations. "Total World Bank support to the three countries' recovery reaches around 700 million dollars," the body said in a statement.

Gemma Connell, the head of the UN's regional humanitarian response, said she expected a high likelihood of food insecurity in the coming months, as those affected are among the poorest people in Mozambique and the world.

In coastal communities where people rely on fishing as their livelihood, some are using mosquito nets to catch fish as their equipment has been destroyed, she said.

News24



SOS: Serious flooding in Mozambique in wake of Cyclone Kenneth.

## N. Korea tested rocket launchers and 'tactical guided weapons'

PYONGYANG - North Korea's state media said vesterday that leader Kim Jong Un had overseen a rocket and tactical guided weapons test, after the drill Saturday raised concerns Pyongyang was escalating provocations with US nuclear negotiations deadlocked.

The North last carried out a missile test in November 2017, before a rapid diplomatic rapprochement saw tensions ease on the peninsula and a series of summits.

A return to missile launches would be likely to infuriate US President Donald Trump, but the North's official KCNA news agency shied away from the term in its report, saying Kim had ordered a "strike drill" involving "longrange multiple rocket launchers" -- which are not targeted by UN sanctions resolutions - and unspecified "tactical guided weapons".

Seoul's defence ministry said Sunday an analysis of the launch indicated Pyongyang had tested "240-mm and 300-mm multiple rocket launchers and a new type of tactical guided weapons with a range of around 70 to 240 kilometres" (45 to 150 miles).

The United States and North Korea have been at loggerheads since the collapse of a Trump-Kim summit in February, when the two sides clashed over sanctions and the extent of



JUST A TEST: The North last carried out a missile test in November 2017, before a rapid diplomatic rapprochement saw tensions ease on the peninsula and a series of summits.

Pyongyang's concessions on its atomic arsenal. But despite the latest sabre-rattling from Pyongyang, Trump insisted that a breakthrough was possible. "Kim Jong Un fully realizes the great economic potential of North Korea, & will do nothing to interfere or end it," Trump

"He also knows that I am with him and does not want to break his promise to me. Deal will happen!"

The US leader did not elaborate on Kim's promise.

During Saturday's drill Kim urged his troops to remember "the iron truth that genuine peace and security are ensured and guaranteed only by powerful strength", KCNA said.

The state-run Rodong Sinmun newspaper on Sunday carried 16 photos of the weapons test on its front page, including a picture of a grimlooking Kim clutching his binoculars in an observation post as well as several images of projectiles shooting skywards.

Trump proclaimed that the North Korean nuclear threat was over after the two sides' historic first summit in Singapore in June, when Kim pledged to work towards "complete denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula"

The two have since disagreed over what that means, but Trump has insisted the leaders remain close even after their follow-up meeting in Vietnam broke up without a deal or even a joint statement, and that Kim would maintain his moratorium on long-range missile and nuclear tests. AFP

# Theresa May urges Jeremy Corbyn to do a Brexit deal

LONDON - The UK was supposed to leave the EU on 29 March - but the deadline was delayed until 31 October, after MPs rejected Theresa May's withdrawal agreement three times.

Mrs May is now seeking Labour support to get an agreement through Parliament.

Writing in the Mail yesterday, she said they should "listen to what voters said" in Thursday's local elections. The Conservatives lost 1 334 councillors, while Labour failed to make expected gains, instead losing 82 seats.

The Liberal Democrats benefited from Tory losses, gaining 703 seats, with the Greens and independents also making gains.

The prime minister blamed the Brexit impasse for the losses - but said the elections gave "fresh urgency" to find a way to "break the deadlock".

Mrs May said she hopes to find a "unified, cross-party position" with Labour - despite admitting that her colleagues "find this decision uncomfortable" and that "frankly, it is not what I wanted either". Talks between Labour and the Conservatives are to resume tomorrow. News24

#### BRIEFS

#### Women accused of prostitution arrested

ABUJA - In Nigeria, being a young woman JOHANNESBURG - Julius Malema, leader arrested two weeks ago while walking home in the capital Abuja. She says she was detained, assaulted and then raped by those meant to protect her. "Around 9:30 pm, or 10:00 pm, I was walking back home," she said. "The police arrested me in the street, accusing me of 'being out late'." The officers demanded she pay 4 000 naira (\$11) but she did not have the cash. So the officers grabbed her, she said.

"They took me to the bush behind a building," she said, her voice cracking with emotion. "There were four of them. They molested me, and while three were holding me down, one of them raped me. He didn't use a condom."

#### 'AU, close to useless'

"is a crime", said a 25-year-old beautician, of South Africa's opposition Economic Freedom Fighters, EFF, says the African Union, AU, as it stands currently was close to useless.

Malema said only continental unity and a radical shakeup and brutally frank brotherliness will take it out of the current predicament. "The African Union (consists) of brothers who do each other favours... "Who don't tell each other the truth, right in front of each others' faces and say you are wrong here, you are wrong there. This is the direction we want to

He stressed that it was the up and coming young politicians who needed to stand and sit up to take the mantle and oversee the overhaul. Africa News

## Genocide victims buried in Rwanda

KIGALI - The remains of nearly 85 000 peo- GAZA - Gaza militants fired fresh rocket barto rest Saturday in a sombre ceremony in Kigali, a quarter of a century after the slaughter.

Mourners sobbed as 81 white coffins containing the remains of 84 437 victims of the 1994 mass killings were buried at the Nyanza Genocide Memorial in the capital.

They were among more than 800 000 people, mostly Tutsis, massacred over 100 days by Hutu extremists and militia forces determined to eradicate the Tutsi minority in Rwanda. Rwanda begins 100 days of mourning every

7 April -- the day the genocide began. But this year has witnessed particular commemorations to mark the 25th anniversary.

## Fresh rocket fire from Gaza

rages at Israel early yesterday in a deadly escalation that has seen Israel respond with waves of strikes as a fragile truce again faltered and a further escalation was feared.

Gazan authorities reported four Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes in the escalation that began Saturday, but Israel disputed their account of the deaths of a pregnant mother and her baby. One 58-year-old Israeli man was killed by a rocket strike on the city of Ashkelon near the Gaza border, Israeli police and the hospital said. The latest flare-up came with Hamas, the Islamist movement that rules the blockaded Gaza Strip, seeking further concessions from Israel under the ceasefire.

## Observer Entertainment

**New Reviews** 

Star Signs

Celebrity Watch

Cartoons





## MTN BUSHFIRE FULL FEST TICKETS SOLD OUT!

BY AYANDA DLAMINI

MTN Bushfire full festival tickets are sold out.

Once again this year, both Golden Lounge and Main Arena tickects are completely sold out.

A limited amount of Sunday tickets, Main Arena only, are on sale at official MTN Bushfire physical tickets outlets in Eswatini.

Sunday tickets cost E380.

This was revealed by MTN Bushfire Festival Communications Officer Wandile Dlamini through a press statement.

Dlamini, through the press statement, also revealed that camping at MTN Bushfire is also completely sold out, including both the bring-your-own camping sites and pre-erected tents.

"Guests are urged to secure their accommodation at local hotels or guest hous...Limited Sunday tickets available

es as soon as possible to avoid disappointment," reads the statement.

In the same manner, three months ago it was reported that local accommodation facilities such as hotels, guest houses and lodges, to mention a few, were fully booked for the MTN Bushfire weekend.

Ethos

The MTN Bushfire is the acclaimed festival known and loved for its Afrocentric ethos and strong focus on African music, culture and the arts.

Described by the BBC as a 'Top African festival', MTN Bushfire 2019 promises an eclectic mix of artists from across

This year festival's main stage will see the likes of Asa, Mr. Eazi, Blinky Bill, Trompies, Moonchild, Black Motion, Tsepho Tshola, Sampa the Great, Jagermeister Brass Cartel, Nana Magagula, MTN SWAMA Lifetime Achievement winner Smiles Mandla Makama and Mahube performing to mention a few.

This festival attracts over 31 000 tourists to the kingdom from all over the world every last weekend of May (this year being May 24-26), staging over 300 artists in all four stage arenas.

Worth noting is that this year, the festival introduced 'The MTN Bushfire Festival App' which will be available as from next week.

The festival app will allow users/festival goers to view the Bushfire artist line-up, artists' bios, performance stage schedules with an exciting feature that will enable a user to create a custom schedule of their favourite artists and then receive real-time notifications of when the artist is about to go on stage.

## Gospel artists, Inkhosikati LaMbikiza meeting postponed

STORIES BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

THE gospel music artists meeting with their Patron Inkhosikati LaMbikiza failed to take off.

The meeting was slated for April 28 with the Association of Christian Artists in Eswatini patron and was called off at the 11th hour due to unforeseen circumstances.

This was revealed by ACASWA Convener Mathokoza Mtetwa.

"The patron has to apologised to the artists who had already gathered at the Sword and Spirit Ministries on the day, said Mtetwa.

He also said tentative arrangements are being made for a new date, which will be confirmed during the course of the week.

"Possibly, the meeting could be held on May 12 but artists are requested to stay tuned as this information is yet to be confirmed," he added.

The inkhosikati had

always played a part in the gospel music industry, not only as a sunport system for gospel music artists but also as a singer.

She displayed her singing abilities while a member of the revamped Redemption Mass Choir.



## ACASWA mourns former PRO

THE Association of Christian Artists of Eswatini (ACASWA) has mourned the passing on of its former PRO Ronnie Dlamini last Wednesday after a brief ill-

ACASWA Convener Mathokoza Mtetwa said they learnt with great shock and dismay about the sudden death of Dlamini and sent their condolences to his family and friends.

"Dlamini was instrumental in the recruitment of many gospel artists into the association and many other contributions towards the advancement of the association as a member of the retired national executive," said Mtetwa.

Mtetwa said Dlamini diligently served in three national executives of the association.

"The association wishes to convey its sincere condolences to his family, relatives and friends, the Methodist Church in Matsapha and his group Amadodana Aku Matsapha May his soul rest in eternal peace." he added.

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

STANDARD Bank Luju Food and Lifestyle Festival early-bird ticker are now available online.

The festival will be held at House On Fire on August 3.

House on Fire Communications Officer Wandile Dlamini said these discounted limited tickets were only available to festival goers who have pre-regis-

"Tickets must be bought and paid for within a two-day period. Online tickets will be available at full-price from Thursday," said Dlamini.

Dlamini also mentioned that there were a number of ticketing options including Premium Lounge, Main Arena



SEALED: Standard Bank CE Mvuselelo Fakudze with House on Fire Director Jiggs Thorne during the launch of the festival.

(general) and children's tickets.

"When they visit the ticketing page,

festival goers will be able to choose the ticketing option most suitable for them.

"Accommodation and travel packages will also be available soon," he added.

He revealed that there were a limited number of early bird tickets made available so festival goers are urged to buy tickets as soon as pos-

To purchase early-bird ticket patrons should visit, visit www.houseon-fire.com/luju.

A one-day unique celebration of the tastes, smells, sights and sounds of Eswatini and Africa; the Standard Bank Luju Food and Lifestyle Festival promises to be unlike any

The festival features a host of engaging food, drinks, music, and lifestyle experiences including cooking demos and master-classes, interactive spaces, the best in handlcrafts and arts, as well as some of the most exciting musical performances from across Southern Africa

Ticket options for early-bird price and standard price stand as follows: Full Fest Premium Lounge Early bird - E550 Standard price - E650 Full fest main arena Early bird - E300 Standard price - E380 Full Fest Children Early bird - E80 Standard price - E120.

# JAZZ WEETS GOSPEL SHOWEPIC!

BY DELISA THWALA

IT was a fusion of jazz blues and gospel interludes during the much anticipated 'Jazz meets Gospel' show which took place on Saturday at Sibane Hotel.

It was a scene worth beholding as gospel and jazz artists gave diverse collaborative performances.

The show was a given a colourful start by saxophonist Zwile Bhembe who played popular songs and had the crowd eating out the palm of his hands.

He received a standing ovation for the cover of 'I will always love you' by Whitney Houston.

Cheering Bhembe was his joyful father amongst the crowd.

"I would love to thank my father and my music mentor as I'm here today because of them," briefly said Bhembe after his set.

Keeping the crowd entertained was comedian Ndosh who shared jokes in-between performances.

