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## Ex-MPs want their money back

Page 2

## Zodwa Wabantu dress slammed

Page 3

## Wild fires cause network blackout

Page 7



BAYETHE - Senegal President Macky Sall on Friday awarded His Majesty the King the Order of the Lion, which is a top medal of honour in Senegal for his outstanding contribution to the development of Eswatini, the region, the continent and the global community. (All Pics: Len Mohale - State Photographer) SEE PAGES 3, 4

ESWATINI PROUD OF HER GOOD FIGHT BUT...

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● Minister pledges full support to Ghana

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# Ex-parliamentarians overtaxed by E15 000

STORIES BY MBONO MDLULI  
Lobamba

**FORMER parliamentarians, who served in the 10th Parliament, claim to have been overtaxed by Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) by about E15 000.**

The former parliamentarians, who include MPs and senators, reportedly discovered that they were overtaxed by SRA from their gratuities of E507 000, which resulted from government slashing E45 000 in October last year.

They said they were overtaxed by about E15 180, which was their monthly tax from their basic salary of E46 000 per month.

The argument by the former legislators is that they were double taxed in October.

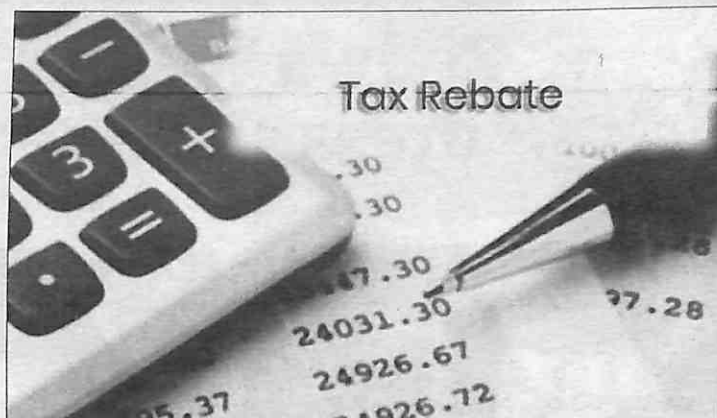
However, the truth of this information will be tested when the former politicians claim their tax rebates.

## Rebates

The former legislators were advised to apply for tax rebates after they complained that they were overtaxed in October last year, which was their last month in office.

They said they had already paid taxes in October last year. This transpired during a meeting of ex-politicians that was held at Caritas in Manzini on Thursday.

When the Eswatini Former Politicians Association (EFPA) was formed, part of the man-



**TAX REBATE:** The former legislators were advised to apply for tax rebates after they complained that they were overtaxed in October last year.

date of the executive was to approach the ministry of finance to sort out the over taxation issue.

The former politicians were supposed to be given the ex-gratia payment in October, but started being paid from January this year.

EFPA's Secretary Saladin Magagula stated that government did overtax them. He said they raised the issue with Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg when they met him in May.

Magagula said they had already paid tax for October and no amount of money for that month was supposed to be taxed in their gratuities.

## Advised

Magagula said the minister advised them to get their tax certificates in order and fill up forms which they would submit to Eswatini Revenue Authority so that they could get the overtaxed money.

He said during the meeting on Thursday, they informed the membership of that development and they accepted the report by the executive committee.

It was imperative for government to pay gratuities to the former leg-

islators, which are referred to ex-gratia payment or informally referred to as handshakes.

The handshakes are usually paid to parliamentarians when they leave office and they constitute annual payment of the former legislators.

## Slashed

The former legislators earned E46 000 as monthly basic salaries. This translated to an annual pay of E552 000. SRA, according to the sources, taxed 33 per cent from the E552 000, which left each ex-legislator with E369 840.

The former parliamentarians' handshakes were slashed by E45 000 because government discovered that it had overpaid the former politicians.

It was said that the former parliamentarians were supposed to be paid a salary that was equivalent to 10 days in October, but were paid for 30 days. That was the reason they had to pay back the money which was an overpayment.

The E45 000 slashing meant the former legislators each pocketed E324 840.

## ASSOCIATION HAS 40 SUBSCRIBERS

**ESWATINI Former Politicians Association has made E8 000 from subscriptions in a space of about two months.**

The E8 000 has been generated from the 40 subscribed members of the association, who forked out a yearly subscription of E200.

This was confirmed by Eswatini Former Politicians Association's Secretary Saladin Magagula.

Magagula said they agreed that the E200 would be the yearly subscription but it is subject to review. He said the former politicians were warming up to the idea of forming a body to look into their welfare because they had discovered that after their term of office elapsed, lives for some of them became miserable.

## Problematic

What was also problematic, according to Magagula, was that the former politicians did not have access to adequate information about their money, which they had invested into some schemes, including MOPADO.

Magagula said he was happy with the response shown by former politicians since the association was formed about two months ago. He said during their meetings, they were still seeing many new faces from the former politicians and that meant the association was growing.

The secretary further urged their members to pay the E200 subscription fee so that the association could execute its tasks in an efficient and effective manner.

## Challenges

He commended those who joined the association as he felt they were helping other former politicians so they could speak in one voice in addressing the challenges facing them.

Magagula said they had many burning issues that they need to sort out. This includes the sudden stop of medical aid when the former politicians vacated office. They wanted to know why their medical aid was stopped. Another issue was that of their burial scheme.

They said the information about their burial scheme was not consistent, as former politicians were not paid the same amount. Magagula said they needed to look into that as well.

## ASSOCIATION SETS UP REGIONAL BRANCHES

**IN an effort to easily reach its members, Eswatini Former Politicians Association has set up branches in the country's administrative regions.**

The decision to open the regional branches was reached after it was felt that most of the former politicians did not have

enough money to travel from all corners of the country for a meeting in Manzini. Eswatini Former Politicians Association's Secretary Saladin Magagula said it was for that reason they chose convenors for the country's four administrative regions.

The convenors include Magagula himself, who would be responsible for convening meetings of former politicians in the Hhohho region.

Former Manzini South MP Owen Nxumalo would be responsible for all former politicians in the Manzini region.

## Convene

Former Mkhweni MP Gideon Dlamini would convene all former politicians in the Lubombo region, while Jobe Kunene, who is a former constituency councillor (Bucophu), would be responsible for all former politicians in the

Shiselweni region.

Magagula said the convenors would be responsible for convening meetings so that they could take suggestions from regional to national level.

Magagula further mentioned that the association was now in the process of registration and judging from the response of its members, the registration process would be done sooner rather than later.

**ADMITTED FAULT:** Eswatini Former Politicians Association Secretary Saladin Magagula stated that government did overtax them.

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# Expect a cold, mild to warm week ahead

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

A cold, mild and warm week is predicted.

The second week of July is predicted to be mild and warm in the morning.

According to information sourced from Accurate weather services, a drastic drop of temperatures from a hot and windy weekend is predicted this week.

However, as the week progresses, temperatures are expected to become

DAY	Mbabane/PP/Nhl	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
Today	8/19	8/20	10/22	11/21	13/23	8/24
Tomorrow	9/21	8/22	11/24	12/23	13/25	9/26
Wednesday	11/24	9/25	12/27	13/26	13/28	11/29
Thursday	11/26	10/27	12/29	13/28	13/30	11/31

warmer.

Today, it will be cold becoming mild in the Lowveld. Temperatures are expected to start from 8 Degrees Celsius rising to 24 Degrees Celsius. South winds are expected to travel at 28 km/h.

Tomorrow, temperatures are expected

to slightly rise from today's temperatures and clear skies are expected throughout the day.

Wednesday and Thursday will be increasingly warmer and clear skies.

Winds are expected. Sunrise is expected to be at 0645 hours while sunset is predicted to be at 1712 hours.

## Despite Ghana win, we are proud - Minister Khumalo

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

THE Kingdom of Eswatini has lost its bid to host the Secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

This follows the decision by African Heads of State and Government to endorse Ghana as the winner of the bid during the African Union Extraordinary Summit held in Niamey in Niger yesterday.

This was officially communicated by the Minister for Commerce, Industry and Trade Senator Manqoba B Khumalo.

### Appreciated

"During the 35th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held at Palais Des Congres yesterday, it was revealed that Ghana amassed 69.5 out of 70 points. Eswatini came third with 66.5 points, hot on the heels of Kenya, who had 66.75 points," he said.



**TEAM: Minister of Commerce Industry and Trade Manqoba Khumalo (c) with Eswatini AfCFTA special envoy Treasure Maphanga, Eswatini's Ambassador to Belgium Sibusisiwe Mngomezulu and National Steering Committee Chairperson E. Nathi Dlamini during the 35th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Niamey in Niger yesterday.**

Despite losing to Ghana, the minister appreciated His Majesty the King, the prime minister

and the kingdom at large for the role they played as they ran the campaign to host the

AfCFTA. "We appreciate the support of government and the entire Eswatini nation, especially His Excellency the Right Honourable Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini and the entire Cabinet," he said.

### Project

Khumalo also expressed how proud they are as a ministry for the bid they submitted and the campaign they ran.

"We are also very proud of the Steering Committee that ran the campaign for us under the leadership of E. Nathi Dlamini; who is here with me to receive the results.

"Further, we are proud of the role played by Treasure Maphanga, who was the special envoy for this project; lobbying on behalf of the country," he stated.

In conclusion, he applauded Ghana for winning the bid and pledged full support to make the AfCFTA a resounding success as Africa takes its rightful place in the global economy.

## Emaswati appalled at Zodwa Wabantu's Durban July outfit

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

**JUST when the dust was about to settle on Zodwa Wabantu's visit to the country in August, well Emaswati were not ready for her Durban July outfit as debate of her coming to the country almost broke social media.**

Her close to nothing dress, which covered only her breast and small part of her private parts and left everything else to the imagination, was described by some lifestyle reporters as bare than the usual, raising temperatures and heart rates as she sashayed her way through Greyville Racehorses.

Zodwa Wabantu is part of the talents set to perform at the Baceth Music Festival in August. The line-up of the event features *gqom* and gospel musicians as well as the Durban based entertainer, who is famous for her revealing wardrobe and dancing without underwear.

Interviewed by the same reporters, she said: "I bought the material, took it to the tailor and told him what I wanted. I didn't care about people. I wouldn't say I made the dress to draw attention."

There were mixed feelings about the controversial entertainer's outfit in relation to her coming to Eswatini, which is known as the pulpit of Africa.

Some people debated the right of free expression over self-respect. Some people argued that the entertainer only wears the revealing outfit for entertainment purposes nothing more.

"Yes, it is your body and right to do and wear whatever but also there is self-respect and respect for those around you. Zodwa Wabantu has a lovely body and spirit and she surely would have looked great in the 'corrective' dress," read one of the comments.

### Debate

Meanwhile, others call for the SODV Act to be invoked if the entertainer will be wearing her close to nothing clothes. As if the SODV Act was not enough, the late Dr Sibusiso Dlamini was also drawn into the debate as he was known for being a straight talking individual who did not compromise immoral behaviour.

"That's why I loved Dr Barnabas, he would not allow this Gomorrah and Sodom to happen in his presence," read a comment from a concerned Liswati.

Some users stated that Zodwa Wabantu is a disgrace to women and they feel like her coming to Eswatini will spread her immoral behaviour among young girls and erode the dignity of the country.

"*Asimceli nalobungcunu bakhe la Eswatini*," read some of the comments.

## SMVAF MANAGER SUSPENDED

BY NOKUZOLA THWALA  
Mbabane

A senior manager at the Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accidents Fund (SMVAF) has been suspended for gross misconduct in relation to recruitment of staff.

The manager was put on ice by the Acting SMVAF Chief Executive Officer Sizakele Dlamini after discovering that there were some irregularities in staff recruitment.

Insiders told the Swazi Observer that the manager who cannot named at this stage because he was not available for comment when sought last night is alleged to have bypassed the office of the acting CEO when confirming certain new recruitments into the organisation.

### Permission

It is alleged that instead of getting the endorsement of the acting CEO who now has the power to approve all organisational issues, the manager is said to have sought permission of the former CEO, who is currently out of contract, something which was found to be gross and

undermining the authority of the acting CEO. It is alleged that upon discovering or being alerted of the new staff which had been approved to join the organisation, the acting CEO did not take kindly to the manager's action and sent him home pending further investigation and internal disciplinary processes.

When sought for comment, the Acting CEO Dlamini could only confirm the suspension of the manager to allow for an internal investigation into the alleged irregularities in the hiring of staff.

### Investigating

The manager was not available for comment when sought last night.

Dlamini is also the Ministry of Finance Under Secretary and was seconded to act as CEO at SMVAF pending issues which the board was still investigating before deciding the fate of former CEO Helmon Vilakati.