One joke that was a hit with the crowd was that of Indians always opening businesses everywhere.

This joke became even more hilarious when he spotted an Indian boy amongst the crowd and he



DANCE; Jazz artist Cameron Ward during his performance at the 'Jazz Meets Gospel' show held at Sibane Hotel on Saturday. (Pics: Delisa Thwala)

He said they were now friends: therefore he would give him a discount when he finally opens a

Award winning gospel artist Putuma Tiso delivered over three songs of worship that left the crowd yearning for more.

The singer took to the stage after

Judah delivered an amazing vocal, and showed off his piano skills singing love songs. Pianist Thaphelo Makhateng also gave a good show; displaying his talent on the piano. He had everyone dancing to his

Giving worshippers a feel of church with three powerful gospel hits, was South African gospel singer Collen Maluleke who applauded Eswatini for a warm welcome and great ambiance.

"It is so nice to be in this country. The people are very nice, I feel warmly welcome," said Maluleke.

Closing off the show was jazz maestro Cameron Ward, who was a marvel to watch



AKAVUMANGA: Putuma Tiso sent the crowd into a frenzy with the song ' Akavumanga'.



VOICE: Judah gave a vocally strong performance on the night.



MOVE: Eswatini's Mobile Brand Sponsorship mananger Fisiwe Vilane dancing to one of the good tunes.



MY FREIND: Ndosh's friend singing along to the music.



ENJOYED: Temalangeni said she also enjoyed the show and had a really good time.



BAGGED: Some of the handbags that were on sale on the night.

## Show, vendors golden opportunity

VENDORS Also had the opportunity to showcase and sell their products.

Selling handbags to the ladies on the night was Misiwe Hlatjwako from Hayise Glam.

She said she saw an opportunity to make money and took it with both hands.

"Ladies love looking good and I thought why not come here to market my business," said Hlatjwako when addressing the media.

Also available on the night was Nothando Hlophe's latest released album titled 'Nothando Live At Soweto 'and Cameron Ward's live DVD.



COUPLE: Mr and Mrs Hlatjwako vowed to support the show again because they had a good time.







JUDGE: Minister of Education and Training Lady Howard-Mabuza makes her choice on who was the best dressed during the Impisi Rally at the Tum's Water World over the weekend. The rally was attended by hundreds of bikers from the kingdom and neighbouring countries. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



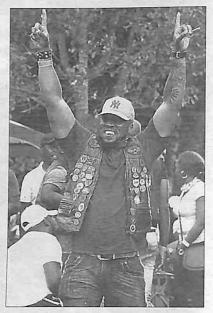
ALL BLACK: Lady bikers lined up during the best dressed competition.



CATCH: Another biker tries his best to catch an egg during the competition.



RELAXING: The minister with Hyena MCC's captain Aya Masina and Hhukwini MP Nkhanyeti Ngwenya, who is also a member of the Hyena MCC.



WINNER: A biker from South Africa celebrates after winning the egg throwing game.



BURNING RUBBER: Spinning and drifting was part of the entertainment lined up for the weekend.



SEXY: Some of the lady bikers pose for the camera during the event.



LOGISTICS: Hyena MCC's Senzo 'Mgewu' Mkhaba and the captain Aya Masina discussing some logistical issues.

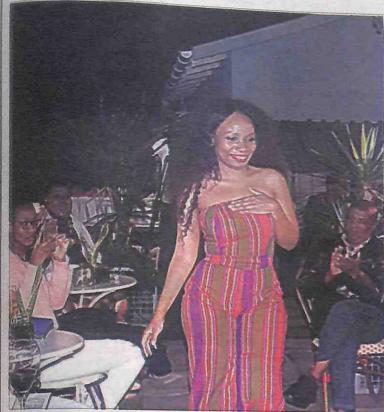


WE CARE: Hyena MCC leadership pose with the children from Gigi's Place at KaKhoza where the bikers donated foodstuffs, sanitary pads and a lot more.



MASS RIDE: Bikers prepare to leave Gigi's Place for the mass ride.

# NOMI LAUNCHES FALL WINTER COLLECTION



WOMAN POWER: Nomi walking the runway during her winter collection launch which was held friday evening at the Bahle Art Gallery in Mbabane. (Pics Setsabile Nkambule)



BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

NOMI Maphalala successfully launched her 'Nomi fall winter' collection on Friday evening at the Bahle Art Gallery alongside her family and

According to Maphalala, Nomi Studio is dedicated to providing contemporary high quality African street wear.

She said the collection was inspired by her on going journey of self-knowl-

This collection was inspired by five elements of chi; water, wood, metal, fire and earth.

"The texture and colours are all very different, combined create complete harmony and look. It was also inspired by the Maasia fabrics of Kenya, their unapologetically bold vibrant colours," she said.

Maphalala stated that the ready to wear 'fall winter collection' fuses lay-



MOMMY-DAUGHTER MOMENTS: Nomi's mother having a moment with her daughter shortly after giving a heartfelt speech.

ers of bold print and texture. She thanked all those who supported her since she began this journey.

Comfort

In an interview with the Entertainment Desk, she stated that she was a shy person but her mother and family were able to push her outside of her comfort zone and helped her exploit her talents. Maphalala then mentioned that this was just a start of a very long journey and if all goes according to plan, she would be doing a summer collection. Betha Sithole who was the event coordinator stated that she was excit-

ed for the Summer Collection as according to her, it would be great.

Talent

"People should start supporting local talent. I mean we have so much talent in the kingdom that needs to be credited and acknowledged. I am so proud of Nomi and how the event played out. She is normally a shy and reserved person who doesn't like the spot light," she said. She went on and said that she hoped that Nomi was aware that this was just the beginning of greater things in her life and she should be ready for



ON THE MIC: MC on the day was 'Ur Girl Zee' who kept the crowd entertained.



PROUD MOMENTS: Nomi alongside the models on the





RUNWAY: A model



BEAUTIFUL: Models showcase Nomi's work.



AUDIENCE: The crowd appreciating Nomi's designs.



ALL SMILES: Nomi and Bertha during the lauch of the Fall Winter 2019 collection.



Eswatini Nosipho

Diamini was amongst

the models showcas-

ing the Nomi winter

collection.

rocking a Nomi jumpsuit on the night of the event.

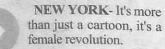


THE CROWD'S FAV: The crowd loved this outfit most.



# Celebville International Celebrity News

Tiffany Haddish tackles woman issues on Netflix show



Actress and comedian Tiffany Haddish has teamed up with Ali Wong to star in a new Netflix cartoon that hopes to address some of the most serious issues facing woman, using comedy. Tuca AND Bertie premiered on Netflix on Friday, and tells the story of two birds that try to navigate the city while overcoming their own difficulties and challenges. It touches on several sensitive themes such as substance abuse, relationships, anxiety, gender dynamics in the workplace and sexual harassment. Speaking to TshisaLIVE ahead



**FEMALE REVOLUTION:** Tiffany Haddish.

of the show's premiere, Tiffany said audiences could look forward to seeing characters that they could relate to and hoped it would teach women everywhere to be comfortable in their skin. Showbizz.

## 'Prosecutors will drop assault charge after seeing evidence'

DJ Zinhle on hate, being dragged into beef

LAS VEGAS - The visual evidence Remy Ma has for prosecutors in her assault case is so cut and dry, she knows they'll have no choice but to drop it, so says her lawyer.

The rapper's attorney, Dawn Florio, tells TMZ, Remy has security cameras installed in her house that show she was there at 9:30 PM on April 16 -- the same time "Love & Hip Hop: New York" star Brittney Taylor claims Remy punched her backstage during a concert at NYC's Irving Plaza. We already knew this, but according to Florio, prosecutors were "dumbfounded" in court this week when Remy's side claimed to have evidence to support she was nowhere near the spot of the alleged assault. Remy's lawyer's confident once

PRETORIA - DJ Zinhle

has been in the industry

long enough to have learnt

a few tricks to deal with

haters, most of all to not let them get you in the feels. Zinhle has a strong army of sup-

porters and fans, but has occa-

sionally found herself on the Twitter

trends lists as some weigh in on her personal life. There seems to

be no shortage of people trying to

give her advice on how to live her

life. And while the hate may have

got to her in the past, she told Metro

FM's DJ Fresh this week that she

has learnt to not listen to those who

really don't know anything about

her. "I think over time you start

realising how stupid it is to believe

people you have never met, peo-



HOPEFUL: Remy Ma.

they review the home security footage, Taylor's case will be destroyed and Remy will be cleared.

Florio also claims after Remy left her house that night, she stopped at Target to pick up some items for her baby and didn't arrive at Irving Plaza until around 10:45pm... 15 minutes before she was scheduled to perform at 11. TMZ

## Cardi B goes nude to address red carpet 'slip up'

NEW YORK - When Cardi B was dragged on social media for apparently showing her lady bits on the red carpet, she decided to drag everyone right back and kit off for an anatomy lesson. Cardi B was having the time of her life at the Billboard Music Awards on Wednesday night, where she won two awards, but soon trended not for her wins but rather for a pic she took with hubby Offset. In the snap, Cardi had her leg up, exposing a bit of flesh from her inner thigh that fans were convinced was her lady bits. While the snap was circulating across the internet faster than



GOES NUDE: Cardi B.

the Gautrain to Pretoria, Cardi took to Instagram Live to face the critics head on. Standing in front of a mirror wearing nothing but sandals, she addressed the social media storm. Showbizz

## Miley Cyrus yells 'Free Britney' during Beale Street Festival

**NEW YORK-Miley** Cyrus appears to believe Britney Spears was recently being held at a mental health facility against her will, and the proof is in tweaked lyrics to her biggest song.

Miley was performing down in Memphis, TN Saturday at the Beale Street Music Festival, and while she was singing "Party in the US.A.", the Britney part of her tune got remixed by Miley herself .... who stoked a conspiracy theory that sprung up during Brit's mental health facility stint.

The moment in question is almost as famous as the song itself -- Miley sings the refrain, "And a Britney song was on" three different times about midway through, but during Saturday's



FREE BRITNEY: Miley Cyrus.

performance ... she shouted "Free Britney!" while her fans sang the normal lyrics from the crowd -- a clear indication that she's behind the #FreeBritney campaign.

TMZ

## Ayeye Malema, Penny wants a public apology

SOWETO - Legendary Tsonga musician Penny Penny says Julius Malema slid into his DMs to "apologise" for calling him uneducated at a rally in Nkowankowa, Limpopo, this week.

Penny revealed to Sowetan yesterday that Malema sent him a direct message on Instagram which read: "I'm a fan. I still love you. I respect you. You entertain us."

But Penny said this was not enough as he demands a public apology.

"He must apologise to the public or go back to Nkowankowa where he was spoiling my name.

"What he did is wrong. If he doesn't do so, I'm still going to fight," he

"It wasn't a real apology what he



AYEYE: Papa Penny.

sent to me (sic). He said he was only doing comedy with me? He's killing my reputation. That thing is not only an insult to me, but to the many South Africans that have never been to school not by choice.

OPENS UP: DJ Zinhle.

ple who don't know who you are. The other time I just realised this is so dumb. How do I believe people, believe people that don't know anything about me. They have such strong opinions, which is fine, but how do I, as a strong, grown woman, get involved in this? It has nothing to do with me." Times Live

## Prince Kaybee celebrates latest music milestone

AUCKLAND PARK - Prince Kaybee has been dominating local music and it doesn't look like it will be ending anytime soon. His latest album went platinum.

Just two months after releasing Re Mmino, Prince Kaybee took to social media to announce that the album had not only gone platinum, but he'd also amassed 56 million streams. He followed that up with the announcement of a deal with Courvoisier Cognac.

Sowetan Live



DOMINATING: Prince Kaybee.

## Somizi clears the air over Mohale's clothes

PRETORIA - They may be one of the most stylish couples in Mzansi, but that doesn't mean that Somizi and Mohale are sharing wardrobes.

Somizi has always been on peak at his fashion game but when he started stepping out with the equally dapper Mohale, fans started wondering if the pair were sharing clothing. One follower asked the question after

seeing a post of Somizi and Mohale on a dinner date. She asked if they raided each other's wardrobe or had separate closets with similar items. Somizi cleared the air and explained that they probably wouldn't even fit in each others clothing.