Vilakati's contract elapsed and there was a recommendation from the previous board chaired by lawyer Zweli Jele for it to be renewed.

But because the ministry was not happy with the manner in which the salary review



**ACTS: Acting SMVAF CEO Sizakele Dlamini.**

for staff was handled, it appointed through the board a committee headed by Dr Sikhomba Gumbi to investigate what caused the delay in implementing the report that looked into the salary review.

The committee was due to submit its report last week or this week; hence the acting CEO's three month contract which had elapsed last Sunday was renewed.

### SOME OF THE FACEBOOK COMMENTS

**User 1:** Good friends' one reason we live is to be each other's keeper. A free for all society where everyone do as they so please is no society at all. Humanity is to live responsibly and be sensitive and respectful, especially to your body.

**User 2:** I take it she doesn't wear these things in town bekunene if she does then this is totally wrong. But if she wear these things to events where she is invited for such then that is fine. I mean why not have hosted strip tease for a long time. There are restaurants where waiters save customers topless. They do all these things within their confines. If Zodwa Wabantu wears these outfits in public then she need to be arrested on sight.

**User 3:** I think she lacks morals. I am not expecting her to have the Holy Spirit, but

what I call conscience because we all have that before we are born again, so I may be subject to correction but I think her conscience is dead hence she cannot differentiate between bad and good.

**User 4:** Individual rights vs rights of the collective. Thought it was settled long ago.

**User 5:** Individuals have the right to choose how they dress. My body, my rules.

**User 6:** But both arguments were rejected over the supremacy of individual choice. Self-respect is now considered the sole prerogative of an individual to decide. As for respect for other people, I would love to see how it flies. Society created Zodwa Wabantu by thinking people will be sensible in advancing individual rights, they are always extremists.



# KING AWARDED TOP MEDAL OF HONOUR

STORIES BY KING'S OFFICE  
CORRESPONDENT  
Dakar, Senegal

THE Republic of Senegal has bestowed its highest medal of honour on His Majesty the King.

President of Senegal, Macky Sall decorated the king with the Order of the Lion on Friday evening at the presidential State House. This, he said, was in recognition of the role His Majesty has played in the development of Eswatini as well as his contribution to regional, continental and global initiatives to improve the well-being of the people.

In receiving the award, the king said he was deeply touched by such recognition which would inspire him to do more.

He said he was alive to the fact that this was the highest medal conferred upon distinguished persons by the Republic of Senegal.

"It will, no doubt, encourage us to continue working hard for the betterment of all emaSwati in the kingdom, the African continent, and the global community at large," he said.

The king said he would cherish this day for many years to come as it would always evoke memories of his official visit to Senegal. "On behalf of the people of the



**ALL WHITE:** His Majesty turned up in a Senegalese traditional attire as he was hosted to a dinner by President Macky Sall who was pleasantly surprised. (All Pics Len Mohale - State Photographer)

kingdom of Eswatini I am humbled by the Order of the Lion which you have found worthy to bestow upon me here today," he said.

He congratulated President Sall for winning a second term following the elections held early this year and praised him for his visionary leadership that has seen impressive infrastructure development

over the past few years.

During these elections which saw a voter turnout of about 66 per cent, President Sall walked away with a 58.27 per cent victory.

His Majesty assured the president of the kingdom's commitment to supporting his endeavour to create robust economic development for Senegal.



**LIGHT MOMENT:** His Majesty and President Sall before engaging in private talks at the presidential State House on Friday evening.



**PRIVATE MOMENT:** His Majesty the King and Inkhosikati LaMatsebula were hosted to a dinner by Senegal President Macky Sall and the First Lady at the presidential State House on Friday evening. Here they engage before proceeding to the dinner.

## Eswatini, Senegal agree on co-operation, trade

**DAKAR** – The Kingdom of Eswatini has set its eyes on doing big business with Senegal, which is recording an impressive six per cent average growth annually.

This emerged during bilateral meeting between His Majesty the King and Senegal President Macky Sall on Friday evening, which was concluded with a mutual cooperation and trade agreement signed by the foreign affairs ministers.

World Bank projections indicate that Senegal is expected to substantially accelerate its economic growth when production of offshore oil and gas begins in 2022. Senegal has a population of about 15.4 million according to 2016 World Bank statistics.

Speaking after the talks which preceded a state dinner in honour of the king's visit, His Majesty highlighted the opportunities presented by the exchange visits. President Sall was in Eswatini in July last year.

"We get to share our continental initiatives that are meant to drive us towards developing sustainable development programmes and projects to overcome the social, economic, poverty and unemployment challenges, among oth-

ers, that affect the wellbeing of our people," he said. With a relationship between the two countries dating back many years, the king described the signing ceremony of friendship and mutual cooperation agreements and the joint bilateral committee between the two countries, as a good step in the right direction.

"We are confident that it will bring handsome dividends to our two peoples.

As members of the African Union, as well as global organisations, our shared common goals should provide the required impetus to increase trade between our two countries," he said.

He said the introduction of the Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) would further enhance this trade as it should remove all barriers to the free movement of our peoples so as to reduce dependence on foreign markets.

The king shared the country's national vision 2022 aspirations aimed at transforming the country to achieve first world status.

"With an agro-based economy, the country is also host to vast opportunities in the mining, energy, tourism and ICT sector, to name but a few, and we welcome investment in these industries," he said.



**CO-OPERATION:** Local and Senegalese officials with the two leaders during bilateral talks.



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# THE ROYAL SWAZILAND SUGAR CORPORATION LIMITED AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

(Incorporated in the Kingdom of Eswatini)  
 Registration Number: 197710032001568  
 Listed on the Eswatini Stock Exchange (ESE)  
 Share Code: RSSC  
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## THE TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE OWNERS OF THE COMPANY AMOUNTED TO E217.8 MILLION

### Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Year ended 31-03-19 Audited E'000	Year ended 31-03-18 Audited E'000
Revenue	3 047 455	2 961 672
Cost of sales	(2 543 599)	(2 314 046)
	76 147	(54 534)
Gross profit	580 003	593 092
Other income	66 140	104 069
Distribution expenses	(7 527)	(6 679)
Administration expenses	(396 015)	(360 386)
Operating profit	242 601	330 096
Finance income	24 196	53 482
Finance costs	(12 620)	(2 211)
Net finance income	11 576	51 271
Share of profit of equity accounted investees (net of income tax)	28 015	20 318
Profit before taxation	282 192	401 685
Income tax expense	(72 079)	(97 327)
Profit attributable to owners of the Company	210 113	304 358

### Other comprehensive income

Items that will never be reclassified to profit or loss		
Remeasurements of defined benefit liability	10 607	(4 325)
Related tax	(2 917)	1 189
Other comprehensive income (net of tax)	7 690	(3 136)

<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to owners of the Company</b>	<b>217 803</b>	<b>301 222</b>
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Number of shares in issue ('000)	96 346	96 346
Sugar production (tonnes 96° Pol)	505 575	435 763
Ethanol production ('000 litres)	29 844	25 468
Ethanol sales ('000 litres)	29 179	24 443
Basic earnings per share (cents)	218.1	315.9
Dividends per share (cents)	152.4	220.0
Operating margin (%)	8.0	11.1
Interest cover (times)	21.1	173.5
Return on net assets (%)	11.6	16.7
Return on assets managed (%)	9.8	13.6
Return on shareholders' equity (%)	10.6	15.2
Price earnings ratio (%)	6.4	4.4
Earnings yield (%)	15.6	22.6
Dividend yield ratio (%)	10.9	15.7
Market share price (cents)	1 400	1 400

### Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Cash generated from operations	364 226	577 820
Changes in working capital	(228 662)	(104 008)
Finance costs	(12 620)	(2 211)
Taxation paid	(47 554)	(80 034)
Net cash generated from operating activities	75 390	391 567
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	(402 825)	(315 886)
Other investing activities	23 789	50 846
Net cash utilised in investing activities	(379 036)	(265 040)
Increase/(decrease) in loans and borrowings	135 625	(23 571)
Dividends paid	(54 148)	(290 988)
Net cash utilised in financing activities	81 477	(314 559)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(222 169)	(188 032)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	212 207	404 253
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash held	348	(4 014)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period	(9 614)	212 207

### Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

Balance at beginning of year	1 982 369	1 893 109
Total comprehensive income for the year	217 803	301 222
Dividend declared	(146 812)	(211 962)
Balance at end of the year	2 053 360	1 982 369

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### Business segmental analysis

<b>1. External revenue</b>	11 939	10 973
- Cane Growing	2 689 869	2 691 503
- Sugar production and marketing	321 775	239 742
- Ethanol production and marketing	23 872	19 454
- External revenue not meeting segment criteria	3 047 455	2 961 672
<b>2. Operating segment results</b>	276 999	263 951
- Cane growing	283 088	369 228
- Sugar production and marketing	25 131	7 807
- Ethanol production and marketing	585 218	640 986
- Results of other operations not meeting segment criteria	(1 123)	(6 136)
- Unallocated other income	62 674	61 434
- Unallocated corporate costs	(403 776)	(365 218)
- Unallocated net finance income	11 184	50 301
- Share of profit of equity accounted investees	28 015	20 318
Profit before taxation	282 192	401 685

### Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

	As at 31-03-19 Audited E'000	As at 31-03-18 Audited E'000
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	1 678 118	1 468 894
Goodwill	286 481	286 481
Intangible assets	2 823	2 966
Equity accounted investees	146 181	118 776
Deferred tax assets	119	150
	2 113 722	1 877 267
<b>Current assets</b>		
Inventories	171 037	149 009
Biological assets - growing cane	528 644	453 931
Biological assets - livestock	7 902	6 468
Trade and other receivables	291 459	235 376
Taxation prepaid	13 799	-
Cash and cash equivalents	3 684	216 935
	1 016 525	1 061 719
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>3 130 247</b>	<b>2 938 986</b>
<b>Equity and non-current liabilities</b>		
Ordinary shareholders' funds	2 053 360	1 982 369
Deferred tax liabilities	371 824	316 581
Loans and borrowings	116 250	-
Employee benefits	83 172	90 420
	2 624 606	2 389 370
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	305 194	437 289
Short term employee benefits	75 110	93 566
Bank overdraft	13 298	4 728
Current portion of loans and borrowings	19 375	-
Current tax liabilities	-	14 033
Dividends payable	92 664	-
	505 641	549 616
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>	<b>3 130 247</b>	<b>2 938 986</b>

### COMMENTARY

#### Statement of Compliance

The summarised consolidated financial information, which has been audited, has been drawn up in compliance with the recognition and measurement criteria under International Financial Reporting Standards and in the manner required by the Companies Act of the Kingdom of Eswatini.

#### Accounting Policies

The Group has consistently applied the accounting policies as set out in the RSSC March 2018 Integrated Report, with the exception of the change in accounting policies arising from the Group adopting IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers during the current year, in preparing these results.

#### Changes in Accounting Policies

The Group adopted IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers during the current year. The effect of the adoption of these standards for the first time are fully disclosed in the Group's statutory financial statements.

#### Commentary on Results

RSSC achieved record cane and sugar production during the 2018/19 season. Cane crushed at 3.7 million tonnes, was 15% higher than cane crushed in the previous year. Estate Cane yields were higher at 112.9 t/ha, as compared to 99.4 t/ha for the comparative period.

Sugar production at 505,575 tonnes, 96° pol sugar was 16% higher than the 435,763 tonnes of 96° pol sugar produced in the previous year.

Ethanol production at 29.8 million litres was 17% higher than the production in the prior year due to higher molasses processed through operation.

Total comprehensive income attributable to the Owners of the Company amounting to E217.8 million was 27.7% lower than the results achieved in 2018. This decline in profitability is mainly due to the sugar price that was 12.3% lower than the previous year owing to a lower world market sugar price and continued pressure on SACU prices. The valuation of biological assets reflects an increase of E76 million, recognising an improvement in pricing for 2019/20, with tariff measures in place in the SACU market, and higher expected sucrose volumes.

The consolidated statement of financial position for the Group shows a strong balance sheet with total assets of E3.1 billion. Phase 1 of the Integrated Growth Programme ("IGP"), was successfully commissioned in May 2018 at a cost of E145 million. Phase 2 of the IGP, commenced during the current financial year. These works will be completed in the early part of the 2019/20 season. The closing cash position does not reflect the drawdown of loans against capital expenditure for Phase 2 of the IGP amounting to E130 million. The drawdown for this and subsequent expenditure, occurred in April 2019. The financial ratios show a general decline when compared to the last year but still show good returns given the depressed sugar market conditions.

#### Outlook

The sugar markets remain difficult, more so in the SACU and world markets. The view is that there should be a moderate recovery in SACU sugar prices in the medium term. The business will need to continue to improve efficiencies in its pursuit to be a low cost producer of sugar.