BAE THINGS: Somizi and Mohale.

"LOL. We each have our own clothes and closets. We are not the same size," he explained. Times Live

## **WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST**



TODAY



NEEDS HELP: Judas.

The Zungu family struggles to deal with yet more terrible news. Judas asks Zanele for help managing his out of control son. Mandla is in a very optimistic mood as he prepares for the upcoming negotiations.



#### **TODAY**



HURT: Lungi.

The Lategans continue on their downward spiral. Lungi is hurt when she sees Lincoln's true colours. Sibiya receives shattering news.



#### **TODAY**



BLAMED: Mulimisi.

Strange things are happening to Mpho, and Mulimisi is to be blamed. Skhu pays a visit to Gugu, to make a truce and an unexpected goodbye. Tenda pulls out all the stops to have Sundani as his date for the president's ball.



#### TODAY



Mampho accidentally tells Bee that Jafta is legally dead. Suffo gets caught between two women. Keabetswe and Lefa prepare to leave but the Khuses have a surprise for them.

CAUGHT UP: Suffo.

## PICTURE OF THE DAY

## WHEN THAT FIRST CUP OF COFFEE

## **TOUCHES YOUR SOUL**

## TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricom December 22 - January 19 There's a romantic, dreamy feeling to today that you should indulge in,

Capricom. If you have a special someone in your life, this is the perfect day to share these feelings! Try to plan a candlelit dinner at

home for just the two of you. But don't feel pressured to cook an elaborate meal. Pick up some Chinese and serve it on the good china. Keep the focus on the two of you.

Aquarius January 20 - February 18

You might not be in the mood to cooperate today, Aquarius. You will most likely want to work on projects alone at your own pace. You will probably have to come out of your shell

and interact with others. You may need advice or input. Try

not to be too pouty with your partner or kids. They might not understand the real reason why you're distracted.

Pisces February 19 - March 20

Start today on the right foot by projecting a positive mood and healthy mindset, Pisces. If

you're dragging your heels and already dreading the forthcoming events, you will only succeed in making it harder to move ahead,

regardless of what you end up doing. Attitude is everything. This is one of those days in which it matters the most.

Aries March 21 - April 19

You may discover your emotions are tempered today, as you want to turn inward, Aries. You're apt to surprise yourself and the

people around you when you decide that all you want to do is go into your room and sit by yourself instead of join the crowd outside. Don't feel bad about

doing this even if you're expected at the party in full regalia. Do what feels most natural for you.

Taurus April 20 - May 20

Your strength lies in your inner resources, Taurus. Today you will find that these resources have opened up within you. You will find that your emotions are calm and under

control in the face of chaos. This time of new beginnings is extremely important. It would behoove you to probe your

depths and fix any internal quirks that might give you trouble in the future.

Gemini May 21 - June 21 Offer your services to others, Gemini. Your

generosity in spreading your knowledge will be rewarded. Things might be rather confusing at first, but once you start talking, you will be surprised by how much you



really know and how far your incredible wit, manners, and sociable attitude can take you. Try your best to reach out to others without seeming needy or demanding.

Cancer June 22 - July 22

If you feel slighted today, Cancer, don't shut yourself off from the situation.

It may seem like everyone has ganged up and turned against you. Either that, or they all want to be your best friend. Things are always

extreme for you, with no in-between. The slightest action from someone else can cause turmoil in your mind unless you learn to control your emotions. Make it a goal.

Leo July 23 - August 22

You may wake up in a fog of confusion this morning for some reason, Leo. The good news is that the air is likely to clear as the day continues. By late afternoon and early evening,

you should be revved up and ready to go once again. Your normal self has returned and you're ready to face the world with a dramatic show of courageous action and adventure.

Virgo August 23 – September 22

Here's a suggestion. If you get a strange vibe about a situation today, walk away, Virgo. Your instincts will tell you if something is dangerous or not. If you don't feel safe, find another place to be. You won't

be productive in an environment where you don't feel comfortable. You will also enjoy yourself much more if you can relax in the situation instead of being uptight about it.

Libra September 23 – October 23 It's time to take charge of your life, Libra. Don't

rely on other people to sort out your problems. There may some anxiety in the air today that causes you to overreact to a situation that normally wouldn't faze you. You need to dig down and take responsibility for getting out of this mental or emotional jam. Don't rely on

other people to do it for you. Scorpio October 24 - November 21 It's time to show other people that you have

backbone, Scorpio. It could be that up until now very few people have noticed, since you're so flexible and adaptable to change. You easily wriggle your way downstream, and as a result, people may think they can

control you. Prove to that this isn't the case by setting your own agenda and sticking to it.

Sagittarius November 22 - December 21 You may be anxious to get some new projects

underway today, Sagittarius, even though they aren't necessarily ready or well thought out. You must first learn that patience is key. Jumping the gun could cause a false start that disqualifies you



from the race. Avoid this fate by playing it cool and laying low. Keep your big guns under wraps for now. You don't need to bring out all the heavy artillery yet.

## **BABY BLUES**



#### **BABY BLUES**

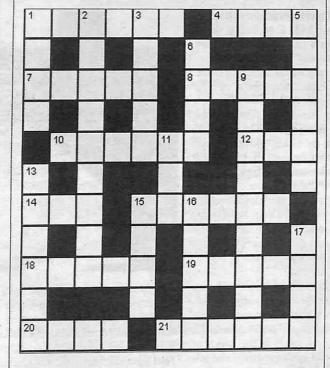


#### HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## DUZZLE CHOICE

#### **QUICK CROSSWORD**



#### Down

- 1. Diplomacy (4)
- 2. Unsure (9)
- 3. Merge (5)
- 5. Search for food (6)
- 6. Female relative (4)
- 9. Essential (9)
- 11. Fish trap (3) 13. Powerful (6)
- 15. Halo (4)
- 16. Crown-like headdress (5)
- 17. Blood vessel (4) Across

- 1. Second sign of the zodiac (6)
- 4. Professional cook (4)
- 7. Desert plants (5)
- 8. Arm bone (5)
- 10. Pressing (6)
- 12. Sprocket (3)
- 14. Beverage (3)
- 15. Provide evidence
- for (6) 18. Proprietor (5)
- 19. Saying (5)
- 20. Profit (4)
- 21. Ravine (6)



#### **ASMARTLAWYER**

A man went to his lawyer and told him, "My neighbour owes me \$500 and he won't pay up. What should I do?" "Do

you have any proof he owes you the money?" asked the lawyer. "Nope," replied the man.

said the lawyer. "But it's only \$500," replied the man. "Precisely. That's what

"OK, then write him a let-

ter asking him for the

\$5 000 he owed you,"

he will reply and then you'll have your proof!"

#### **USELESS FACTS**

### Did you know

- 1. The chance of you dying on the way to get lottery tickets is actually greater than your chance of winning.
- 2. Cherophobia is the fear of fun.
- 3. The toothpaste "Colgate" in Spanish translates to "go hang yourself"
- 4. Pirates wore ear-rings because they believed it improved their eyesight.

#### **MOVIE QUIZ**



Friday's Quiz 1. Who plays corrupt sheriff Hank Quinlan in Orson Welles's Touch of Evil (1958)?

B. Welles plays himself

Today's Quiz

1. What is the name of the vegetation assessor that becomes the object of the hero's affection in WALL-E? A. EVE B. Herry









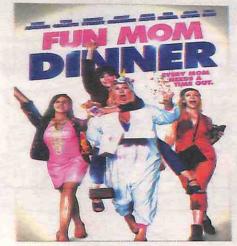
## CATCH UP ON **DSTV NOW**

IT's time for hot, buttered popcorn, hot chocolate, and hot movies.

From comedy to horror to action, here are our top picks for May.

#### M-NET MOVIES SMILE

Fun Mom Dinner. Because we just love Toni Collette. She's quite the scream queen, having made an impact in the horror genre with movies like The Sixth Sense, Fright Night, Krampus, and Hereditary. However, she first made her mark with Aussie comedy Muriel's Wedding, and Fun Mom Dinner gives us the chance to see her back in comedy mode.



#### M-NET MOVIES ACTION+

A Quiet Place. A taut horror directed by and starring John Krasinski. The former star of The Office appears in the movie alongside real-life wife Emily Blunt as a couple living in a post-apocalyptic world. Inhabited by nightmarish creatures who can detect you only if you make a sound, this premise builds a tense, terrifying world where every sound you make could be your last.

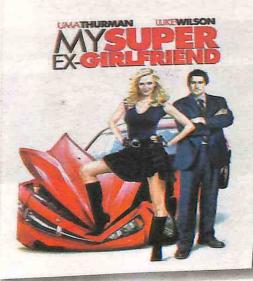
## M-NET MOVIES ACTION

John Wick and John Wick: Chapter two. Because John Wick: Chapter three -Parabellum is coming out in cinemas this May, so there's no better time for a John Wick binge!

There's plenty more action on channel 110 this May.

#### M-NET MOVIES ZONE

My Super Ex-Girlfriend. A fun, funny movie starring Uma Thurman as the title character and directed by Ivan Reitman, the man behind the original Ghostbusters.



## GORGEOUS NEW FACE, MORE DRAMA - THE THRONE

BOTSWANA born actress, Koketso Mophuting plays the character of the go-getter, Sethunya.

Your favourite telenovela, The Throne, is never short of twists and turns! There's a gorgeous new addition to the Kweneng village and from the look of things, more drama is headed our way!

Sethunya Raleketho - played by Koketso Mophuting

Sethunya is Moreri's cousin from

his mother's side. She's originally from Maunatlala but spends most of her time in Gaberone West, where she was living with her ex-boyfriend until recently.

She's what most people would call a 'slay queen' but considers herself just a normal girl who knows how to use her gift (beauty and charm) to acquire a better life for herself. Born from poverty, her biggest goal is achieving a better life for herself and her

family. She's vehemently 'allergic' to poverty. Not the most book smart, she's none the less worldly and thinks on her feet. She's the kind of woman who can get a man to do what she wants just by a glance, a tilt of her head. From the time she grew out of her teenage years, Sethunya has been dating only men of power, influence and means. Although she's found a better life and comfort through these men, she hasn't found love yet. Prince Tumelo has known of her for years, harbouring a huge crush on her. He's even tried to get her number but at the time she was dating an arch enemy of Tumelo from high school - a prince from a much more affluent royal family. Ooh.. This sounds interesting! The big question is: Why is Sethunya back in the village and why is she meeting Lazarus? Don't miss her debut, tonight at 7pm!

## THE BATTLES KICK OFF ON A HIGH NOTE - THE VOICE SA

FOUR more talent are still vying for your VOTE to bring them back into the competition for the Strepsils Viewers' Battle

Yesterday marked the start of the most excruciating phase of The Voice South Africa - the ferocious Battles! The show's four coaches - Riky Rick, Riana Nel, Lira and Francois van Coke - are now forced to pair up the members of their own team and pit them against each with the same song. The winner of this vocal showdown-which is definitely not a duet but a vocal fight of note - then proceeds to the next round, The Voice SA's Lives, during which the voting public

have all the say. Unfortunately, during the Battles only one of the two singers can remain in the competition. There are no Saves and no Steals and the decision is solely in the hands of the coach who groomed the tal-

To prepare their talent for the Battles, the coaches pull out all the stops. They even bring in professional help to up the skills of their teams. Lira leafed through her address book of showbiz friends and roped in Ross Learmouth, the lead singer of the multi-platinumselling South African rock band Prime Circle. Riky Rick selected a South African superstar with intimate knowledge of singing competitions as his co-coach, singersongwriter, composer, arranger,



In the end, tonight's epic Battles were won by Krista Jones, Amy Tjasink, Daniel Jay, Lelo Ramisong and Yahto Kraft. These five incredible vocalists will thus continue their Voice SA journey at the Lives, to be held at the Mosaik Teatro in Fairlands, Johannesburg.