### Corporate Governance

The Group is committed to best corporate governance practices and in this regard is guided by, inter alia, the code of corporate best practice and conduct contained in the King reports and other international guidelines on corporate governance. Details of the Group's compliance with corporate governance are set out in the March 2018 Integrated Report and these have been consistently applied during the year.

### Review by Independent Auditors

The Group auditors, KPMG Chartered Accountants (Swaziland) have audited the consolidated financial results for the year ended 31 March 2019 and have issued an unmodified report. This summarised consolidated financial information has been derived from the audited statements and is consistent in all material respects. The report of the independent auditor is available for inspection at the registered office of the Company.

### Contingencies and Commitments

There have been no material changes to contingencies while capital commitments have reduced by E178.6 million when compared to the disclosed amounts in the March 2018 Integrated Report. This is due to the spending profile of the ongoing Integrated Growth Programme.

### Dividend Declared

A first interim dividend for the year ended 31 March 2019 (dividend 51) of 56.2 cents per share was declared on 14 September 2018 and paid in November 2018 to shareholders who were registered in the books of the Company at the close of business on 12 October 2018.

A second and final dividend for the year ended 31 March 2019 (dividend 52) of 96.18 cents per share was declared on 27 March 2019 and paid on or about 14 June 2019 to shareholders registered in the books of the Company at the close of business on 03 May 2019. This dividend, together with the interim dividend make a total distribution in respect of the year ended 31 March 2019 of 152.38 cents per share (2018 - 220.0 cents).

### Material Events After the Reporting Date

There have been no material events after the reporting date.

### Registered Office and Postal Address

The Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation Limited  
 P. O. Box 1  
 Simunye  
 L301 Kingdom of Eswatini

Website: www.rssc.co.sz

### Transfer Secretaries

KPMG Advisory (Swaziland) (Proprietary) Limited  
 P. O. Box 331  
 Mbabane  
 H100 Kingdom of Eswatini

### Sponsoring Broker

Swaziland Stockbrokers Limited  
 P. O. Box 2818  
 Mbabane  
 H100 Kingdom of Eswatini

### Auditors

KPMG  
 P. O. Box 331  
 Mbabane  
 H100 Kingdom of Eswatini

**Directors:** Dr A T Dlamini (Chairman), N M Jackson (Managing Director), HRH Princess Lomajuba, I Ahmed, J M du Plessis, J N Gule, Z R Magagula, B Mkhaliplhi, Chief Z N Ndlangamandla, M S M Shongwe, I G van der Walt, A Westermeyer.  
**Alternate:** A Adeyemi (alternate to I Ahmed), M Ndlela (alternate to J N Gule), A Ngcobo (alternate to A T Dlamini).

**Company Secretary:** L S Masango

### Acknowledgements

The Board expresses its appreciation to management and staff for their efforts during the year ended 31 March 2019.

For and on behalf of the Board

Dr A T Dlamini  
 Simunye

N M Jackson

28 June 2019





## PAC embarks on site visits today

BY MBONO MDLULI  
Mbabane

**THE Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will be embarking on its sit visits starting from today.**

According to a statement issued by the PAC, the site visits by this sessional committee are expected to start from 10am and sites to be visited include Fonteyn High in Mbabane, where the committee would be inspecting solar water pumps that were installed in the school.

At about mid-day, the PAC will be visiting the ministry of Public works and transport in Mbabane. The purpose of the committee's visit there would be to inspect the ministry's fleet management system. About two weeks ago, PAC Chairperson Phila Buthelezi had promised that the site visits would be done last week.

However, that could not happen, as the House of Assembly had business. It was for that reason why the PAC starts its site visits today. The site visits are part of the session of the committee, which started in April this year.

After the site visits, the PAC is expected to compile its report. After compilation of the report, Buthelezi will then table the very same report before the House of Assembly.

The report will be debated in the House of Assembly and a resolution, based on the report, will be passed by the House. One of the site visits the PAC is expected to make concerns one company known as Heptagon Company. There are certain properties worth E986 000 that are said to have been used by Heptagon Company while working on the site.

### Furnished

The E986 000 is part of the over E79 742 609.28 that was lost by the commerce ministry to Heptagon Company.

The properties were eventually taken by the company and are said to be in its possession now. The properties included furnished temporary offices, telephone systems, name boards, kitchen unit, motor vehicles, and other properties.

The properties, according to the contract between the ministry and Heptagon, were to be returned to the ministry when the work was finished.

PAC members recommended that the properties should be recovered from Heptagon and be kept within premises of a government structure. The PAC members would then go and conduct an inspection to appreciate the condition of the government properties.

The PAC has already made one site visit to the Nhlanguano-Sicunusa road project. The visit was made last week Thursday.

Buthelezi said Emaswati were still going to lose millions of Emalangeni to see it finished. The PAC directed the ministry of public works and transport to engage forensic auditors to investigate. He said the works ministry would then find out how much would be needed for the government to spend in order to finish the project.

# Govt to borrow from PSPF

BY MBONO MDLULI  
MBABANE

**GOVERNMENT is planning to secure loans from the Public Service Pension Fund (PSPF) in the near future.**

This was revealed by Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg, when he told MPs who are members of the House of Assembly Finance Sessional Committee.

The conversation between Rijkenberg and the legislators is contained in the report of the Ministry of Finance Sessional Committee on the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) for the (Lower Usuthu Smallholder Irrigation Project Phase II 'LUSIP II') Loan Bill, 2019 (Bill No. 13 of 2019).

The minister was responding to a question posed by one MP during the meeting with the ministry of finance. The MP who asked the question was not named in the report.

"PSPF has enough funds to lend to government. Why are we not sourcing the funds from those institutions," the MP asked.

Rijkenberg responded by saying his ministry would consider that option.

"Yes, that is an option that can be considered. However, borrowing from PSPF would be very expensive to finance a project of this magnitude.

Government prefers the concessional loans as they tend to be very affordable and some come with an element of a grant," Rijkenberg said.

The minister further assured the MPs that the country,

with this loan, would still be within the 35 per cent threshold, according to its debt-to-GDP ratio. He said some of the country's loans were supposed to mature in the next few years.

Some MPs, during the meeting, expressed concern over the country's focus on sugar production. They wanted to know why this country did not consider venturing to other crops. Their concern was based on that this loan was also secured to beef up the sugar production industry.

In response, the minister said Eswatini sugar was rated among the best sugar in the world (top five low cost in the world) due to efficiency in production. He further said the country was still making some profits from the sugar cane industry.

"We are the highest exporter in Africa and the second highest producer in the Southern Africa.

Sugar is therefore a springboard for our farmers to then diversify to other crops," he said.

**REVEALED: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg.**



## Mpolonjeni indvuna reports umphakatsi to RA

STORIES BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI  
Siteki

**CONFLICTED Mpolonjeni Indvuna Makotovu Gamedze has reported the umphakatsi to the regional administrator's office for using his name in official documents such as the Graded Tax Certificate.**

Gamedze was at the RA's office to report his complaint on Thursday. Information gathered was that Gamedze accuses the umphakatsi of misusing his name on official documents whereas the council of the umphakatsi does not recognise him as indvuna.

Worth noting is that the chieftdom is currently overseer by the inner council, led by indvuna pending installation of the chief.

Gamedze has been the longest serving indvuna of the umphakatsi, at least until the ruling Dvuba family removed him from the position.

This was after he was accused of misconduct, amongst other allegations which were levelled against him.

When reached for comment on the matter, Gamedze confirmed visiting the RA's office last Thursday to report his grievances. Gamedze

## Mpolonjeni hit by chieftaincy dispute

**WHILST residents of Mpolonjeni umphakatsi wait in anticipation for the endorsement of the next ruler of the area, the chieftdom is currently divided into two factions.**

According to reliable sources, the factions are made of members of the ruling family, who are at present, not in agreement on some issues.

This is said to be the same reason that saw former Indvuna Makotovu Gamedze being removed

from his position.

Worth recalling is that the ruling Dvuba family in May last year, unveiled Sibusiso Dvuba as the next ruler of the area. He is the grandson to the late Chief Macebo Dvuba who died over 50 years ago.

### Eminent

During his introduction, a senior family member Madubula Dvuba said the next ruler will be known as Chief Jabhane II.

Fast-forward to a year later, an

eminent division between the family members is prevailing. Sources within the umphakatsi told this publication that an opposition faction has come up to oppose the installation of Sibusiso Dvuba as the next leader. The opposition faction is allegedly led by Msibhosi Dvuba, a son to the late chief.

"Both factions hold community meetings on Saturdays, and this has been going on since last year," claimed a senior member of the Dvuba family.

his name to validate documents whereas they removed him from the position.

Moreover, Gamedze alleges to have been wrongfully removed from the position, and wants to be reinstated.

When speaking during the brief interview with this publication, Gamedze said he had many issues with the umphakatsi, which he was hoping to have discussed by the liaison officer.

During his visit to the RA's office, Gamedze said he was informed that the liaison officer was indis-

posed. Gamedze was with his contingent followers who are also aggrieved by his removal. They were able to have audience with the RA who referred them back to the liaison's office. When also reached for comment, Msibi confirmed meeting Gamedze and his supporters on Thursday.

"Procedurally, the matter will be attended by the King's liaison to make a ruling on it. The aggrieved party may, however forward its complaint to my office if they are not satisfied with liaison's ruling," the RA explained.

## VOCATIONAL STUDIES AT MBABANE

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- Catering & Hospitality
- House-keeping
- Décor & Events Planning
- Computer Repairs (ComptiaA+)
- Network+ & Computer Networking (Certified)
- CISCO Certified CCNA (CISCO)
- Graphic Designing

Contact:  
7863 5535

Doc.19091



# NETWORK BLACKOUT GROUNDS COUNTRY

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
MBABANE

**WILD fires at Malagwane Hill caused a national blackout of network services in the whole country yesterday.**

Most people had difficulties in accessing network services offered by MTN, Eswatini Mobile as well as Eswatini Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC) services for the better part of the day.

This caused an outcry and panic amongst many people as banking services, including ATMs, were not working.

According to MTN Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Lumphondvo, the wild fire burnt backbone fibre which is responsible for connections across network providers in the

country. The effects of the burnt EPTC fibre caused connectivity problems in many services that required network connection either from MTN, Eswatini Mobile and EPTC.

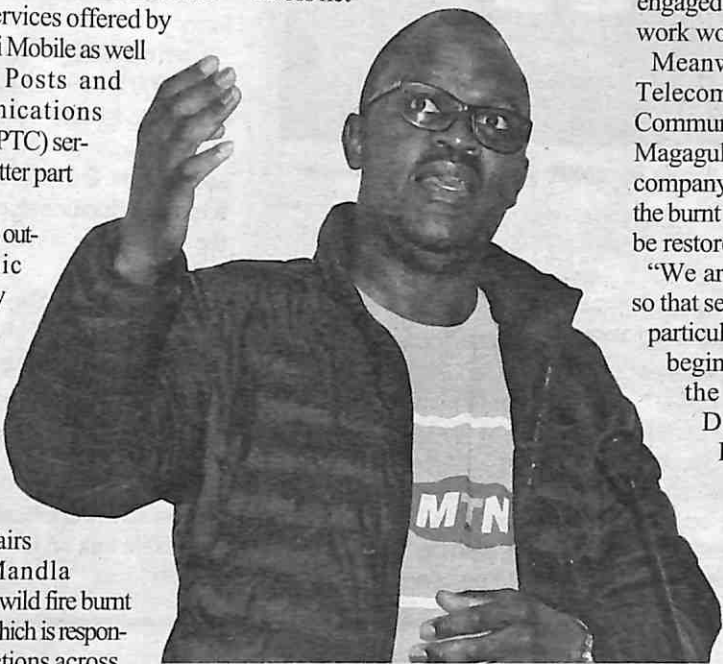
"Because of the fire, inter-connection had been compromised," he said. Phone calls across net-

works were unsuccessful because of the burnt fibre. Services such as Mobile Money and e-Mali were also compromised. People were only able to make on net calls. The internet was moving at a snail's pace while other services were jammed.

Lumphondvo promised that they had engaged all stakeholders and the network would be restored soon.

Meanwhile, Eswatini Posts and Telecommunications Corporation Communications Manager Nqobile Magagula assured the nation that the company was working on restoring the burnt fibre so that connections can be restored.

"We are trying to reboot the fibre so that services can be restored in no particular time," she said. Since the beginning of the winter season, the fire department through Deputy Chief Fire Fighter Dumsani Khumalo, reported that they had observed escalating cases of wild fires and most of them were caused by human activity which leads to destruction of property.



REVEALED: MTN Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Lumphondvo.