In her first Battle for the evening, Lira pitched Krista Jonas (29) against fellow Capetonian Petro De Villiers (36) with Irene Cara's hit "Fame", from the movie of the same name. The Afro-chic songbird later had to make another incredibly difficult choice when two more strong singers Yahto Kraft (18) from Alberton and Itu Sings (37) from Saulsville, Pretoria, were fighting it out with the U2 anthem "Pride". International superstar Lira took her team to Jozi's iconic Joburg Theatre for their Battle prep, to give them a taste of what's possible for them in their future careers. Working with the #TeamLIRA co-coach Ross Learmouth of Prime Circle, LIRA teamed Krista Jonas (29) and Petro De Villiers (36), to perform Irene Cara's hit "Fame" from the movie of the same name. Krista was struck by a bad case of stage fright in

rehearsals, but she thought of her 7-year-old daughter Kayla to remind her of why she was there in the first place, and the Capetonians delivered a blistering performance that had the studio

audience on their feet.

"That was a boxing match!" Riana Nel marveled. She said Petro sounded better in this performance than ever up to this point in the competition, but that Krista still has notes "hidden inside of her" that she didn't show in this performance. Coach Lira said she couldn't be prouder of Petro, but Krista still didn't quite trust her talent, she said. Nevertheless, it was the 29year-old single mom from Mitchells Plain, Krista Jonas, who won the



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A. MISCELLANEOUS Medical & Natural Healing Tultion & Courses 5. HEALTH & BEAUTY

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SPARES Car Spares or Parts Bike Spares Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares Stripping for Spares Farming Equipment & Machinery

Livestock Other Farmin 12. LEISURE, SPORT & EVENTS

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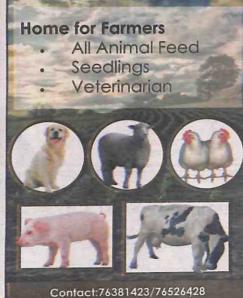
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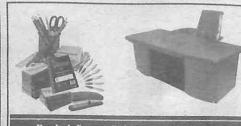
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Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 51 (2) of the Administration of Estates Act No. 28/1902 that the First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account will lie open for inspection at the office of the Master of the High Court of Swaziland, Mbabane branch First Floor Miller's Mansion for a period of Twenty One (21) days from the date of

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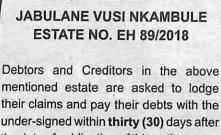
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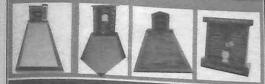




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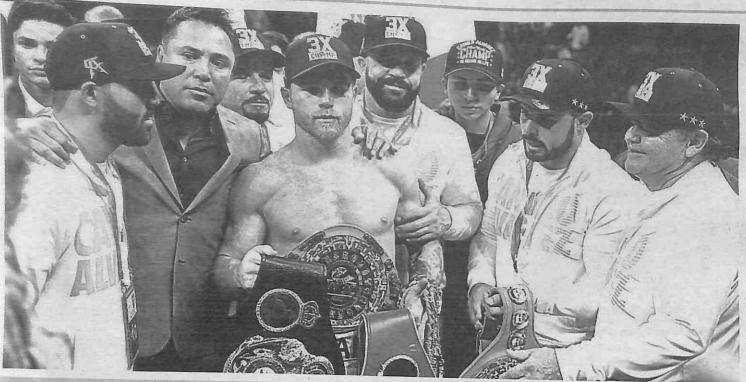
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## ALVAREZ BEATS DANIEL JACOBS BY UNANIMOUS DECISION

LAS VEGAS - Canelo Alvarez added the IBF belt to his WBC and WBA middleweight world titles with a unanimous decision victory over Daniel Jacobs in Las Vegas.

The Mexican moved up a division to beat Englishman Rocky Fielding inside three rounds last year, becoming a three-weight world champion, but returned to 160 pounds to face Jacobs for the unified world middleweight titles.

The fight was a tale of two halves with Alvarez controlling the first six rounds before Jacobs finished strong. Despite the American's best efforts there was no denying Canelo with two ringside judges

just what we thought," Alvarez said. "We knew it would be a difficult fight. We just did our job."

Jacobs, who lost \$1 million out of his purse by not making the contracted weight the morning of the fight, was clearly bigger than Alvarez and landed perhaps the biggest punch of the fight in the ninth round when he connected with a left hook.

But Alvarez was fast and quick and kept Jacobs off balance with his movement as he won a narrow decision in the same arena where he fought to a draw and a close win over Gennady Golovkin.

"He's a pot shotter," Jacobs said. "I felt I did enough to get the vicly because Alvarez was more active early and was the more aggressive of the two fighters. Alvarez built a lead early, winning the first five rounds on one scorecard and four of the five on the other two.

But Jacobs seemed to find himself midway through the fight and roared back to make it competitive on the scorecards. He won the 12th round on two of the three scorecards. Alvarez, a 5-1 favourite at fight time, was tested but did enough to win in a fight that had no knockdowns and no serious fouls. Neither fighter ever appeared badly hurt, though Jacobs landed some of the bigger punches in the late rounds. That included the left

"It was a hard shot but I went to the corner and they asked me and I said it was no big deal," Alvarez said. "I continued with the fight. What do you want?"

Alvarez, the red-headed Mexican sensation, earned \$35 million for risking his titles against Jacobs, a Brooklyn fighter who held a piece of the middleweight crown himself. He got another \$1 million from the purse of Jacobs after Jacobs weighed in too heavy the day of the fight. Jacobs had weighed in at the class limit of 160 pounds at the official weigh-in on Friday. But the two boxers had agreed in their contract not to weigh more than 170 pounds Saturday morning and Jacobs weighed 173.6.

#### hook in the ninth that seemed to scoring the contest 115-113, while The judges didn't, though, largeshake Alvarez, if only for a moment. Daily Mail the third had it 116-112. "It was

RAFAEL NADAL UPBEAT AHEAD OF MADRID OPEN

MADRID - Rafael Nadal hasn't started the clay-court season with this many setbacks in four years. Not since 2015 had Nadal arrived at the Madrid Open without having won a title either in Monte Carlo or in Barcelona, the tournaments that mark the start of clay swing in

That year, Nadal was coming off a series of injuries and ended not reaching the final of either tournament. He also didn't win the title in Madrid, Rome and the French Open, dropping out of the top five in the rankings for the first time in a decade. Now things are different. Despite the disappointing results, the second-ranked Nadal says there is no reason for concern.

"My confidence is back," Nadal said after the semi-final loss to Dominic Thiem in Barcelona, which ended his run of three straight titles in the tournament.

"I really believe that I made very



BACK: Rafael Nadal.

good improvements to create a good base to try to achieve my goals during the next couple of weeks."

Nadal will be trying to win his third straight French Open title and 12th overall - at Roland Garros in June.

He lost to Fabio Fognini in the

semi-finals at Monte Carlo, where he also had won three titles in a row. The only other time Nadal didn't win either in Monte Carlo or in Barcelona was in 2014.

"Against Fognini I played the worst match probably in 14 years on clay. (Against Thiem) I played

a good match. I was competitive and I enjoyed the match.

"I really felt competitive for the first time in a way that I want to feel myself. I am happy and I am confident that I made a big improvement." The 17-time Grand Slam

winner has won a clay-court title in each of the last 15 seasons. He is an eight-time finalist in Madrid, with his last of five titles coming in 2017. He was defeated by Thiem in the quarterfinals last year.

Nadal will start this year's campaign against the winner of the match between young Canadians Felix Auger-Aliassime or Denis Shapovalov, a semifinalist last year. Daily Mail

Donald Cerrone calls for July showdown with Conor McGregor

OTTAWA - All week ahead of UFC Ottawa, Donald Cerrone told the media that he had no interest in courting a date with Conor McGregor.

Yet, following his one-sided unanimous decision win over Al Iaquinta in Saturday's main event, he again underlined his interest in facing off against the Irishman by calling for a July bout with the former double champion.

"I want the title, whatever that means," he said in his post-fight interview. "Unless, Conor McGregor you want to fight me in July? I'm

Iaquinta wore a crimson mask for much of the fight after being fed Cerrone's jab from the first bell.

He met the canvas on three occasions over the five rounds. Although a knee to the face as he shot in didn't rattle him early on, a short right hand sent him down at the end of the third, shortly followed by a fourth round front kick that dropped him.

Although it was more Cerrone's enthusiasm than stopping power that sent him to the deck in the fifth, 'Cowboy' followed it up with some big, grounded strikes to finish the contest out strongly.

In the co-main event, Derek Brunson took a unanimous decision win after an uneventful three rounds with Elias Theodorou.

Brunson was on a two-fight skid heading into the contest, making the victory all the more valuable in terms of his future with the promotion. Theodorou failed to rise to the occasion in front of his home crowd.

He bounced up and down on his toes throughout the contest but failed to launch himself into any meaningful attacks.

Daily Mail

# Dembele unlikely to feature against Liverpool

BARCELONA - Barcelona winger Ousmane Dembele is a doubt for tomorrow's Champions League second leg against Liverpool after picking up a hamstring injury.

The France winger was one of the only first team players to feature in Barcelona's third defeat of the season. But he hobbled out of the 2-0 defeat to Celta Vigo after four minutes and immediately strapped an ice pack to the back of his right thigh. A club statement confirmed after the game that he had a right hamstring injury and would need more tests. Barcelona were beaten 2-0 with 11 changes from their

> starting line-up against Liverpool. Celta now have 40 points and should be safe in the top flight for another season. Nestor Araujo had the ball in the net for the home side in the second half but the header from a corner was ruled out by VAR for offside. Maxi Gomez final-

ly broke the deadlock on 67 minutes and two minutes from time Iago Aspas wrapped things up with a penalty after Moussa Wague had handled in the area. Despite now being five points from the drop Gomez, who was a West Ham target back in January, was taking nothing for granted at the end of

the game. He said: "We are delighted for the three points but we are still not safe. Daily Mail

# MAN CITY CLINCH DOMESTIC DOUBLE WITH FA CUP

LONDON - Manchester City completed a domestic double by comfortably beating West Ham United 3-0 in the Women's FA Cup final at Wembley Stadium on Saturday, following on from their League Cup triumph in February.

City, who missed out on winning the Super League which was clinched by Arsenal last week, made up for that disappointment with a commanding performance and three-second half goals against a valiant West Ham side playing in their first final.

In the fifth Women's FA Cup final to be played at Wembley, the attendance total of 43 264 was not quite enough to surpass last season's record crowd of 45 423 for a domestic-competition female soccer match.

Nick Cushing's City side started the brighter of the two teams, with England forward Nikita Parris stretching the West Ham backline with her darting runs, though without finding a clearcut

However, West Ham, playing their maiden season as a professional team and very much the underdogs given the gulf in resources, grew into the



CHAMPS: Manchester City won the fifth Women's FA Cup final to be played at Wembley.

contest and could have taken the lead at the half hour mark.

A flowing move ended with a deep cross into the box and Jane Ross was perfectly placed to head the ball in, but she was denied by England goalkeeper Karen Bardsley who dove across and pushed it wide.

Warning

City took the warning sign and came out more fired up in the second half. They broke the deadlock in the 52nd minute when Keira Walsh let fly from long range, with a wicked movement

on the ball wrong-footing Anna Moorhouse in the West Ham goal.

The effort was City's first shot on target but it proved enough to unsettle Matt Beard's side.

West Ham regained some composure but were breached again in the 81st minute when young forward Georgia Stanway dribbled into the box and unleashed a right-footed shot at goal. The ball trickled past Moorhouse following a slight deflection off a defender.

Reuters



TAKING SHOTS: Gary Cahill and Maurizio Sarri.

## Cahill hits out at Chelsea boss after 'terrible' end to Blues career

LONDON - Gary Cahill has accused Maurizio Sarri of a lack of respect as his Chelsea career heads to a disappointing conclu-

Club captain Cahill has won two Premier League titles and the Champions League during seven years at Chelsea but intends to leave when his contract expires in June.

The 33-year-old has played just 21 minutes of Premier League football since Sarri's arrival, with his total number of appearances in all competitions standing at only seven.

"It's been really terrible for me personally," Cahill told The Telegraph. 'It will just be erased out of my head when I leave Chelsea. My last memory will be last season's FA Cup final.

"It's been very difficult. I have played on a regular basis over the previous six seasons and I've won everything with Chelsea, so to be watching from the stands is something I didn't expect.