## Two friends fight over missing E1 800

BY BONGUMUSA SIMELANE  
MBABANE

**WHAT was meant to be a drinking spree almost ended tragically after two friends were involved in a nasty fight at the Engen Garage premises yesterday.**

It was gathered that the two friends were fighting next to their car, a red VW which was parked next to the Engen Garage. It was at that point that all those who were present started to notice them and efforts of calming them down proved futile.

They exchanged blows and kicks with one of them only identified as Thabo being injured, tearing his upper lip and suffering bruises all over his face.

Within a few minutes, Thabo was seen grabbing a screw driver and chased his drinking partner with the intent of stabbing him.

The situation could have been defused if it was not for one more friend who alighted from a kombi and joined in the fight. The additional man is said to have joined forces with his cousin and together they tried to pin down Thabo.

A plain clothed police officer who was at the scene saved the day as he was able to salvage the situation by drawing his pistol and ordered the trio to stop. According to eye witnesses, the two men used any weapon in sight such that they even

used a broom which they broke while fighting with it. When the two were interviewed on the source of their fight, they both claimed that the other had stolen money.

"They have been fighting me from Matsapha just because of my money which I had hid inside the car. I tried to explain to him that I didn't take his money but he did not listen," he said.

On the contrary though, his friend claimed that he lost E1 800 while they were enjoying drinks in Matsapha and the only suspect was none other than his friend. Thabo continued to make damning allegations about his friend, saying it was not the first time he stole from him as he once stole his cellphone and he denied it until he found it charged in some friend's house. The two were then taken by police officers for questioning at the Mbabane Police Station, where they were later freed.

**They have been fighting me from Matsapha just because of my money which I had hid inside the car. I tried to explain to him that I didn't take his money but he did not listen**

## ALMOST THERE...



**PIPE LINE:** Motorists are advised to drive with extra caution on the old Mahlanya/Ezulwini road as workmen are busy fitting huge water pipes there. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

## MAN ASKS PRINCIPAL MAGISTRATE TO FINE HIM E1 500 FOR CRIME

BY SIZWE DLAMINI  
Pigg's Peak

**MUSA Twala (28) who was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, urged Principal Magistrate Joe Gumedze to give him a fine of E1 500 for his crime.**

Twala was arrested yesterday morning while driving his VW along the MR1 public road in Pigg's Peak.

At the time of his arrest, Twala was found with a blood alcohol content of 0.72mg/l, which is above the limit of 0.38mg/l. After his arrest, Twala was taken to the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court where he pleaded guilty to the offence.

"I was driving my elder brother back to his home near Glen. This is because he was too drunk to drive himself.

Unfortunately, I came across the police who arrested me.

**Laughed**

At the police station I phoned my family to organise E1 500 so that I can pay the fine. Currently, my family is trying to raise the money," he said.

After hearing these statements, Magistrate Gumedze laughed and informed Twala that sentencing was at the discretion of the presiding magistrate.

"I am laughing because you are acting like I have already sentenced you.

Understand that your sentence is at my discretion, mean-

ing you wasted your time in telling your family to bring E1 500 as your fine because I will sentence you to two years in a correctional facility if you fail to pay the E2 000 fine option," he said.

**Failed**

Twala was joined by landscaper Menzi Chro (34) who was sentenced to three years in a correctional facility if he failed to pay the E3 000 fine for driving under the influence of alcohol in Pigg's Peak.

The last individual to be arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol was Vusi Matsenjwa (32), who was sentenced to 15 months in a correctional facility if he failed to pay the E1 500 fine option.



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# ONLINE STORYTELLING CONTEST FOR EMASWATI

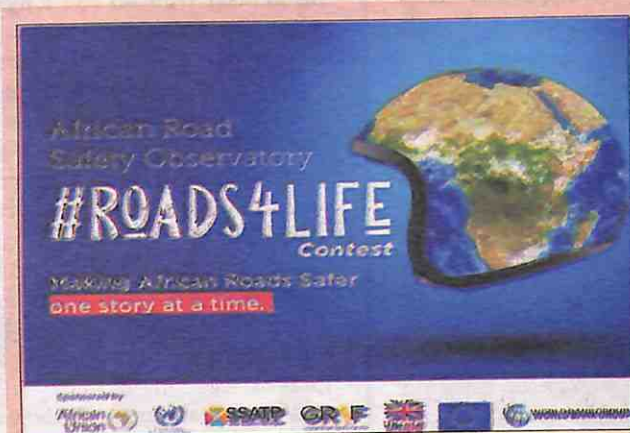
BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

**THE Swaziland Road Safety Council is inviting Emaswati to share their story in an effort to change Africa's road safety narrative for the better.**

The Southern Africa Transport Policy Programme (SATPP) with the support of the African Union Council (AUC), UNECA, European Union (EU), WBG and GRSF, with funding from United Kingdom Aid, was launched last Monday.

It calls on African leaders, civil society organisations, communities or individuals to share written stories, comic stories, and short videos that showcase innovations for road safety, such as data-driven interventions that are working to improve road safety in African communities.

Secondly, personal stories of taking a stand to address day-to-day



road safety issues, including existing road safety challenges and concrete demands to address them.

## Campaigns

In addition, Road safety leadership in countries and communities, such as successful communication campaigns, education and training programmes.

Road Safety Planner Mandla Ntshali said the contest will

run from July 1 to August 31.

A selection committee will review all entries and announce the winners of each category by September 30.

Winners will be invited to participate in the SATP Annual General Meeting taking place on November.

Winners will be given the opportunity to share their experience and advocate for change in front of

Africa's transport leaders and decision-makers.

He added that stories will be judged on four points which are clarity, the quality of information provided, the relevance of the activity regarding road safety, and the results.

To participate, email the contest submission form to [ssatp@worldbank.org](mailto:ssatp@worldbank.org), with the 'Roads4Life' as a subject line. Submissions must

present original work as defined by copyright law.

Only one submission per entrant will be allowed.

"The competition is open to any person over the age of 18 living in Africa. All entries must be in English or French," he said.

## Viewable

For each category a contestant should submit a video which must be five minutes in length.

Participant must upload an embeddable, publicly viewable video to YouTube and include the link to the video on the contest registration form.

A written story must not be less than 2 000 words and include at least one photo to accompany the story. "Participant must use Google Docs and share the link with [ssatp@worldbank.org](mailto:ssatp@worldbank.org). Include shareable link to the story on the contest registration form," he said.

Contestants are also welcomed to submit Comic Stories which must be less than five pages in length. Illustrations can be in colour or black-and-white. Participant must upload the comic story as a PDF file on Google Drive and share the link with [ssatp@worldbank.org](mailto:ssatp@worldbank.org). Include shareable link on the contest registration form.

## 1 200 pupils benefit in dental outreach

STORES BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

**MBABANE Rotary Club reached out to 1 200 pupils who were in need of dental care in four schools in the Northern Hhohho region.**

The Schools Dental Outreach is a project of the Mbabane Rotary Club.

The project embodies the rotary club principle of service above self and is in line with one of the six areas of focus of Rotary namely Disease prevention and treatment.

Other areas of focus include peace and conflict prevention and resolution, water and sanitation, maternal and child health, basic educa-

tion and literacy and economic and community development.

Dr Musa Mthethwa, who is a dentist at Mbabane clinic and also a member of Mbabane Rotary Club, said the Dental Outreach project was conceived to provide amongst other things, standard of care oral health to school children, many of who would never have access in their lifetime to a dentist.

## Outreach

This year the outreach went to the Northern Hhohho and was based at Timphisini High, where the facilities were most appropriate for the setup of the treatment centre.

The outreach covered four schools, namely, Timphisini Primary and High School, Ndlalambi Nazarene Primary and Ngonini Primary.

"A total number of 1 200 pupils have been helped through the Dental Outreach," he said.

The outreach was carried out by an entirely local team of volunteers comprised of dentists and hygienists from within the country and rotarians from Limkokwing Rotary Club of.

## Procedures

Satellite teams were sent out to participating schools, where oral health education and screening of for oral diseases were carried out with the least possible interference to normal classroom activities.

"Those found in need of further care or dental procedures were then transported to the base treatment centre at Timphisini High where they were attended to," he said.

The pupils accessed to different dental procedures which included cleaning, restoration work including fillings and in extreme cases unsalvageable teeth were extracted.

They also received a parting gift of a goody bag which contained amongst others personal items such as clothes and educational items on oral health to nurture the seed of oral health care that has been planted during the week long exercise.

**CLEAN: One of the Mbabane Rotary Club dental outreach project beneficiaries.**



## School outreach programme costs E2 million

**THE School Dental outreach initiative is estimated to have cost more than E2 million.**

The care provided during the fortnight of the project is the current standard of care using the appropriate material and other resources sourced for the project. For screening and oral therapy the project is estimated to have cost E644 000.

Meanwhile, dental procedures that were performed to 641 pupils had been estimated to be E2 051 200. A total number 2 564 procedures were carried out through the dental outreach project.

"This outreach had been made possible by warm cordial collaboration between the Rotary Club of Mbabane and MoH and MoE," he said.

Some of the sponsors of the



**HERE AND THERE: Some of the places that benefit from the outreach programme.**

project included MTN, First National Bank, Southern Star, Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation, World Vision and old Mutual amongst other sponsors.

This was not the first time the

club embarked in such a project as it started in 2006 as an alternate year activity, which the first project was at Zulwini Catholic Primary School. It was then extended to the nearby school in the Hhohho region.

Meanwhile, Secretary General of Mbabane Rotary Club Nonhlanhla Kazembe applauded the club for making the project easy, while she was still a president of the club.

"This has been the highlight of the year," she said.

Kazembe further thanked the ministry of health for working and allowing the club to provide and trusting them with health services as well as the community. She urged members to continue the humanitarian work and to embark in other projects.

## WINTER SPECIALS



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School jersey from E90.



Mens suede boots from E260.



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# Stay away from car theft syndicates - border cops warned

STORIES BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Matsapha

**ACTING** National Commissioner of Police William Dlamini has warned police officers involved in border policing to stay away from car theft syndicates and dagga smuggling gangs.

The acting national commissioner made this warning during the official closure of the border interdiction course at the Police Academy in Matsapha on Friday.

Representing the acting national commissioner was Deputy Commissioner Mumsy Dlamini.

## Temptations

She appealed to the police who directly deal with visitors and economic transactions to uphold the virtue of being trustworthy and working with honesty so that the country becomes a destination of choice for tourism and business investment alike.

"I implore you to stay away from the luring and temptations of car



**HANDING OVER:** Deputy National Commissioner of Police Mumsy Dlamini handing over a certificate to one of the participants. (Courtesy pics)

theft syndicates and dagga smuggling gangs who promise you quick rewards yet have long term reper-

cussions both for you as an individual and the country as a whole," Dlamini said.

She said as the police they are aware that border police officers are faced with acute shortage of technical equipment to conduct searches and detect falsified documents at the border crossing points as technology is part of a wider response to this problem.

## Impact

Dlamini said the introduction of biometric and innovative technologies can have a significant impact to improve surveillances in the country's borders and these would be exploited to enhance border control.

She encouraged the spirit of working together on common border and security challenges, particularly on tackling illegal cross-border activities.

She said an integrated border management approach is crucial for improving peace and stimulating economic activity as it facilitates the legitimate movement of much needed goods and services.

## Dagga

Dlamini also pointed out that dagga smuggling at the country's borders has turned to be a multi-faceted phenomenon and has manifested itself in different activities, especially the formation of illicit groups and networks.

Dlamini also advocated for the acting national commissioner's call to support the National Strategic Roadmap by joining hands with government to embrace the recently launched operational plan directed on eco-

nomie recovery and sustainability. "The five-year blue-print instrument provides an overview of key economic reforms," Dlamini stated. She highlighted some key features related to the border control functions.

## Self-confidence

These features, according to Dlamini, include synchronising all multidimensional tasks involved in border policing sectors to eradicate the plague of crime and corruption, employing diverse and multidisciplinary approaches on controlling movements of goods and people with the highest degree of diligence and self-confidence.

She further pointed out that another feature is adopting zero tolerance on crime which undermines economic growth and erodes public confidence on law enforcement efforts to carry out its mandate.

## Enforcing

The deputy national commissioner told the border police that as front-line operatives in the bilateral service delivery, they would be instrumental in formulating and enforcing innovative strategies aimed at eliminating cross-border crime.

Dlamini said stricter border security enforcement is essential for the state security sector as domestic security of any country starts with frontiers.

She said it is a fact that transnational organised crime networks are the main threats to socio-economic development and state security.



**POSE:** Deputy National Commissioner of Police Mumsy Dlamini poses with other police officers.

## Border cops beg for promotions

**BORDER** control officers are concerned that promotions are elusive.

The officers said there is an anomaly that needs to be addressed in the positions of border officers.

Speaking during the closing ceremony of the border interdiction course at Police Academy, Constable Mightyman Zwane, who is based at Lundzi Border Post, said as border control officers they request to be also considered for promotions when the time

for incentives come.

"Most border posts commanders occupy the inspectorate rank and unfortunately they are deputised by constables which is an anomaly that needs to be addressed," Zwane said.

## Shortage

Speaking about challenges which they face as officers, Zwane said the shortage of uniform and accommodation is still a big challenge for them.

Zwane said they understand

that this challenge is influenced by financial constraints which the country is facing. He said despite all these challenges, they promise as border officers to work tirelessly until the desired result is attained.

Speaking about the course, Zwane said the knowledge, skills and tactics that they have acquired would help them as border officers to efficiently execute their daily tasks for the benefit of Eswatini and her residents.



**ESWATINI WATER & AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE LTD**  
**LOWER USUTHU SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION PROJECT**

## INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT

### TENDER No. ESWADE/0421

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified Suppliers, registered with the Construction Industry Council of Eswatini (CIC) under category (Manufacturers and Suppliers), wishing to tender for the Supply and Delivery of Maintenance Equipment. Tenders will only be accepted from a company which meets the following Criteria; (i) 60% of the controlling shares are owned by Swazi citizens.

A E350-00 non-refundable deposit is required from a prospective tenderer on issue of the tender document. Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques made out to "ESWADE" will be accepted.

Queries relating to the issue of these documents, administrative and technical matters may be addressed to Mr Musa Masilela, Tel No. 2344 1873 or 2344 1671/2/3, Fax No. 2344 1665, e-mail [musa@swade.co.sz](mailto:musa@swade.co.sz).

Bid Reference No.	ESWADE/0421
Date of commencement of sale of tender documents	Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2019 (Tenders will be sold between 08:30 and 15:00)
Tender Documents will be sold at:	ESWADE-LUSIP Siphofaneni Office
Last date of sale of tender documents	2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2019
Deadline for Submission of Bids and Opening of Proposals.	2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2019 at 14:00.
Address for Submission of Bids and Public Opening of Bids.	ESWADE Headquarters, Mhilibhi St., 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor MVA Building, Mbabane, Eswatini
Expected Delivery Schedule	First delivery within 30 calendar days from contract signature

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the ESWADE Head Office and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

**Chairman of the Tender Board**  
**Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)**  
MVA Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Mbabane  
Eswatini

Any actions or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Telegraphic, telephonic, telex, facsimile, e-mail and late tenders will not be accepted. ESWADE will accept no responsibility for the late delivery of tenders by courier services or any other means.

ESWADE does not bind herself to accept the lowest or any tender.





# FOCUS on DD cases

## DRUNK WARDER DRIVES WITH LIGHTS SWITCHED OFF

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Manzini

AN officer from His Majesty's Correctional Services was arrested over the weekend for driving while under the influence of alcohol.

Mciniseli Simelane (35) was nabbed with an alcohol content of 0.58mg/l, which is over the legal limit of 0.38mg/l. He made his court appearance yesterday before Manzini Magistrate

Sindisile Zwane.

Simelane was slapped with three counts. The first count was that of driving while under the influence of alcohol while the second one was failing to stop when ordered to do so by a police officer.

### Driving

The last count was that of driving a vehicle at night with its lights switched off. Simelane pleaded guilty to all the charges.

In mitigation, he informed the court that it was a mistake as he had taken



one too many the night before and did not have enough rest.

Simelane said he thought that the alcohol was no longer in his system.

The accused pleaded for leniency saying he was a first time offender.

The magistrate informed the correctional services officer that since he knew that driving while under the influence is a crime he should have avoided doing that in the first place. Zwane said there was no excuse for committing a crime.

### Accused

For driving while under the influence of alcohol the accused was sentenced to two years imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000, for failing to stop when ordered to do so by the police he was sentenced to a year imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000, for driving his vehicle with its lights switched off he was sentenced to six months imprisonment with a fine option of E800.

## Drink-driver suspect fights off three cops in police cell

A driver who was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol surprised police officers when he kicked and wrestled with three police officers at Mankayane Police Station.

Muzi Ndlela made his court appearance yesterday before Manzini Senior Magistrate Sindisile Zwane. He was charged with three offences.

The first offence was that of driving while under the influence of alcohol. The accused person's breath specimen read 0.63mg/l which was way over the limit of 0.38mg/l.

The second charge was that the accused person failed to stop when ordered to do so by the police. The third charge was that of resisting arrest.

According to the charge sheet Ndlela is alleged to have wrestled police officers while inside the prison cells in Mankayane. The accused pleaded guilty

to all counts. He apologised for breaking the law, but said he did not fight with the police.

He said what actually happened is that when he alighted from the police vehicle he tripped and fell and police got the wrong idea and thought he was fighting with them. The accused promised that such a situation would not happen again.

For driving while under the influence of alcohol the accused person was sentenced into two years imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000. For failing to stop when ordered to do so by the police the accused was sentenced to a year imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.

For fighting police officers, while inside the holding cells he was sentenced into a year imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.

He was fined a total of E6 000.

## Drunk driver causes accident, pleads not guilty to charges

A driver who was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol is alleged to have ended up causing an accident.

Xolani Malindzisa appeared before Magistrate Sindisile Zwane yesterday as he was charged with two counts.

On the first count it is stated that the accused person drove his vehicle an Isuzu van, while under the influence of alcohol. His breath specimen on the alcometre read 1.12mg/l, which is way higher than the legal limit of 0.38mg/l. The second charge was that the accused person drove recklessly and caused an accident as he crashed on a stationary mini truck. The accused pleaded not guilty to both charges. He was remanded back into police custody and told to appear in court on 11 July. He was informed that should he want to be released on bail he should pay E5 000.



A list of some of the DD offenders who appeared in court yesterday:

Name	Alcohol Content	Bail/Fine
Xolani Malindzisa	1.12mg/l	E5 000 bail
Sifiso Dlamini	0.98mg/l	E2 000 / 2 years
Banele Dlamini	0.50mg/l	E2 000/ 2 years
Dumisani Hlatshwayo	0.89mg/l	E2 000/2 years
Banele Mbhamali	0.73mg/l	E2 000/2 years
Senzo Mngometulu	0.76mg/l	E2 000/2 years
Douglas Dlamini	0.66mg/l	E2 000/2 years
Melusi Mhlanga	0.59mg/l	E2 000/2 years

## 84 ARRESTED FOR DRINK-DRIVING

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

THE past weekend saw 84 people arrested for drink-driving, which was a significant decline from last

week's 102 cases.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said all drink-driving suspects made their court appearance before Magistrate's Courts in all four corners of the country.

She said it was worth mentioning that these motorists had exceeded the legal limit of 0.38mg/l.

### Read

"Section 91 (1) as read with Section 122 (1) of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007 states that any person found

behind a steering wheel with an alcohol content exceeding 0.38 mg/l will face the law.

For contravening his Act a person may face up E5 000 fine," she said. She added that the numbers were likely to increase yesterday evening as police officers were all over the country ensuring that people were safe as they use the road.

The numbers have drastically decreased from last week's 102 cases.

She condemned the act of driving while under the influence of alcohol, saying alcohol reduces driving ability to make proper judgement, thus exposing other motorists to fatal road accidents and causing damage to public roads.

## RE-ARRESTED SUSPECT SUFFERS SEIZURES, HALLUCINATES IN JAIL

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE

A house breaking and theft suspect says he cannot take it any more in jail as he now suffers seizures which cause him to hallucinate in jail irritating other offenders in the process.

Sabelo Musa Sibandze who has now been re-arrested for committing the same offence while out of custody after paying a fine upon conviction, yesterday filed an urgent application for bail at the High Court as he wants out of jail due to what he claims is an unknown sickness.

Sibandze who is represented by Mbabane based lawyer Noncedo

• He informs court that HMCS Chaplain always prays for him when attacked by this unknown sickness pleading with Judge Cyril Maphanga to release him on bail to consult traditional healers

Ndlangamandla of Mabila Attorneys in Association with N Ndlangamandla submitted that he was moving the application in terms of Section 16 (7) of the Constitution of Eswatini.

He informed the court that in the month of May 2019, he was arrested by the Lubulini Police together with those from Sigodweni and was charged with 15 counts of house breaking and theft.

He brought it to the attention of the court that he was previously convicted for the offence of house breaking in Nhlanguano in May and was currently

serving that sentence and he was even afforded the opportunity to pay a fine which he did.

He told the court that there were exceptional circumstances warranting that he be admitted to bail stating that he had developed an unknown sickness. Appearing before Judge Cyril Maphanga, the suspect informed the court that he was a very sickly person who needed attention by traditional healers.

"I am a person who suffers seizures and hallucinations, I have even had the prison chaplain pray for me when

attacked by this but it has become worse, I am advised that I need the assistance of traditional healers and cannot access his services while in custody," he submitted.

He further informed the court that he has two minor children who are dependent on him for support and his continued incarceration is prejudicial to them.

However, the crown indicated that they opposed to the bail application and the matter was postponed to next month as both parties are to file their papers.



BEFORE HIM: Judge Cyril Maphanga.



# CLIENT TAKES LAW FIRM TO COURT, DISPUTES E67 000 LEGAL FEES

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE

A client who had sought services of a law firm in prosecuting his divorce proceedings has now taken the law firm to High Court where he is disputing legal fees amounting to E67 000.

Bongani Sibanyoni, who is employed by Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC), has dragged Empandze based law firm Nkomondze Attorneys to court, where he is seeking an order for rescission and setting aside the default against him which was granted in favour of the law firm.

He has filed an urgent application further seeking an order that pend-

ing determination and finalisation of the present matter before court, the defendant (law firm) be interdicted and restrained from attaching and taking into execution any of the plaintiff's (Sibanyoni) property.

Represented by lawyer Sebenele Nhlengetfwa, Sibanyoni in his founding affidavit submitted that he is currently resident at Tshaneni and he is the judgment debtor in the main matter which was ruled in favour of the law firm.

He submitted that this is an application where he seeks an order preventing the law firm from attaching his property.

Giving a background of the matter, he submitted that in 2016 he entered

into an oral agreement with the law firm at their offices in Simunye and in terms of that agreement, the law firm was to provide him with legal services in his application where he was seeking a final decree of divorce.

He submitted that on two different occasions, he was updated with the proceedings while the matter was in court and on both instances he was informed that his lawyers were

attending same in court, adding that he was further informed that he was not required in person in court.

"However after these two instances, I never heard from my lawyers again as I was expecting to attend court to plead my case but this did not happen. After a while at the end of 2017 I called my lawyers and enquired about my case but was taken aback when informed that I am owing E67 224.92 in respect of legal fees,"



he averred. He submitted that it became clear to him that the default judgment had been against him for this amount as he was furnished with a warrant of execution against his property and averred that such judgment was granted in error since he was not served with summons calling upon him to defend the action.

"Further, I do not know how the sum of E67 224.92 was arrived at, especially because I never received any information on the court's judgment in my divorce proceedings on whether it was in my favour or was dismissed," Sibanyoni added.

He submitted that he verily believes the order directing him to pay such an amount cannot be substantiated in a divorce matter where pleadings were not closed and matter not finalised. The matter is before Judge Cyril Maphanga and it has been postponed to allow the parties file their papers before being argued.



## 350 screened in cervical cancer project

BY NOKUZOLA THWALA  
Mbabane

CERVICAL cancer screening project collaboration between the ministry of health, Korean doctors Kosin and Pukyong Universities resulted in 350 individuals screened for free last week.

This was revealed by Swakor Medical Centre's Daniel Kim who coordinated this project. He said a local registered medical non-governmental organisation (NGO) named People for Medical Cooperation International Eswatini joined hands in this project.

"A team of three South Korean gynaecologists collaborated with local health facilities doing the cervical cancer screening for free for three days at Lobamba, Satellite, and King Sobhuza II Clinics and we checked about 350 cases," he said.

He added that the Korean team came with a pathologist as well and joined hands with the National Laboratory after the Pap smear.

People for Medical Cooperation Eswatini is a group of South Koreans medical experts that has been operating since 2014 in the Kingdom of Eswatini. They also invited a urologist, paediatric surgeon and vascular surgeon to help government health facilities, save lives and medical funds



as well. Kim said this kind of screening would continue next month.

Mgcineni Ndlangamandla, focal person for cervical cancer at the ministry of health, said they had about 30 pre-cancer stage cases which they treated. He said this was carcinoma in situ (CIS), the earliest form of cervical cancer because the cancer cells in CIS are only in the surface layer of the cervix; they have not grown into deeper layers of cells.