Relationship

"I know how the whole club works, I've got a big relationship with all the players and staff, and yet none of that has been utilised.

"If you are not playing a player, any player, for two, three, four games, then you don't have to give a reason for that. But if it gets to eight or nine games, then you have to explain the situation. What's going on? But the manager hasn't done that". Goal

## Maritzburg thrash SuperSport to boost survival hopes

DURBAN - A double from Judas Moseamedi boosted Maritzburg United's relegation hopes with a 3-1 win over SuperSport United.

Each side went for two changes in Miguel Timm and Yannick Zakri from Maritzburg and Onismor Bhasera and Phumlani Ntshangase for the vis-

Maritzburg made a positive start and went ahead on four minutes through a well-taken header from Mohau Mokate following a cross from Fortune Makaringe.

Eight minutes later, Ronwen Williams needed to stretch out wide to turn Siphesihle Ndlovu's curler for a corner. With a quarter of an hour gone, Maritzburg remained in control with

little of a threat coming from the vis-

An error from Williams almost resulted in a second for the hosts, thankfully Zakri fired over the top from close range on 30 minutes.

Crucial

As halftime dawned, Zakri missed another crucial chance two minutes later with a straight and poor attempt at Williams.

SuperSport levelled on 47 minutes, courtesy of a cracking bottom low corner finish from Aubrey Modiba.

Maritzburg then turned to the bench on 55 minutes and brought on Rushine De Reuck for Brian Onyango in a like-for-like switch.

Soccer Laduma

## Ribery to leave Bayern at the end of the season

BAYERN - Franck Ribery will leave Bayern Munich when his contract expires at the end of the season, the club have confirmed.

Former France international Ribery arrived from Marseille in 2007 and has won 21 trophies with the club, including eight Bundesliga titles.

The 36-year-old will join fellow veteran winger Arjen Robben in departing the Allianz Arena in June and a testimonial match will be held for both players in 2020.

"When I came to Bayern, it was a dream come true. It won't be easy to say goodbye, but we must never forget what we've achieved together," said Ribery.

"I won more than 20 trophies and, of course, I hope we can add another Bundesliga title and

the DFB-Pokal at the end of this season. That would be great for me personally and my family and, of course, for the fans too.

Heart

"When I joined Bayern the relationship was immediately great. I always want to do special things for the fans when I'm on the pitch. I always want to play well because it feels so good to wear this jersey. I always wanted to get the jersey really wet for my club.

"The fans know I have heart and that I'm honest, we always had a good relationship. It's incredible to think I was here for 12 years and it's tough for me and the fans, but we cannot forget all the things we experienced together."

Chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge added: "Franck and Arjen are great players. FC Bayern owes a lot to both of them and we will give them a wonderful and emotional farewell.

"They've helped shape FC Bayern's most successful decade with fantastic football."

Bayern are one win away from wrapping up yet another Bundesliga title after hauling themselves back into the ascendency following a season which they have mostly trailed rivals Borussia Dortmund.

Victory against RB Leipzig next weekend will confirm a seventh successive title success for the champions, regardless of how second-place Dortmund fare in their final two outings.

Goal

AJ, I'm coming for you - Andy Ruiz Jr

CALIFORNIA - Andy Ruiz Jr says Anthony Joshua's muscular physique will be meaningless when the first bell rings for their world heavyweight title fight in New York.

The Californian-based Mexican is not intimidated by Joshua's imposing appearance ahead of their battle for the British star's WBA 'super' IBF and WBO belts at Madison Square Garden on June 1, live on Sky Sports Box Office.

Ruiz Jr warmed up with a stoppage of Alexander Dimitrenko last month, extending his record to 32 wins, with just the solitary points defeat in a WBO title fight with Joseph Parker, and the 29-year-old firmly believes he can topple Joshua.

"He's a champion of the world," Ruiz

Jr told Sky Sports. "There's nothing that I can say bad about him, besides that he's big but you know what, I'm big too and it doesn't really [matter] how big you are in this game. I'm a big fighter, a combination fighter, so I'm here to

Underestimate

"A lot of people underestimate me, like I said, the way that I look, my appearance, but as soon as they see me throw punches...

"I'm going to pull out the upset and June 1 tune in, two big heavyweights bashing their face up, and that's the main thing."

Asked for a message to the champion, Ruiz Jr replied: "Anthony, don't under-

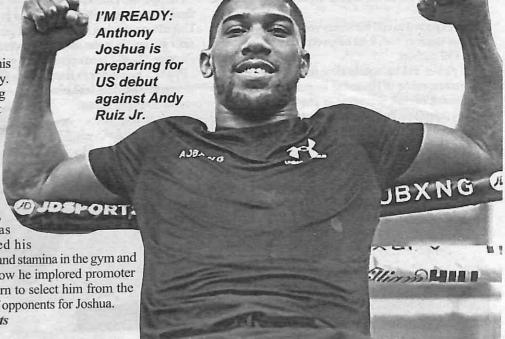
estimate this little fat boy. I'm coming for you, just tune in man, you're going down."

After his recent win, Ruiz Jr has

maintained his

sharpness and stamina in the gym and revealed how he implored promoter Eddie Hearn to select him from the shortlist of opponents for Joshua.

Sky Sports





## Defiant Liverpool lose Salah but refuse to stop fighting for title

LONDON - "No surrender. Not just yet, anyway.

For the first time in five years, the Premier League title race will go to the final day of the season. Liverpool are still in there fighting, but only just.

On the ground where Manchester City suffered their last league loss, Jurgen Klopp's side kept their dream alive in the most dramatic of fashion. St James' Park produced one of the most remarkable nights of the campaign. What is it about this fixture?

The Reds' 3-2 victory over Newcastle at St James' Park moves them back to the top of the table, but only tells

LONDON - Pep Guardiola is wary of

the threat of Jamie Vardy as Manchester

City prepare to host Leicester in a cru-

With City's title battle with Liverpool

going to the wire, Guardiola's men need

to win at the Etihad Stadium to return to the top of the Premier League and retain

control of their destiny. They face a man-

cial clash tonight.

'I think his career speaks for itself'

half the story of this nerve-shredding evening. Liverpool won it and lost it, twice, but Jamaal Lascelles' own goal, four minutes from time, got them over the line in the end. Asked question after question, Liverpool once more found the answers.

What must Manchester City make of this team? Where does it find its energy reserves, its courage, its character? Whoever lifts that trophy next weekend, we should applaud and appreciate them. These are two special football sides. Pep Guardiola's men had one hand on the trophy at 1-1. They had one-and-a-half on it when

in fine form in Foxes striker Vardy, who

has taken his goal tally for the season to

18 with 11 strikes in his last 11 games.

Guardiola has also witnessed at first hand

how dangerous Vardy can be. The for-

mer England forward claimed a hat-trick

when Leicester overpowered City 4-2 at

the King Power Stadium in Guardiola's

first season in England in December 2016.

Salomon Rondon smashed Newcastle level at 2-2. Instead, the ball is in City's court. It is they who have to win now. Liverpool rocked and they shook during an absorbing second half.

They lost Mohamed Salah to a head injury, and lost their shape and their composure as the final whistle loomed on the horizon. But then Klopp's substitutes, his dice-rolls, paid off big time. Xherdan Shaqiri swung in a freekick, Divock Origi climbed, the ball cannoned off Lascelles and into the net. The Liverpudlians crammed into the away end, breathed once more. Goal

#### The City boss now feels Vardy is thriving under new manager Brendan Rodgers.

Guardiola said: "I think his career speaks for itself - not just the last few games but (lately) he's scored every single game. "He's done incredible in this league. He's an incredible striker with his movement, finishing, fighting. "I think before they were a counter-attack team but now with Brendan Rodgers they have another way to play, and they can use that and control all parts of the game." Daily Mail

## Kante suffers hamstring injury

LONDON - N'Golo Kante was taken off injured in the early stages of Chelsea's meeting with Watford yesterday after suffering an apparent hamstring injury.

The midfielder went down off the ball less than 10 minutes into the Premier League clash at Stamford Bridge with the

teams still tied at 0-0. The Chelsea medical staff quickly signalled he needed to be taken off and was replaced by Ruben Loftus-Cheek

The France star's injury makes him a doubt for the Blues' remaining games

of the season. Maurizio Sarri's side host Eintracht Frankfurt on Thursday looking to book their place in the Europa League final, having drawn 1-1 with the German side in the first leg. Next week, they travel to Kante's former side as they end their Premier League campaign with an away game against Leicester City.

Chelsea have drawn their last three games to leave them in danger of falling out of the Premier League top four, with Manchester United and Arsenal breathing down their necks. Kante has played a key role in the

London team's campaign, having scored five goals and set up four in 51 appearances in all competitions.

The suspected hamstring problem is his second injury in recent weeks as the 28-yearold suffered a rib injury last month against Burnley, but he overcame

fitness concerns to feature in the next games against Manchester United and Frankfurt. He has been given a new role at Chelsea this season after the arrival of coach Sarri and midfielder Jorginho from Napoli. Kante has played in a more attacking role to accommodate the Italian and there has been some debate over the effectiveness of the change.

## Reds have more PL points than Man United's best ever campaign

LONDON - Even if Liverpool don't win the title this season, they've still claimed some bragging rights over fierce rivals Manchester United.

A narrow 3-2 win over Newcastle United on Saturday saw them move onto 94 points in the Premier League title race, beating Manchester United's best ever total point score of 91.

They still have one game to go too, so Liverpool may increase their total. However, Manchester City are still in the driving seat, and will win the league if they win their final two games. A resounding 5-0 win over Huddersfield at the end of April saw

them equal their great rivals' best ever Premier League return of 91 points. Sir Alex Ferguson's side set that record back in 1999-2000 as they claimed the second of three successive league titles. That side was considered one of Ferguson's best, a year after their memorable treble triumph.

Daily Mail



CHIEFS' LOSS, BUCS GAIN

... Ekstein nearing new deal?

JOHANNESBURG - A move to Orlando Pirates could be on the cards for Hendrick Pule' Ekstein, according to sources, following his shock departure from Kaizer Chiefs.

As reported in edition 1121 of Soccer Laduma, Pirates are one of the clubs that have been linked with the attacking midfielder, with the likes of SuperSport United and Cape Town City believed to be also in the mix in chasing the player's signature.

The Buccaneers have been linked with the 28-year-old Bekkersdal-born player in recent months, after entering into the final six months of his contract with Chiefs in January.

With the player currently unattached, he will be able to join any club of his choice on a free, after June 30.

According to the Siya sources, Bucs have re-visited their interest in the talented player, and could tie him down on an attractive deal as part of their planning for next sea-

"There's been ongoing interest from Pirates in the player and now that he has become available for a move, officially, the club's (Pirates') interest has resurfaced.

SuperSport United and Cape Town City are some of the other clubs believed to be keen on the player," explained a Siya source.

**Improved** 

Ekstein played 27 matches in all competitions for Chiefs during the 2018/19 season and scored five goals in the process. He looked an improved player under the mentorship of coach Ernst Middendorp.

Ekstein could be the second star from Amakhosi to cross the floor in a matter of one year, following the Buccaneers' signing of goalkeeper Brilliant Khuzwayo last year, after his contract with Chiefs came to an end.

Soccer Laduma





## PSL giants book CAF spots

JOHANNESBURG - Where the ABSA Premiership title is going may not have been decided yet, but the top two clubs in South Africa already know that they'll be playing CAF interclub football next season.

The results over the weekend mean that Orlando Pirates and Mamelodi Sundowns, the top two teams in the league presently, cannot finish lower than third place - consequently confirming that they will be playing in either the CAF Champions League or CAF Confederation Cup next season. The Buccaneers weren't able to get past the group stages of the CCL this season, while this weekend Masandawana were knocked out in the semifinals of the competition, and the pair will now be out to try and make sure that they secure a place in Africa's top-tier club competition again in 2019/20. A win for Sundowns over Golden Arrows on Wednesday will be enough to book their spot in next year's CCL, while Pirates need just a point on the final day of the season against Polokwane City in order to do so for themselves. Soccer Lad-

## This will be Chiefs' worst season in over a decade

JOHANNESBURG - Saturday's 1-1 draw with Free State Stars means that the 2018/19 season will be Kaizer Chiefs' worst league performance in over a decade, and that they won't finish in the top six.