He said it was good that this project immediately followed nine doctors training where they were taught how to treat cancer. These doctors were

from all the health facilities except for Nhlalanga and Sithobela Health Centres. "Part of the training had practical sessions where most cases were treated; the rest who were not treated was a result of them not coming back as instructed.

These people leave home without showing any sign of sickness and not knowing that they were at this stage of cancer," he said. Ndlangamandla disclosed that last year the Korean doctors came with a different mandate to treat only Hlatikulu Government Hospital patients because they had a backlog of cases there.





# 2019 ENACTUS ESWATINI NATIONAL COMPETITION



**NO FAVOURS:** Part of the judges getting down to business during the 2019 ENACTUS Eswatini National competition which was held at Esibayeni Lodge over the weekend.  
(Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



**GREETINGS:** Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini being welcomed upon arrival.



**PRESENTATION:** Gwamile VOCTIM making their presentation.



**TOKEN OF APPRECIATION:** PM and the VIPs were presented with their gifts.



**ALL EARS:** A section of participants following proceedings.

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**RUNNERS UP:** The Prime Minister presents Gwamile VOCTIM with their prize. The institution were runners-up in the competition.



# MINISTER TOURS 3 BORDER POSTS

BY SIZWE DLAMINI  
Pigg's Peak

**AFTER** touring border posts in the Shiselweni region last week, Minister of Home Affairs Princess Lindiwe toured the Mananga, Matsamo and Bulembu Border Posts last Friday.

Present during the tour were Ludlawini Chief Senator Mphatfwa Dlamini, Senator Isaac Magagula and Portfolio Committee Chairperson Madala Mhlanga.

During the tour the minister spoke to immigration officers at all the aforementioned border posts.

At the Matsamo Border Post, immigration officers complained about being understaffed and lack of accommodation.

"The Matsamo Border Post is a very important entry and exit point in Northern Hhohho as it is mainly used to export Eswatini timber to the Republic of South Africa.

However, due to the fact that the border post is understaffed, the timber trucks spend a longtime there thus angering the truck drivers.

Matsamo also lacks suitable accommodation for immigration officers. All these problems cause us staff to be less friendly with tourists," one of the employ-



**REMARKS:** Minister of Home Affairs Princess Lindiwe making her remarks after the tour.

ees said.

After touring the Matsamo Border Post, the minister travelled the 18km long gravel road to the Bulembu Border Post, where she spoke to police officer, Sibusiso Dlamini.

During his speech, Dlamini said tourists coming to the country enjoy using the Bulembu Border Post instead of the Ngwenya Border Gate.

"About 19 tourists from the Republic of South Africa and beyond use the Bulembu Border Post daily. Out of these, six may be of African descent while the

rest are European.

The main reason why the tourists prefer this border post is because it is less congested compared to Ngwenya Border Post.

Furthermore, most of the tourists own off-road cars that they use for rally racing on the terrible Bulembu to Pigg's Peak road.

A major problem at the Bulembu Border Post is electricity outages. In many cases, electricity blackout will last for more than 24 hours. This hinders our work because we use computers at the border post," he said.

Dlamini added that the tourists often visit the Bulembu museum.

"It is also important to mention that a lot of tourists complain about the Bulembu to Pigg's Peak road because at the border post a tourist is expected to pay a road tax fee of E50.

However, after paying the money that same tourist drives on the terrible gravel road to Pigg's Peak.

After the drive, the same tourist complain to us manning the Bulembu Border Post and that he or she will never pay the fee again due to the poor road conditions.

Lastly, we are asking the minister to allow the Bulembu Border Post to close later than 4pm," he added.



**MATSAMO:** The minister being shown around the facilities of Matsamo Border Post on Friday. (Pics: Sizwe Dlamini)



**BULEMBU:** Princess Lindiwe in a conversation with Senator Chief Mphatfwa at the Bulembu Border Post.

## Vacancy Project Manager



Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a 36 months contract position of Projects Manager in our Technical Services Department.

### MAIN PURPOSE

To lead and coordinate the projects section in the implementation of the EWSC Capital Programme. The role offers engineering solutions for business optimization and growth and advises management on water purification, distribution and wastewater collection activities and other services offered by the Corporation.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering majoring in structures or Fluid Mechanics
- Post Graduate qualification in Project Management
- Registration as a Professional Engineer
- Minimum 7 years of relevant work experience in a similar environment, including at least 3 years of experience in a supervisory / managerial position

### REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/COMPETENCIES

- Civil Engineering
- Specialization in structures/fluid mechanics
- Knowledge of engineering software packages
- Simulation network techniques
- Geographical information system

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The incumbent will be responsible for the following:

- Network design for new projects & extensions
- Project management
- Design standards and compliance
- Network modeling, optimization and problem solving
- Procurement and financial management
- Customer service
- Construction contracts management

### REMUNERATION PACKAGE

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

### APPLICATIONS

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

The Human Resources Manager  
Eswatini Water Services Corporation  
PO Box 20,  
Mbabane  
Email: [humanresources@swsc.co.sz](mailto:humanresources@swsc.co.sz)

Closing date for applications: **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019.**

**Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted**

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EMAIL HEADOFFICE@SWSC.CO.SZ  
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## INVITATION TO TENDER

TENDER NO. 04 of 2019/20 (SUPPLY OF MOTORCYCLES)



Eswatini Water Services Corporation invites sealed tenders from reputable and eligible suppliers registered locally for the supply of motorcycles/motorbikes. Only firms that can demonstrate previous experience and the capacity to implement similar projects will be considered.

Bid documents are downloadable from EWSC website: [www.swsc.co.sz](http://www.swsc.co.sz) and a non-refundable fee of E1000.00 (one thousand Emalangeni only) should be paid at any EWSC revenue office. Proof of payment shall be included in the bid:

Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after bid opening and shall be accompanied by a tender bond of **E10, 000.00** and hand delivered in a plain sealed envelope clearly marked "**SUPPLY OF MOTORCYCLES**" and the tender number, to a designated tender box at the address below:

**The Managing Director**  
**Eswatini Water Services Corporation**  
**Emtfonjeni Headquarters Building**  
**Cnr MR 103 and Cultural Village Road**  
**Ezulwini**  
**Swaziland**

Clarifications and enquiries may be requested in writing, via email, and should be addressed to [procurement@swsc.co.sz](mailto:procurement@swsc.co.sz).

The closing time for receipt of tenders is **12:00hrs on Friday, 26 July 2019** at which time they will be opened in the presence of bidders who elect to attend. Late, telegraphic, E-mailed and faxed tenders shall not be accepted. The Corporation does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

**J. MASHWAMA**  
**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**PHYSICAL ADDRESS**  
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Doc:19145



## SHISELWENI NEWS

...With

Starsky Mkhonta

Nhlanguano office

Tobacco Complex, Cnr King George Masengule Streets  
Opposite SEDCO PremisesTel: 2207 5159 Cell: 7621 5081  
Email: Starsky@realnet.co.sz

# SHISELWENI FORESTRY COMPANY PRESENTS 6 SCHOOLS WITH E60 000

**SHISELWENI Forestry Company (SFC) has presented six schools with E60 000 to be used for renovations.**

Each school was gifted with a E10 000 voucher to buy the material for the refurbishments.

The six schools are those located next to the company's plantations in the Shiselweni region. The presentation took place at the SFC head offices on Friday. All the principals of the six schools were present. Shiselweni Regional Education Officer (REO) Siboniso Gumbi was represented by Penelope Khumalo.

SFC Public Relations Manager Sibongile 'SB' Kunene, who officiated at the presentation, said the company's directors were aware of the importance of education in the kingdom hence they

found it necessary to contribute towards the upkeep of schools.

She said it was their culture that every year the company splashes money to assist the schools in some of their projects, in particular for renovations.

This is part of the company's social responsibility programme and there has not been a single year where we have not assisted the schools on projects.

The company makes sure that yearly, it sets aside a budget specifically to assist the schools," said Kunene.

Kunene said by sponsoring the schools, it was one way of assisting government and also demonstrate the good partnership SFC has with the schools and the communities. She said man-

agement and directors of the company were fully aware of the importance of investing in education. She said donating to these school was another way of showing appreciation of being part of the communities where the company's plantations were located.

"It's also promoting the spirit of neighbourhood as these schools are located where the company's plantations are.

This means we need each other.

The communities have a role to play as even the forestry farms have to be protected from anything including theft, fire and any other destruction. It's a win-win kind of situation," said Kunene. The sponsored schools include Nzongomane, Single Tree, Ekuthuleni, Mashobeni South, Nsongweni and Galile Primary.

## RA hands over E60 000 house to destitute woman

**PHETSO Dlamini of Mahamba, who all along has been sleeping in the open, shed tears when she was presented with keys of a two-room house worth E60 000 which was built for her through proceeds of last year's Mahamba Gorge Hiking.**

Shiselweni Regional Administrator (RA) Dr Vincent Mhlanga officiated in the handover of the house, a ceremony which was also graced by the Mahamba Gorge Hiking Board members led by Dr Phetsile Dlamini last Thursday. Mahamba Methodist Church was also represented and among the church representatives was Adelaide Mngomezulu.

Sponsors of the Mahamba Gorge Hiking were also represented.

During the handover of the house, the woman was also presented with groceries, a bed, clothing, curtains and several items donated by various companies and organisations. Also present was the Regional Eswatini National Youth Council Coordinator Theminkosi Hlatshwako, whose office is also a partner of the Mahamba Gorge Hiking Youth.

Elders of Masibini Umphakatsi as well as Maseyisini Inkhundla were also represented during the ceremony. The social welfare department under the DPM's office was also represented as well as Red Cross team, including another visitor of the organisation from Finland.

Dr Dlamini told Shiselweni News that the construction of the house was a project that also involved the com-



**AMEN: Phetso Dlamini who was handed a two-room house.**

munity members of Mahamba as they provided manpower.

She said as a board, they were pleased that the project was now finished and the woman would now live in a decent structure. "It's a project funded through part of the proceeds of the 2018 Mahamba Gorge Hiking. She was identified as one of the beneficiaries as she had no roof over her head.

We are thankful to all the sponsors who made this project a success.

The sponsors of Mahamba Gorge Hiking are changing lives as it is now the case with this woman who all along has been without any shelter," said Dr Phetsile.

On the other hand, Phetso Dlamini said she was short of words to thank Mahamba Gorge Hiking for their gesture. She said for years she has been sleeping in the open and still wonders how she survived all this time.

A neighbouring Gule family was touched seeing the woman spending nights in the open and they temporarily provided her with shelter.

"I cannot even control my emotions right now. I am honoured and humbled for being presented with this beautiful house and may all those who considered me as deserving to be helped be showered with blessings from God," said Phetso.

## Hosting Shiselweni Annual Fun Festival cost E250 000

**WORLD of Saints (WOS), an events management company from South Africa, has disclosed that it parted with E250 000 to host the Shiselweni Annual Fun Festival.**

The event was held over a week ago at King Sobhuza II Stadium in Nhlanguano and the organisers believe it was a success, despite that this was the first time the event was held.

WOS President Collen Menzie Mojele said he always looked at things in a positive light, adding that failure was not in his vocabulary.

"It was a successful event and we are happy with the way things progressed. I would not want to say it was a flop but the way we see it, this event was successful and we are looking forward to

the second edition next year at the same venue," Mojele told Shiselweni News.

Not all the performers who were lined up as expected were present. The organisers had announced a number of acts for the day but they ended up not showing up at the 11th hour.

### Juggler

Former Kaizer Chiefs crowd favourite Pule Ekstein and former Orlando Pirates ball juggler Thabo Qalinge were some of those that were expected to be part of the event.

"Some of those we were planning to bring did not come due to circumstances beyond their control.

It's homework to us and next year, we will make sure we get things right," said Mojele.

## RA DONATES E1 000 TO NEEDY WOMAN

**AFTER officiating at the handover of a house to a needy woman of Mahamba, Shiselweni Regional Administrator Dr Vincent Mhlanga donated E1 000 to cater for her needs.**

Phetso Dlamini was given the keys of the two-room house by Dr Mhlanga and after that he made the donation.

Phetso Dlamini was excited with being presented with the house.

"I thought being presented with the house was enough but when he (RA) further gave me money, I was overjoyed.

### Best

I will use the money in a best way possible and may he be showered with blessings," said Dlamini.



**NEW: The house which was officially handed over to Phetso Dlamini.**



**OLD: Mahamba Gorge Hiking technical organising committee chairman Lucky Msibi pointing to the open area which was Dlamini's home.**





POSE: Teachers, pupils and staff members of FSRA taking a group photo after the award giving ceremony.