The Amakhosi are very much at risk of dropping out of the top eight, and their highest possible finish is in seventh place—a position that will see them finish lower than sixth for the first time since the 2006/07 season more than 10 years ago.

Depending on the results on the final day, Chiefs could even finish outside the top eight for the first time since that same campaign in 06/07, meaning that – for the first time since it began – they would not make it into next season's MTN8 competition. On top of that, Chiefs still haven't reached the 40-point mark, and anything less than a win would see them achieve their worst final points tally since the 1994 season when they picked up 40 points in an 18-team NSL First Division more than 20 years ago. *Soccer Laduma* 

## 'Rhulani is a product of patience'

JOHANNESBURG - Golden Arrows coach Steve Komphela has declared his love and respect for Orlando Pirates assistant Rhulani Mokwena, who keeps growing in the coaching department.

Last Sunday after their victory against Free State Stars at Princess Magogo Stadium, the former Chiefs coach spoke passionately about Rhulani, who recently posted a tweet appreciating him as a colleague

and mentor.

Komphela said the way Mokwena respects him still gives him goosebumps and praised him

for his growth in football.

"There are lot of good people in our football,
Rhulani is one of them," Komphela said.

"He always humbles me for his support. As I was going through my Twitter feeds and seeing his tweets about me even now it gives me

goosebumps. He is a reflection of patience when you speak about development. "If you look at Mamelodi Sundowns they were patient with Pitso Mosimane and look at them now. Orlando Pirates have the same mentality, they understand the process of development and now they are reaping [the rewards] for their patience." Komphela went back to remind us where it all began for Mokwena, during his time with Platinum Stars back in the 2008/09 season, and emphasised the importance of trusting processes in our football. "I remember when I was with Platinum Stars, we worked together with Rhulani. He helped us in our youth structure, he was dedicated and always willing to learn, you could see there's something about this man," he added.

"If you believe in process you will see results. A visionary could see a seed and it becomes a forest, and Rhulani is a product of patience, a forest and a beast."



## Eymael ready for PSL return

CAIRO - Former Free State Stars head coach Luc Eymael says he is no longer happy at Egyptian club Tala'ea El Gaish and is open to returning to South Africa.

Eymael joined the North African club in November 2018 after parting ways with Ea Lla Koto, a club he helped win a major trophy in the form of the Nedbank Cup for the first time in 24 years.

As reported by this website on Saturday, the Belgian tactician is looking for a return to ABSA Premiership football.

"I'm open to a return to South Africa," Eymael tells KickOff.com.

"What is true is I'm not enjoying my club in Egypt. That are the only things that are true. I'm open to a return to South Africa but I didn't speak to any team now. It's not a question of Egypt, I'm not enjoying my club. I'm not happy with the management, how they manage the club.

"It's the club of the army you know so the players who are playing in this club are players who have to do military service. You have to know in Egypt that a military service is an obligation. If you make [it to] university you have to do one year military service.

"What they are doing, they are catching players in other teams who are obliged to do military service, and they oblige them to play for the team, and they pay them less really than what they are earning in the other teams. It's a reason why the players are not happy to play here.



OPEN TO RETURN: Former Free State Stars head coach Luc Eymael.

That's the first thing that's really important. The players are not happy to play for this club.

"Secondly, the club is managed by a retired general every day, and he tries to manage the soccer players like soldiers. But I told him several times that soccer players are not soldiers. He is the reason why I'm not happy. Also, I'm the first foreign coach working for this club. I'm living in a hotel, it's not comfortable and I don't have my own apartment. I don't have my house, I don't have my flat.

"My wife cannot come all the time like she wants, and you know we are in the centre of Cairo. There are different rules for women. It's not easy you know especially for my wife, for example now it's three months I didn't see my wife, four months I didn't see my kids, it's too much you understand?

"And I'm only four hours 40 minutes from Belgium. It's not easy, it's a reason I don't want to stay in this club."

## 38

## Benni discusses celebrating in front of Bucs fans

CAPE TOWN - Cape Town City coach Benni McCarthy did not hold back when celebrating his side's equaliser in front of the Orlando Pirates supporters.

The Citizens halted the Buccaneers' title charge following an entertaining 2-2 draw at Athlone Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

The former Porto and Blackburn striker was then asked about his passionate celebration after the late equaliser in which he put his finger to lips towards the Pirates supporters.

"Passion runs through my veins," the 41-year-old told SuperSport after the game.

"I was getting a bit of a beating from the Pirates' fans, so I gave them a bit of a beating back. That's how I do it. I talk business on the field. It was a bit of fun, a bit of "When I was a player, I used to engage with the fans. When fans called me everything under the sun, I did the business on the field.

"Haters make me want more blood. So I think today the players have gone out and given a performance and a half.

I couldn't be prouder of the players. Week after week, punching above our weight."

Laduma



## Mariano helps Madrid hold off Villarreal

MADRID - Real Madrid delivered a winning response to Zinedine Zidane's stinging criticism as Mariano Diaz scored twice in a 3-2 victory over Villarreal yesterday.

An angry Zidane questioned the attitude of his players after last week's 1-0 loss to Rayo Vallecano and reacted by making more changes, with Luka Modric and Gareth Bale not even included in the squad.

Instead, youngsters like Jesus Vallejo, Brahim Diaz and Federico Valverde were given chances to impress, along with Mariano, who has barely been used since joining from Lyon last summer.

His two goals, either side of Vallejo scoring his first for the club, were enough, despite Jaume Costa pulling a late goal back for Villarreal to set up an unexpectedly nervy finish.

The result leaves third-placed Madrid six points behind Atletico Madrid in La Liga with two games left

Madrid would need to win both of their remaining matches and Atletico lose both of theirs to prevent Diego Simeone's side finishing as the top team in the capital for the second year running.

But more of a concern for Zidane will be the 15-point gap behind Barcelona, which would likely be even bigger had the already-crowned champions not rested players for the Champions League in recent weeks. *Goal* 



## Pochettino tells Tottenham players to move on

LONDON - Mauricio Pochettino urged his Tottenham players to move on and focus on their 'two finals' after their 'crazy, mad' meltdown at Bournemouth.

Spurs-finished with nine men as they suffered a fifth defeat in sixth ahead of their Champions League semi-final second leg at Ajax. Heung-Min Son, back in the

team after suspension, and Juan Foyth, just 135 seconds after coming on, both saw red at the Vitality Stadium.

Spurs blew their chance to seal their top four

finish by losing to
Bournemouth in the
Premier League for
the first time though
defeats for Arsenal
and Manchester
United will see
Pochettino's
side across the
line.

Pochettino said: "That is cruel after fighting for all the second half with nine players.

"It is painful to play with two players [sent off] but we cannot change the decisions.

"We have ahead two finals - the semi-final against Ajax and at the weekend against Everton. It is in our hands.

"It was a crazy game.
Mad game. But now
it's wasting time in
analysing too much.
"The most important thing now is to
move on."

Daily Mail

chance move on."

Daily

URGED: Mauricio Pochettino.

## Leopards drop to play-off spot

DURBAN - Black Leopards dropped in to the play-off spot after drawing 1-1 with AmaZulu at the King Goodwill

Zwelithini Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

afternoon.
Usuthu's top
eight ambitions were dent
last weekend
but were looking for a
return to
winning
ways, while
Leopards
were eager to
pull clear of the

drop zone.

The game got off to a quiet start, with the first real effort on goal arriving after 20 minutes when Marc Van Heerden's free-kick was palmed away by King Ndlovu.

Eight minutes later, Leopards carved out a big chance when Masia was played through on goal, however Usuthu shot-stopper

DURBAN - Black Leopards Siyabonga Mbatha rushed off his dropped in to the play-off spot line to thwart the attacker.

The hosts went agonisingly close to break the deadlock just

before the halftime break as T s h e p o Gumede rattled the frame of the goal.

After a quiet start to the sec-

ond half, Leopards were awarded a penalty when Lefa Hlongwane

was brought down in the box. Mwape Musonda stepped up and slotted home the spot-kick.

Usuthu pushed for an equaliser and they were rewarded with eight minutes left in the half through a powerful strike from Sibusiso Mabiliso as the encounter ended all square.

Laduma

## PROTEAS HAVE FULL-BLOWN CRISIS

JOHANNESBURG - The Indian Premier League's top wicket-taker Kagiso Rabada was ruled out of the rest of the tournament on Friday to rest a "back niggle" ahead of the World Cup.

Cricket South Africa has advised Rabada, who has taken 25 wickets in 12 games for the Delhi Capitals, to return home as a precaution, the IPL team said.

He is just the latest South African bowler to suffer an injury scare after Dale Steyn lasted only two IPL games before withdrawing with a shoulder problem.

"It is indeed very hard for me to leave the Delhi Capitals at this stage of the tournament," Rabada said in a team statement.

"But with the World Cup just a month away, a collective decision has been made for me in this regard.

"It's been a tremendous season for me with the Delhi Capitals, both on and off the field, and I truly believe that our team can win the trophy."

Fellow South African quicks Lungi Ngidi and Anrich Nortje also skipped the IPL to deal with injuries. The World Cup in England and Wales starts on



OUT: Delhi Capitals bowler Kagiso Rabada watches a ball during the 2019 Indian Premier League (IPL) Twenty20 cricket at the Feroz Shah Kotla Cricket Stadium in New Delhi.

May 30. Rabada is leaving with Delhi already qualified for the IPL playoffs. Their final league game is against the Rajasthan Royals on Saturday.

"It's unfortunate that Rabada is having to leave us at this stage of the tour-

nament," said Capitals coach Ricky Ponting.

"But I have full confidence in our team, and I'm sure each and every member of this unit will step up to the occasion."

Citizen

# I voted Aguero for PFA Player of the Year - Hazard

LONDON - Eden Hazard says he voted for Sergio Aguero as the PFA Player of the Year because he is the "most consistent player in the league."

The award ultimately went to Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk for his contribution to the Reds' bid to take champions Manchester City's Premier League crown.

Despite scoring 230 goals in 334 games since arriving at City in 2011, Aguero has never won either the PFA or Football Writers' annual award, and has picked up just one Premier League Golden Boot, in 2014-15 when City finished a distant second to Chelsea.

The Argentinean has netted 29 goals in 43 games this term as City have sparred with Liverpool to defend their crown, and Hazard believes such numbers make him a deserving winner of the footballers' union's annual prize.

"Well, sometimes people are playing well for two months and then for the next nine months they disappear, so I try to look for consistency," said Hazard, writing in Chelsea's matchday programme ahead of the visit of Watford to Stamford Bridge.

"It's better for me to vote for a guy that plays well for a whole season than for a guy who is on fire for two months, but only two months. I don't base it much on how they play when I come up against them but on the whole year.

"I voted for Sergio Aguero, not because he scored a hat-trick against us! He has been playing in the Premier League for eight years now and in that time he is the guy who is always consistent." Goal.com



LOST OPPORTUNITY: Arsenal's top-four hopes are all but over as Glenn Murray's penalty cancelled out Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's early spot-kick.

## ARSENAL'S TOP FOUR HOPES DASHED

LONDON - Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's 20th goal of the season was enough to see Arsenal pick up maximum points against Brighton and Hove Albion.

Unai Emery heavily rotated the side that beat Valencia 3-1 in the UEFA Europa League, with Stephan Lichtsteiner making a rare start while Bernd Leno, Nacho Monreal, Lucas Torreira and Henrikh Mkhitaryan returned to the starting line-up.

After a lively opening, the Gunners were awarded a penalty in the ninth minute after Monreal was brought down inside the box. Aubameyang fired home 12-yards out to take his tally to 20 league goals for the season.

Emery's charges were on the back foot after going ahead for a considerable period of time but Brighton lacked the finesse in the final third.

Mesut Ozil came close to doubling the lead for Arsenal with six minutes remaining of the first stanza with a low drive at the near post that was kept out by goalkeeper Mat Ryan

Bright held their own in the second half and they managed to win themselves a penalty on the hour-mark after Granit Xhaka brought down Solly March, which allowed Glen Murray to step up and convert the equaliser.

Arsenal threw bodies forward in search of a second goal as Aubameyang had a glorious chance to put his side back in front after he was found free on the far side of the box, but he fired his volley glaringly wide on 74 minutes.

Soon after, Emery made drastic changes 14 minutes before time with a triple substitution by bringing on Alex Iwobi, Matteo Guendouzi and Sead Kolasinac in place of Xhaka, Mkhitaryan and Lichtsteiner.

With Arsenal pushing numbers forward for the winner, they were leaving gaps behind and Pascal Gross almost netted the winner for Chris Hughton's troops five minutes before time, but he somehow fired wide with the net gaping.

The hosts were scrambling for the elusive winner that would keep them in the hunt for a top-four finish but the Seagulls defended really well and hung on for a point.

Arsenal's chances of top four finish took a knock as they sit three points behind fourth-placed Tottenham Hotspur, who also boast a superior goal difference heading into the final game of the season.

Daily Mail

## Loftus-Cheek, Luiz and Higuain move Chelsea to third

LONDON - On the half-time whistle, the jeers came in earnest. Chelsea were goalless, toothless and staring down the barrel of a nerve-shredding week in which their Champions League hopes would dangle by a thread.

For Maurizio Sarri, it has been this sort of season. The supporters at Stamford Bridge turned on their manager some time ago but even the sceptical locals must now cut the Italian some slack.

After this victory, Chelsea remain locked in a battle for two Champions League places but they are now up to third, one point ahead of Tottenham, and further daylight separates them from Arsenal and Manchester United.

It may yet dramatically fall apart, if Chelsea lose their second-leg against Eintracht Frankfurt and then contrive to surrender at Leicester next weekend. Yet the outlook is promising. The most likely scenario now is surely for Sarri to guide his team back into Europe's elite through a top four finish and reach two finals in his first season in English foot-



VICTORIOUS: Substitute Ruben Loftus-Cheek broke the deadlock for Chelsea at the beginning of the second half with a strong header.

ball. Indeed, three second-half goals to the good, Sarri's mood even lifted to the extent he gave Gary Cahill, Chelsea's departing stalwart, a rare runout and a farewell to the home support.

Not bad, then, for a manager who has spent much of the season teetering on the brink. His team do remain a riddle of contradictions, a side with glaring vulnerabilities but also a team capable of igniting the switch at a moment's notice. Indeed, many of the flaws in his side revealed themselves during a rather desperate opening period in which Watford were by far the superior side. Watford breathed down the necks of Chelsea's sluggish midfielders Mateo Kovacic and Jorginho, as Abdoulaye Doucoure dominated the central acres and Will Hughes snapped into challenges. *Daily Mail* 

## Man Utd stars lose 25% of their wages

LONDON - Manchester United's 1-1 draw with Huddersfield ruled out the possibility of Champions League football, meaning a number of stars will see their pay cut

drastically.

The majority of contracts negotiated at Old Trafford include a clause that sees players lose 25 per cent of their wage for finishing outside the top four.

Chelsea's vic-

tory over Watford, combined with United's failure topick up three points against the relegated Terriers will hit a number of players in the pocket.

Paul Pogba's £300 000-a-week contract is heavily incentivised and the Frenchman will be one of the most affected players.

He stands to lose out on £1.8million with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side settling for Europa League football next season.

Alexis Sanchez sees his enormous £500 000-a-week salary cut by £125 000 to £375 000 if he remains at the club.

Daily Mail

## Huddersfield hara-kiri sums up Man Utd's embarrassing season

LONDON - So now it's official.

Manchester United will not feature in the Champions League in 2019-20, consigned instead to Thursday night football in the Europa League.

And what a way to throw the towel

Their 1-1 draw against a Huddersfield Town side which had one win and one draw to their names in their last 24 matches, and were relegated as early as March, perfectly summed up where this Manchester United squad is right

now. Simply put, they were as awful at the John Smith's Stadium yesterday as they have been for far too much of this wretched season.

Scott McTominay struck early in the piece, firing a left-footed shot across the goal which Jonas Lossl should have dealt with easily but somehow managed to allow the ball to escape between his knees and into the back of the net.

For much of the first half United looked largely in control without ever seeming likely to pull away with a second

goal or more. Having raced back to the halfway line after their opener as if hungry for a glut of goals in their bid to improve their goal difference, they played the remainder of the period like a team with more sedate intentions.

They looked to be actually picking up the pace somewhat early in the second half when the hapless and injured Alexis Sanchez was replaced by Tahith Chong, but it wasn't long after that Huddersfield got an equaliser.

Daily Mail



ALL NEW LOW: Manchester United's hopes of finishing in the top four are over after they failed to beat Huddersfield Town.

## **ESWATINIBANK CUP 2019**





BAYETHE: Young Buffaloes captain Nhlanhla Gwebu receiving the trophy from His Majesty King Mswati III after being crowned champions of the 2019 EswatiniBank Cup final where they beat Royal Leopard 1-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



EswatiniBank board members also had an opportunity to pose with the King.



CONSOLATION: Runners-up Royal Leopard also had a chance to pose with His Majesty.



DJ Tira and Tipcee posing with His Majesty.



MAKOYA: DJ Tira entertaining the soccer fans.

YESSS:
Jubilant
Buffaloes supporters after
the match.



EYES ON THE BALL: Leopard's Mlamuli Msibi and Buffaloes' Phiwa Dlamini battling for the ball.





MY BALL: Leopard's Bonginkhosi Dlamini losing the ball to Buffaloes' Linda Mkhonta.



MOVE: Buffaloes' Sandile Gamedze negotiates to go past Leopard's Junior Magagula.



## 41

## **ESWATINIBANK CUP 2019**





MBUBE: EswatiniBank Cup management committee members and PLE staff members posing with His Majesty.



FROM SUGAR BELT: EswatiniBank Cup Under-20 champions Tambuti FC accepting their trophy from the King.



BAYETHE: EswatiniBank employees also pose with His Majesty.



ROUND OF APPLAUSE: Manzini Wanderers Ladies team joined by His Majesty in celebrating their achievement.



CAN'T PASS: Manzini Wanderers' Thandeka Mbatha blocking Young Buffaloes' Lungile Dlamini during the EswatiniBank's Women Cup final. Wanderers won 1-0.



MAN OF THE MATCH: Sandile Gamedze receiving a E2 000 replica cheque from Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini.



CHALLENGE: Tambuti FC's Ndumiso Matsebula being challenged by Manzini Sundowns' Ayanda Nkambule in the EswatiniBank Cup Under-20 final. Tambuti won 2-1.



SOLO INJE!: Miss Eswatini Nosipho Diamini parading the trophy before kick-off of the final.



TIGHT MARK: Sundowns' Langelihle Dlamini marking Tambuti's Thabo Shiba.





MAHHALA HHA!: EswatiniBank's Women Cup champions Manzini Wanderers Ladies team receiving the trophy from His Majesty King Mswati III.

# WANDERERS LADIES 'SOLO INJE' WOMEN'S CHAMPS

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

Manzini Wanderers Ladies...... (0)1
Young Buffaloes Ladies....... (0)0
SOCCER - MANZINI
Wanderers Ladies are the 2018/19
EswatiniBank Women Cup champions after defeating the 'old enemy' Young Buffaloes by a solitary goal during the finals played at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

It was a sweet revenge for the maroon and white outfit as Buffaloes won 3-2 to annex the prestigious cup last year.

Coming to the game, Buffaloes Ladies were the first team to create goal scoring opportunities but they were not clinical.

Top goal scorer Celiwe 'Cece' Nkambule's blistering shot from the right flank was parried for a fruitless corner kick by Wanderers goalkeeper Nandipha Mkhwanazi in the 17th minute.

Wanderers Tibonelo Dlamini could have put her team ahead in the 28th minute but her meek shot was saved by Buffaloes goalkeeper Nokwanda Mamba.

#### Shot

Buffaloes 'Cece' broke free in the 44th minute but again her shot was saved by Nandipha between the goal posts. Wanderers had a master plan in the first half, which was to close down the army side's wings where they are more dangerous.

The match went to break with no goals. The second half saw Buffaloes continue fluffing their chances. Tenanile Ngcamphalala missed a glorious opportunity in 48th minute. Then came the goal that sealed victory for the maroon and white outfit in the 60th minute.

Merilyn Sanga recieved a long searching pass from Welile Nxumalo and Sanga outran Buffaloes defenders before passing the ball to an empty net.

Buffaloes coach Simephi Mamba made some changes after the goal, bringing in Nomcebo Hlatswako for Nombuso 'Sgcebhe' Mamba.

The changes did not help the army side as they continued wasting changes

Wanderers coach Makhukhula substituted Tswarelo Digosto for defender Ngimphiwe Cele in the 75th minute. The army side continued their search for a goal that never came until the referee blew her last whistle to end the game.

Manzini Wanderers Ladies are now E25 000 richer.

#### THE TEAMS:

Manzini Wanderers Ladies - Nandipha Mkhwanazi, Thandeka Mbatha, Andiswa Mazibuko, Welile Nxumalo, Sebongile Madihlaba, Sikholiwe Magagula, Merilyn Sanga, Mazwi Dube, Tibongile Dlamini, Gcinile Zwane, Tswarelo Digosto

Young Buffaloes Ladies - Nokwanda Mamba, Cebile Mlangeni, Lungile Dlamini, Thulsile Dvuba, Noxolo Mlangeni, Nokuthula Dlamini, Cebile Shongwe, Nombuso' Sgcebhe' Mamba, Celiwe Nkambule, Tenanile Ngcamphalala, Banele Bhembe.

# It was a good welcome - acting army commander

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

SOCCER - Acting Army Commander Lieutenant Jeffery Tshabalala says the EswatiniBank Cup trophy was a good welcome for him by Young Buffaloes.

Tshabalala said he was so happy to see the team performing well during the final.

"I told the boys they should bring the trophy home and I am happy they did just that. I will also make them happy."

He said it was not an easy match but the players showed determination and character throughout.

"I am happy with the players' fighting spirit as it won them the game. You could easily tell that they wanted it more and I am happy for them."

The acting army commander also mentioned that the team would participate in the CAF Confederation Cup.

"Winning this trophy carries a ticket to Africa and I must say that Young Buffaloes will definitely take part in the CAF Confederation Cup. This means there is no rest for the team as they need to finish the league then start preparing for Africa."

He said they would do all in their power to represent the country well.



GOOD WELCOME: Acting Army Commander Lieutenant Jeffery Tshabalala.

## ... Wanderers Ladies Madihlaba Woman of the Match

SOCCER - MANZINI Wanderers South Africaborn defender Sebongile Madihlaba won the Woman of the Match award after her great performance during their game against Young Buffaloes.

For her achievement, the player received E500.

Madihlaba was solid as a rock for her team at the back.

Speaking after receiving the award, Madihlaba thanked the EswatiniBank for supporting

women football.

She said she was happy for getting the award after playing her first final since she started playing football.

"It was my first time to play in a final and I am happy to have been chosen the best player. I will continue working hard."

She said Buffaloes were a strong side.

"I will spend the money with my family, thanks a lot from EswatiniBank," she said.

## Ladies soccer improving - Minister 'Madze'

SOCCER - MINISTER of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries' Madze' Bulunga has noted that the standard of football in women is fast improving in the country.

Bulunga said this after watching the final between Manzini Wanderers and Young Buffaloes in the EswatiniBank Women Cup yesterday at Somhlolo National Stadium.

"Firstly, I would like to thank EswatiniBank for sponsoring the tournament. It gives us a pleasure to see the bank supporting women football. We hope other sponsors will follow suit. Today we saw a tactical game from both sides. It was a great game and I want to congratulate both teams for giving us a good game."

Meanwhile, EswatiniBank Cup MD Zakhele Lukhele gave praise to both teams. He said both sides dished good football.

"Any of the teams could have won the match as they were both prepared for the final. Mine is just to congratulate both teams, especially the winners of this tournament." He said they were happy as a bank to see the standard of women football improving.



COST US: Manzini Sundowns U-20 Head coach Percy Shongwe.

BY JONGILE XUBA

SOCCER - MANZINI Sundowns
U-20 head coach Percy Shongwe
said lack of maturity and experience cost his team the
EswatiniBank Cup title after losing 1-2 to Tambuti during the
final played at Somhlolo national Stadium yesterday.