## FSRA AWARDS BEST ESSAY COMPETITION WRITERS

BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI  
Manzini

**THE Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) awarded the best essay writing pupils of 2019 during a ceremony held at The George Hotel in Manzini last week.**

The pupil who took first place was Nqobile Dlamini from Gundwini High. Dlamini received a laptop, certificate of achievement and an internship at FSRA after completing her high school.

The initiative started a few years ago after FSRA saw the need to promote financial literacy among school going children. This was after it transpired that pupils did not get an insight of matters that involve finances.

During the ceremony, FSRA

Chief Executive Officer Sandile Dlamini stated that the initiative was started because they felt the need of assisting pupils achieve financial literacy.

"This platform has paved way for many pupils and it has helped in more ways than one. With that being said I welcome everyone," he said.

### Entered

Given a chance to talk during the event was last year's winner Philile Mthethwa, a former pupil at St Theresa's High School.

Mthethwa said she almost missed the competition but then formed part of the pupils who entered and was selected to be in the two top three.

She added that it was quite intimidating when she was with pupils from other schools, but she was happy when her name was called

in first place. When encouraging the pupils that joined the competition, she stated that they should believe in themselves because anything was possible.

### Extended

Speaking on behalf of the schools was Principal of Salesian High Petros Horton, who said he was grateful for such an initiative.

He further pointed out that they appreciated the huge platform given to pupils but the same should be extended to teachers.

"Teachers also need to be taught about personal finance, because in most instances they teach finance and business studies but they don't live according to the principles they teach, hence we stand here afraid to teach our children," he said. He expressed concern that it was not easy to tell their pupils to save E10 whilst the teachers

who earn E10 000 or more fail to live according to the standards they teach the pupils. He added that the importance of this exercise is that it teaches one manage with what they have regardless of how small it is.

Horton went on to mention that they have no doubt that their children have much greater potential, but the question is will they be able to implement the ideas they have put down on paper.

He added that as teachers they will not stop their children from reaching their goals.

The principal concluded by saying the pupils should also find themselves mentors who will help them get to the point they want to, not people who will kill their vision. The pupils were then given their awards, in accordance with scores of their essays.

## Shiselweni warmly welcomes new RA

BY STARKSKY MKHONTA  
Nhlangano

**SHISELWENI Regional Administrator Dr Vincent Mhlanga is grateful to chiefs from the region for the warm reception accorded him.**

Dr Mhlanga said he now felt at home after he was introduced to the chiefs and other community leaders recently.

He was looking forward to an enjoyable stay in the region as he executes his role as RA. He has succeeded Themba Masuku, who is now the Deputy Prime Minister (DPM).

He served in the King's Office before being appointed as Shiselweni RA by His Majesty King Mswati III.

The other three recently appointed RAs are; Princess Tsandzile (Hhohho), Chief Gija (Manzini) and Themba Msibi (Lubombo).

### Humble

"I met the chiefs recently where I was warmly welcomed as the new RA.

I am really humbled and my wish is to see the office supported not just by the chiefs but by everyone as we are all stakeholders in the development of the region," said Dr Mhlanga.

Dr Mhlanga said for him to be able to tackle the challenges faced by the region, he would have meetings with chiefs from time to time.

"We have agreed that my office will meet chiefs every month to discuss issues pertaining the region.

This will inform me on what chiefs want for the region and will also seek their advice on matters which need the attention of my office," said Dr Mhlanga.

Chief Dambuza Lukhele confirmed that they met Dr Mhlanga where he was introduced to them, a meeting which took place at the Nhlangano Library.

"Firstly, we say Bayethe to His Majesty for appointing Dr Mhlanga to this position.

We wholeheartedly welcome him and he is guaranteed of our full support and cooperation. We urged him to approach us on any issue he needs to know," said Chief Dambuza.

On the other hand, Dr Mhlanga said he would also be meeting Members of Parliament (MPs) from the 15 constituencies under the region.

"I am meeting MPs for the first time.

The plan is to also have a meeting with the MPs monthly," said Dr Mhlanga.

## ESWATINI ROADS IN A TERRIBLE STATE - GELANE

BY STARKSKY MKHONTA  
Nhlangano

**"THE state of the roads in the Shiselweni region is appalling and there is need to do something urgently."**

KoNtshingila acting Chief Inkhosatana Gelane Zwane said she was shocked when she travelled to Nhlangano to attend a meeting for community leaders whose agenda was to introduce the new Regional Administrator Dr Vincent Mhlanga.

The new RA was introduced to the chiefs and other community leaders nearly three weeks ago, during a function held at the Nhlangano Library. Zwane, interviewed by this newspaper, expressed her disappointment with the terrible state of the roads and appealed to all concerned parties to do something.

She said driving in some of the country's roads was now a nightmare.

"The sad part is that it is not only

roads in rural areas which are now in a terrible state but even the tarred ones in the urban areas are deplorable.

It's a nightmare to drive along our roads and you ask yourself what the problem is. It's an understatement to say that our roads have potholes; these are worse than dongas.

As I was driven to Nhlangano for the meeting, I was disappointed to notice that our roads are in a bad state.

We are fully aware of the economic crisis we are in as a country but something must be done and urgently," said the acting chief.

Several public transport operators also shared similar sentiments with the acting chief. Others said they were losing business as the little they made was used to repair their vehicles.

"This is now a national crisis and it is costing us.

The roads are in a terrible state, our vehicles now spend more time at the garage than in the roads," one kombi owner said.

## Residents want police patrol at crime-hit McAlpine

BY STARKSKY MKHONTA  
Nhlangano

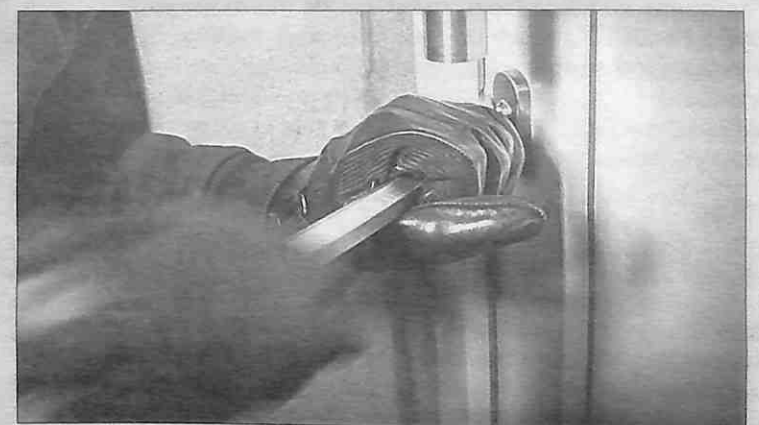
**FOLLOWING the increasing attacks and robberies at McAlpine, one of the suburbs in Nhlangano, residents now want police to conduct regular patrols.**

McAlpine is a suburb where most business operators, especially those of Asian origin, reside. There are also prominent figures who have properties in this suburb which they are renting out.

In recent times, the suburb has become a hunting ground for robbers. Housebreakings where valuable items and other goods are stolen are also on the rise at McAlpine.

The robbers seemingly target the Asian businesspeople. Just in a short space of time, three robberies have been reported where the Asians were victims.

An incident which occurred almost a month ago saw an Asian



who operates Puma Filling Station being robbed E50 000 which was kept in his house.

The gunmen, it was reported, sneaked into the house while the businessman and his wife were sleeping.

Just this week, another businessman of Asian origin was robbed over E20 000 and a vehicle which to this day has not been recovered.

Residents now demand a 24-hour patrol in the suburb as it was

now clear that robbers were taking advantage of the situation.

"We no longer feel safe as it is like we are targeted by the robbers. It's unbelievable that in a short space of time, three robberies have occurred and these attacks are carried out by armed individuals. This place is no longer safe and we now fear for our lives.

Our appeal is that police should conduct patrols everyday," said one the businesspeople residing at McAlpine.



# BUCKSWOOD SCHOOL RETURNS TO THE KINGDOM FOR ANNUAL SUMMER TRIP

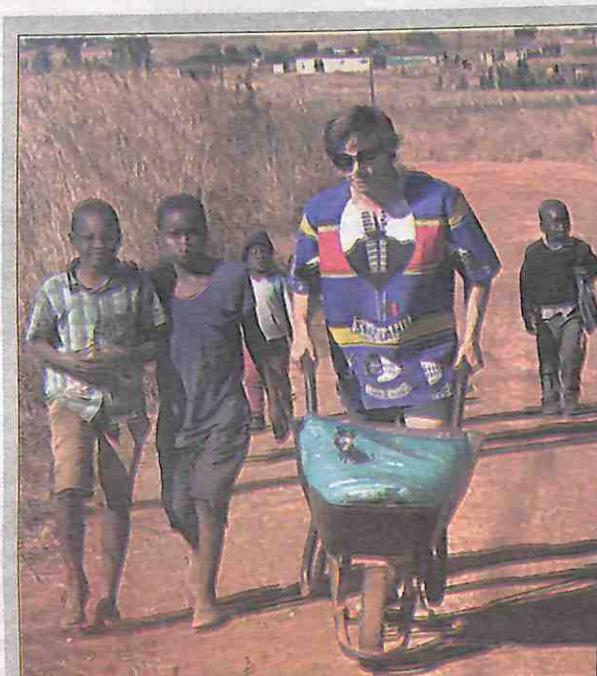
BY OBSERVER REPORTER  
Mbabane

TWENTY seven students from Buckswood College in the United Kingdom arrived in the country last week to start their annual summer school trip.

The students come from 13 different countries.

When asked what the purpose of the trip was Principal Giles Sutton stated that his students were here to learn about the beautiful culture that the great Kingdom of Eswatini has and to learn from and about its people. Travel and communication is fundamental to breaking down barriers and understanding each other.

He went on to say that in today's society we are far too quick to judge and far too quick to make an opinion on something just by googling it! Through meeting others and standing side by side with others – this is the true way to learn. This year the group will be working at Sitsatsaweni Primary School.



The group wasted no time as they have attempted to learn the *sibhaca* and *ummiso* dances, they have paid their respects to His Majesty King Mswati III by seeing him off at the airport and started the mam-

moth task of doing up the classrooms in this year's project school.

They have worked on fixing the solar powered water pump at the school and have started to fix the leaky roof.

"We look forward to a fantastic two weeks in the Kingdom and thank everyone so far for their help, their assistance and their massive warm hearts and big smiles," says Principal Sutton.



## Students on the trip

Virgilio Belo	Angolan
Ellie Ramsden	British
Florence Gidney	British
Harriet Craven	British
Maria Onoro Brunel	Spanish
Karolina Dzielak	Polish
Nikita van der Aar	Dutch
Zoe Meslin	French
Luis Krause	German
Ernst Oehlen	Swiss
Julian Oehlen	Swiss
Utku Akar	Turkish
Anais Druon	French
Claudia Paine	British
Tomas Villaneuva	Chile
Stanislas German	French
Balthazar Joubert	French
Maria Callis Garriga	Spanish
Elias Schmid	Swiss
Ryotaro Enda	Japanese
Victor Zeller	German
Lulu Farrell	English
Ahmet Bozkurt	Turkish
Sidika Bozkurt	Turkish
Gijs Nieuwenhoff	Dutch
Alexa Xiomara Trevino Delgado	Mexican
Giacomo Francesco Marcelli-Flori	Italian

## Bidvest Foods UK donate bowls through Buckswood College

BY OBSERVER REPORTER  
MBABANE

BUCKSWOOD College in the United Kingdom in conjunction with Bidvest Foods UK, have donated 200 bowls to Sitsatsaweni Pre-School.

The donation came from Bidvest Foods UK, which is the main food supplier for Buckswood.

As Buckswood is such a good customer, being the largest

school food customer in east Sussex, Bidvest very kindly donated 200 for a school in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

On behalf of Bidvest, Principal Giles Sutton thanked them for their kindness and reminded the children that to be good clever pupils the brain needed to be alert and for this to happen it needed feeding, therefore they need to look after their bowls so that they could eat every day and keep that brain working well.



## Breaking down the Public Protector's findings against Gordhan

DURBAN - Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane has laid down the law to President Cyril Ramaphosa, instructing him to take action against embattled Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan for violating the Constitution and deliberately misleading Parliament about the SARS rogue unit and his meeting with a member of the Gupta family.

In her report released on Friday, Mkhwebane found Gordhan guilty of improper conduct, abuse of power and maladministration for approving the establishment of an illegal spy unit during his tenure as SARS commissioner between 1998 and 2009.

Here is a summary of the public protector's findings:

### 1. COMPLAINT NUMBER ONE

Regarding whether Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan violated the Executive Ethics Code by deliberately misleading the National Assembly in failing to disclose that he had met with a member of the Gupta family since taking office.