Despite getting the early goal and

having an extra man in the field, Manzini Sundowns were unable to take advantage due to lack of experience.

"This is a young team as they are actually the Under-17s which I promoted to the senior level. The boys couldn't hold on to our lead and it got worse when the opposition equalised.

They were too casual and that is why we lost a match we could have

easily won," he said.

LACK OF MATURITY COST US TITLE - PERCY SHONGWE

The coach, however, praised his charges for making it this far in the competition, mentioning that they would be a force to be reckoned with in the next edition of the tournament.

#### Proud

Meanwhile, Tambuti coach Ishmael Zwane said he was proud of his team for making history and clinching their first ever title since the competition started.

Zwane said after they were a man down, his team held on knowing that they could still win.

"I would like to thank the sponsors and team management for giving us the chance to shine.

My boys did really well especially after we were a man down in the first half. We knew that if we scored one goal, the next would follow as long as we didn't concede," he said.



FROM SUGAR BELT: EswatiniBank Cup Under-20 champions Tambuti FC celebrating their triumph trophy with the King.

## 10-MEN TAMBUTI CLINCH U-20 TIT

BY JONGILE XUBA

Manzini Sundowns.....(1)1 Tambuti FC..... (1)2

SOCCER - A 10-man Tambuti FC came from a goal down to beat Manzini Sundowns 2-1 during the EswatiniBank Under-20 Cup final played at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Goals from Ndumiso Matsebula and Lindelwa Mngomezulu in either half secured the cup title for the Lubombo based side.

Manzini Sundowns had an upper hand in the opening minutes of the match and won a penalty which Langelihle Dlamini managed to convert in the 7th minute to put his lead in the lead.

This was after Tambuti's Mthokozisi Nsibande intentionally prevented the ball from going to the net, using his hand after a shot by Zwakele Mngometulu.

Mthokozisi was shown a straight red,

and his team was a man down as early as the first half.

Sundowns were then all out to take advantage as they converted from the spot and again searched for the second goal.

They would now and again create scoring opportunities, only to miss the tar-

Tambuti were resilient and after surviving wave after another of attack, they finally found their feet and got the equaliser. It came in the 19th minute when Ndumiso Matsebula finished off a loose ball following a defensive lapse to level

The last 10 minutes before the half time provided lots of excitement as both teams held nothing back, looking for a lead before the break.

The match eventually went to the break with the teams locked at 1-1.

The second half got off to a disappointing slow start with both teams sitting at the back waiting to see who made the first move.

Tambuti's Lindelwa Mngomezulu came to life in the middle of the park, orchestrating all his team's chances. His best chance came in the 75th minute when his shot fizzed just wide of the post. He got his second chance to redeem himself five minutes later and this time he made no mistake, rifling home a screamer to snatch the lead.

That goal seemed to deflate Sundowns' hopes as Tambuti held out to secure the first ever EswatiniBank U-20 title.

Tambuti walked away with E45 000, a trophy and gold medals while Manzini Sundowns received E20 000 and silver medals for their efforts.

THE TEAMS:

Manzini Sundowns - Nkosingphile, Ayanda, Sbahle, Lungelo, Unathi, Siphamandla, Thabiso, Langelihle, Kwanele, Zwakele, Tata.

Tambuti - Melusi, Mlondi, Thabo, Mlungisi, Mthokozisi, Masiko, Solomon, Lindelwa, Nkosingphile, Xolani, Ndumiso.

## PM congratulates Buffaloes

STORIES SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - PRIME Minister Ambrose Dlamini has congratulated Young Buffaloes for winning their third EswatiniBank Cup crown in a row.

Dlamini said the army side worked hard to achieve their new record after beating Royal Leopard 1-0 at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

"We would like to thank His Majesty King Mswati III for gracing today's event and further congratulate Buffaloes for winning the tournament three times in a

The team has really worked

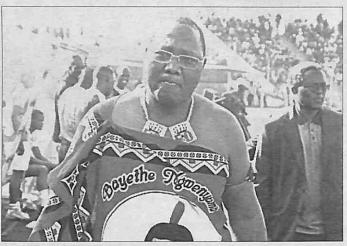
hard to achieve this feat and we will offer any assistance to them as they will represent the country in the CAF Confederation

Meanwhile, Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga also commended 'Amathole ezinyathi' for their success in the cup competitions.

"I think Buffaloes deserved the trophy as they played as a unit since they have been together for years now.

We further commend Royal Leopard for their commitment on the day and they can still do better in future," he said.

He also thanked the King for gracing the finals.



CONGRATULATES: Prime Minister Ambrose Diamini.

## EswatiniBank happy with proceedings

SOCCER-THE EswatiniBank has expressed its delight about the proceedings of the 2019 EswatiniBank Cup tournament which came to an end yester-

This was revealed by the bank's Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele soon after the 'Solo Inje' final at

Somhlolo National Stadium. 'We would like to thank His Majesty King Mswati III for gracing the tournament and the nation for coming out in their numbers to watch the games."

He said the games were all competitive. "We further congratulate all the three winning teams on the day," he said. Lukhele said as a bank they were happy with the proceedings since the tournament started.



IMPRESSED: EswatiniBank MD Zakhele Lukhele.

## ominic hails his history making heroes

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

SOCCER - YOUNG Buffaloes' coach Dominic Kunene was full of praise for his history making players after his side beat Royal Leopard 1-0 to emerge as the champions of this year's EswatiniBank Cup.

The sole goal of the match was scored by Sandile Gamedze after 76 minutes.

In a post-match interview, the coach stated that his players worked very hard to achieve victory in a very tightly contested final against a strong Leopard team. "It is not easy to win a competi-

tion three times in a row. However, his- and leave themselves vulnerable at the tory is created by people, and I think my players deserve all the credit for this achievement. They worked tirelessly to ensure they arrived at this level of perfor-

mance," he said. The coach admitted that they did not start the game well but rectified their mistakes in the second half to ensure that they did not allow Leopard spaces to exploit in their backline. "Once we closed the spaces at the back, we knew they would come at us back. We were able to create many chances towards the end of the game and I believe we deserved to be champions in the end," he said.

Kunene added that this victory was the perfect farewell present to the team's former president, Commander Sobantu Dlamini as he had stated that

he wanted the EswatiniBank Cup too. "We hope he shall enjoy this win as much as we have," he said.

## I warned players on 'Order's long throws - Edwin

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

SOCCER - ROYAL Leopard's coach, Edwin Matsebula says he warned his players about Young Buffaloes' winger, Fanelo 'Order'

Mamba's long throws all week.

Speaking after the match, which his team lost 0-1 after 'Order' threw the ball into the box from about 25 yards out to create an assist for goal-scorer Sandile Gamedze, a disconsolate Matsebula said it was disappointing

to have lost the match in that manner when they actually knew this was going to happen.

Failed

"We talked about this numerous times, but my players then failed to deal with the same situation I have

been warning them about. We should have not conceded that goal," he said. Matsebula added that Buffaloes did outplay his team on the day.

He said the game was very tight, and they had chances in the first half, which could have made a big difference had they taken them.

"If Lungelo (Tsabedze) or Charles

(Edoa-Nga) had scored, the game could have been different. It is not good that we failed to take our chances as the opponents got only one chance and capitalised on it to win the game," he said. Buffaloes' win avenged a 1-3 reverse in the hands of the same opposition in the finals of the 2014 edition of the then SwaziBank Cup.

## RESULTS



PREMIER LEAGUE

Huddersfield Town Arsenal

Watford

Manchester United Brighton & Hove Albion



Monday May 6, 2019





BY MITHUNZI MAZIYA

Leopard.....(0)0 Buffaloes.....(0)1

SOCCER-YOUNG Buffaloes made history when they were crowned EswatiniBank Cup champions for the time in a row following a 1-0 victory over Royal Leopard at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

In a tightly contested match, Buffaloes benefitted from one of Fanelo 'Order' Mamba's trademark long throws to capitalise and take the crown.

The hero of the day was striker Sandile Gamedze, who rose unchallenged in the 76th minute to head in the sole goal that all but sealed a game of very few

For a spectator who had come to the game for the first time and had not seen both teams play before yesterday's final, the inclination would have justifiably been that of Swazi football being at its all-time low as entertainment on the pitch was at a premium.

The lack of chances, misplaced passes, tight marking, all served a recipe for boredom, but in truth, the game mirrored the fact that there is very little separating Buffaloes and Leopard in terms of quality of the players on

Leopard started well as they created

**HISTORY MADE AS;** 

## BUFFS'SOLO CHAIV

...win was third in a row for the marauding army side



PERFECT HEADER: Young Buffaloes' Sandile Gamedze scoring the all important goal against Royal Leopard during the EswatiniBank Cup final.

the early chances but failed to score. They were to rue those missed chances late on as Buffaloes utilised the sole opportunity that came their way to bag the first prize of E1.1 million, and a to be clean on goal until he collided

place in next season's CAF Confederation Cup. After only three minutes into the game, mid-field maestro Fanelo Tsabedze set up his brother Lungelo, who looked

with striker Charles Edoa-Nga to fluff the chance for Leopard.

Buffaloes almost took the lead in the 13th minute when a corner kick delivered by 'Order' was met with a header by Phiwa Dlamini, but he saw his effort bounce on the crossbar and drift wide. Phiwa found himself free on goal again in the 26th minute, but he miscued his shot when clear on the right flank. Leopard's Muzi 'Mzoro' Dlamini then delivered a free kick into the box in the 28th minute, and a same time volley by Edoa-Nga sailed over the bar. Both teams were locked at 0-0 at the interval.

At the restart, Buffaloes were almost gifted the lead in the 53rd minute when Machawe Dlamini slipped, handing a chance to the on-rushing Phiwa, who unfortunately rushed his shot when he had adequate time to take another touch for a clean strike on goal.

Bongane Ndzimandze replaced Lungelo for Leopard in the 64th minute, but the change did not affect the game much

#### TEAMS

Leopard - Phephisani, Mzoro, Mlamuli Msibi, Sikhumbuzo Magagula, Machawe, Sifiso Matse, Sushi, Junior, Edoa-Nga (Barry), Fanelo, Lungelo

Buffaloes - Nhlanhla Gwebu, Lindo Mkhonta, Wandile, Sihlangu, Siboniso Mamba, siboniso Ngwenya, Skosh, Sandile, phiwa, Sifiso Mazibuko (Banele Mkhabela), Order (Nhlanhla Kunene).

Referee - Mbongiseni Fakudze

Bookings - Nhlanhla Gwebu, Siboniso Ngwenya (Buffaloes), Junior Magagula (Leopard).

Dismissals - None

Attendance - About 10 000

as Buffaloes continued to create the better chances. The stage was then set for the sole goal of the match as 'Order's strong arms lifted the ball into the danger area for Sandile to head in unmarked on the edge of the six area box. Junior did all he could to clear the ball before it crossed the goal-line, but his efforts were in vain. A long range drive by Sandile in the 87th minute almost put the icing on the cake, but Phephisani Msibi was alert as he produced a stunning save to push the ball over the bar.

Buffaloes soon celebrated a fortuitous victory, which only came as a result of that one chance which they were able to take.

## Mokenkoane top goal scorer, Sandile final's best

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

- MBABANE SOCCER Highlanders striker Thabiso Mokenkoane is the 2019 EswatiniBank Cup top goal scor-

The South African striker finished the tournament with six goals despite his team's early exit during the round of 16 of the annual soccer tourna-

Mokenkoane netted the goals during the last 32 encounter against National First Division side City

Warriors at the Mayaluka Stadium.

Mokonkoane will get E10 000 for his achievement after outfoxing Buffaloes star Sandile Gamedze, who finished the tournament on three goals despite guiding his side to the cup triumph.

The lanky former Amatuks play-

er expressed his happiness with his achievement when contacted yesterday.

#### Won

"I am very happy to have won the award and this motivates me to continue working hard," he said.

Meanwhile, Young Buffaloes star Sandile Gamedze won the Man of the Match award that carried E2 000

after guiding his team to a 1-0 victory over Royal Leopard at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The skilful player said he was happy to get the award and further thanked EswatiniBank for sponsoring the tournament.

"The award means a lot to me. It was a tough game and I thank God that we managed to win."