**Finding:** According to Gordhan's affidavit to the State Capture Commission of Inquiry (the Zondo Commission), he only remembered this meeting... after being reminded of it by former chief of staff Dondo Mogajane. I find this rather implausible when one considers the prominence of the subject of state capture in South Africa. I therefore find that his conduct in this regard is in violation of Paragraph 2 of the Executive Ethics

Code and accordingly amounts to conduct that is inconsistent with his office as a Cabinet member, as contemplated by Section 96 of the Constitution.

### 2. COMPLAINT NUMBER TWO

Regarding whether, during his tenure as SARS commissioner, Gordhan established an intelligence unit in violation of South African intelligence prescripts, and if so, whether such conduct constitutes maladministration.

**Finding:** Evidence indicates that even prior to Mr Gordhan's memorandum to Mr Manuel, SARS had already begun operating a unit that gathered information covertly. However, as the accounting officer, Gordhan should have been aware and, I believe, was aware that the

unit had already started operating. Pillay reported directly to Gordhan as a commissioner of SARS.

The establishment of the unit with the approval of Gordhan as the erstwhile accounting officer was in breach of section 209 of the Constitution, in terms of which only the president may establish such covert information-gathering unit. I further noted that Magashula had misrepresented himself under oath by denying the existence of an intelligence unit. Even if the unit was never called the Rogue Unit at SARS, the operations and functions of the CBCU, a unit that existed, were similar.

The conduct of Gordhan as referred to in the establishment of the intelligence unit at SARS, is improper and in viola-

tion of Section 209 of the Constitution and therefore amounts to maladministration, as envisaged in Section 182(1) of the Constitution and abuse of power, as envisaged in Section 6(4)(ii) of the Public Protector Act.

### 3. COMPLAINT NUMBER THREE

Regarding whether SARS failed to follow correct procurement processes in the procurement of intelligence equipment which the intelligence unit utilised for gathering intelligence, and if so, whether such conduct amounts to maladministration.

**Finding:** SARS failed to provide me with documents relating to the procurement of equipment for the CBCU, NRG, and subsequently the SPU. Evidence at my disposal confirms the existence of such equipment as well as the acquisition thereof. *Citizen*



## ESWATINI INCORPORATED: 2022 &amp; BEYOND

ISSUE #87

'MOVING FROM RHETORIC TO ACTION'

## DPM MUZZLED!

**THE Deputy Prime Minister Themba Nhlanganiso Masuku is in serious trouble.**

In fact he is under-siege from his own senior officials.

As we speak, there is nothing the DPM can now say on abuse of women and children because senior officials in this office are accused of the same.

Masuku is an all action man. He stands out as a champion for the down trodden, women and children.

He has been like this ever since he assumed the position of Deputy Prime Minister both in his previous term and now.

However, reports that senior officials in his Office are being accused of serious offences that undermine the very same law they are supposed to uphold or their master is standing on, is a serious indictment to the man's efforts.

As I write the same these officials are still in their positions as if nothing has happened. In fact, they are making a mockery of the very law they are supposed to uphold and spate on the faces of the women and children they are supposed to protect.

I understand the whole notion of the constitutional doctrine of being innocent until proven guilty. But the question we must ask ourselves is at whose cost?

In these cases, surely we are saying to hell to the women who dared to stand up and reported the alleged sexual harassment and victimisation cases.

### Abuse

It cannot be and we need to take a strong position against such abuse of power and positions.

In fact, it is the very reason why the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act (SODV) exist. We cannot have senior officials in the ministry that is supposed to champion rights for women and children doing the very same thing they are standing for.

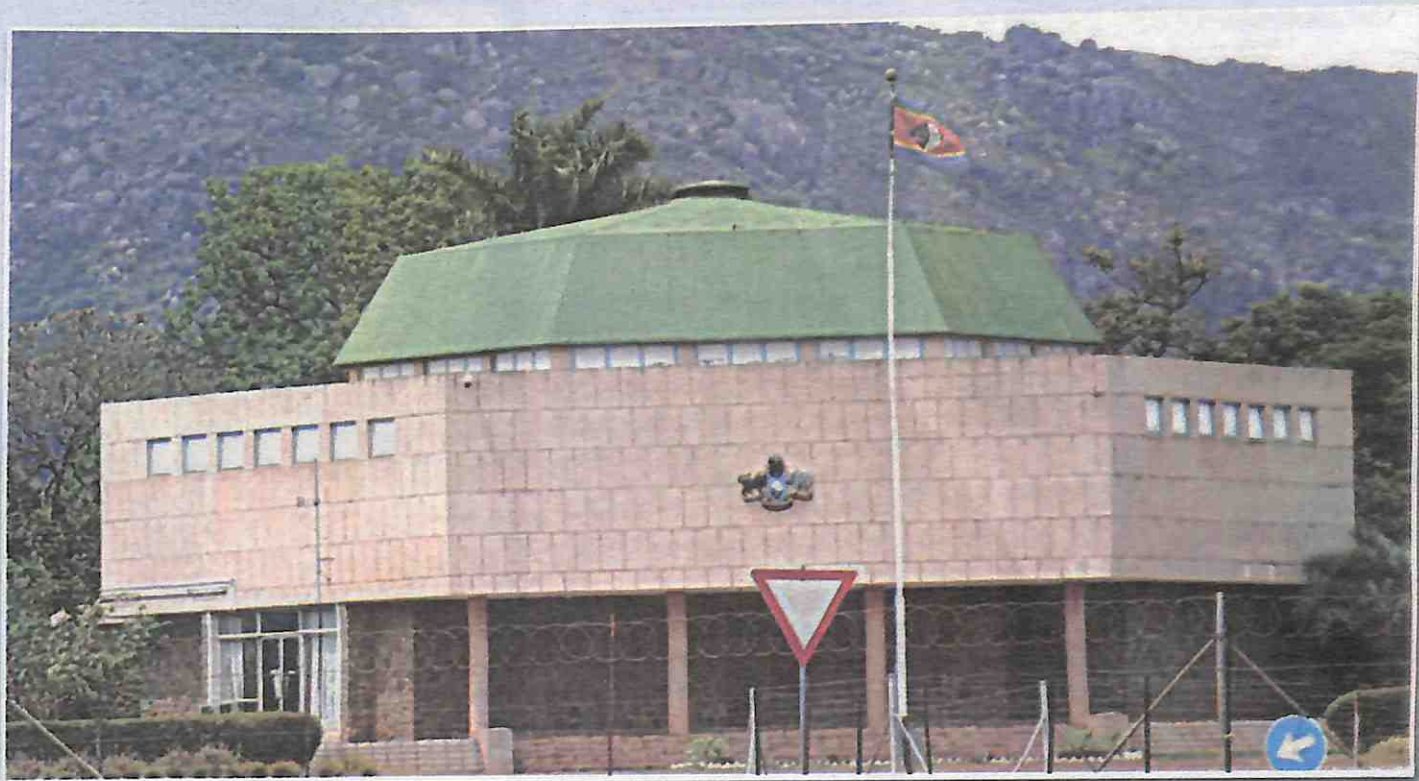
The DPM despite his pro-active engagement in similar cases, which were reported in various companies or communities is having his hands tied on this one.

His position gives an impression that there is nothing bigger than him, but administratively his hands are tied on this one.

He cannot reprimand these accused senior officials because he is not the employer.

The employer in this case is the Civil Service Commission (CSC). But in order for the CSC

*...is it Parliament or the CSC that will rescue him*



to act on this matter, it needs the ministry or the DPM's Office to explain in detail why it is seeking the suspension of these officials pending investigations by other organs of state.

The unfortunate part is that such processes tend to have their own life which disregard in the internal dynamics and by so doing being incorrectly perceived as condoning the alleged acts.

Whilst the accused officials' rights are understood, what is key is that the fight against women abuse and fight for children's rights is seriously compromised, because the entire DPM's Office cannot stand on any platform to champion the very same laws when they have their own officials accused of the same.

The best scenario under the circumstances is that these accused officials should be home, waiting for an outcome of their internal or external investigations.

### Dilly-dallying

If the CSC is still dilly-dallying then Parliament must come to the rescue of the DPM's Office or the workers and children as it were.

Someone must stand up for the alleged victims, if it is not the CSC, Parliament and the media must take up that mantle.

It cannot be that people can act with impunity on the basis that to discipline them will be a process.

As we speak the country is having difficulty to deal with another serious scourge like corruption because we are told so many funny stories when we are expected to act.

If it is not the courts not being enough, it is the judges being few and all that jazz that goes with it. Fact is, corruption is rife in the

country and our inaction and excuses have made it to thrive to these levels.

Our people need to trust our systems and our laws. It cannot be that we can have laws that promise you rights that you don't enjoy.

If it is illegal to marry a minor, someone who is below the age of 18, it should be criminal for anyone who does so.

It is worse when the relationship with the minor develops when that minor comes into your office for help. That is criminal and is tantamount to abuse of position and power.

We need to take a strong stand against any abuse; be it of position or power and in fact that is prosecutable under the

Prevention of Corruption Act of 2006 and the SODV Act.

For justice sake, let these officials clear their names.

It would be best if they do so, whilst at home so that they don't interfere with witnesses and further protect the integrity of the DPM's Office.

As things stand without them being named - every official working in the DPM's Office remains a suspect.

Can Parliament of the CSC come to the DPM's rescue? He needs to work and he can't under the current poisoned environment.

“

As we speak the country is having difficulty to deal with another serious scourge like corruption because we are told so many funny stories when we are expected to act. If it is not the courts not being enough, it is the judges being few and all that jazz that goes with it.

”

**TIDLEKHAYA:**  
Deputy Prime Minister Themba Nhlanganiso Masuku.





## ON THIS DAY

JULY 8

1865 - C.E Barnes patented the machine gun.

1879 - The first ship to use electric lights departed from San Francisco, CA.

1881 - Edward Berner, druggist in Two Rivers, WI, poured chocolate syrup on ice cream in a dish. To this time chocolate syrup had only been used for making ice cream sodas.

1889 - The Wall Street Journal was first published.

1889 - John L. Sullivan defeated Jake Kilrain, in the last championship bare-knuckle fight. The fight lasted 75 rounds.

1907 - Florenz Ziegfeld staged his first "Follies" on the roof of the New York Theater in New York City.

1919 - US President Wilson returned from the Versailles Peace Conference in France.

1947 - Demolition work began in New York City for the new permanent headquarters of the United Nations.

1950 - General Douglas MacArthur was named commander-in-chief of United Nations forces in Korea.

1953 - Notre Dame announced that the next five years of its football games would be shown in theatres over closed circuit TV.

1960 - The Soviet Union charged Gary Powers with espionage. He was shot down in a U-2 spy plane.

1963 - All Cuban-owned assets in the United States were frozen.

1969 - The US Patent Office issued a patent for the game "Twister."

1970 - The San Francisco Giant's Jim Ray Hart became the first National League player in 59 seasons to collect six runs batted (RBI) during a single inning.

1981 - The Solar Challenger became the first solar-powered airplane to cross the English Channel.

1986 - Kurt Waldheim was inaugurated as president of Austria despite controversy over his alleged ties to Nazi war crimes.

1997 - The Mayo Clinic and the US government warned that the diet-drug combination known as "fen-phen" could cause serious heart and lung damage.

1997 - NATO invited Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to join the alliance in 1999.

2000 - J.K Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" was released in the US. It was the fourth Harry Potter book.

2010 - The Solar Impulse completed the first 24-hour flight by a solar powered plane.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Virgil van Dijk (Soccer Player) July 8, 1991 (28 years old)



Jaden Smith (Movie Actor) July 8, 1998 (21 years old)



## WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Utsini umtsetfo

## SODV Act 2018

144. (1) The Registrar of the High Court or a clerk of a Magistrate Court may, by notice given to a person, summon the person to attend the hearing of an application for a protection order at a time and place specified in the summons—

(a) to give evidence; and  
(b) to produce any record in the possession of that person and specified in the notice.

(2) A person served with a summons to attend as a witness shall not fail, without reasonable excuse—

(a) to attend as required by the summons;

(b) to attend from time to time in the course of the hearing as required by the Court; or

(c) to produce any record that the person was required to produce by the summons served on the person.

(3) A person attending as a witness at a hearing shall not fail—

(a) to be sworn or to make an affirmation; or

(b) without reasonable excuse, to answer a question that the person is required to answer by the Court.

(4) If a person served with a summons fails to attend as mentioned in subsection (2)(a) or (b), the Court may order the issue of a warrant for the person to be taken into custody by a police officer and to be brought before Court.

(5) Any Magistrate may issue a warrant for the purposes of subsection (4). 92

(6) Subsection (4) does not limit any other powers of the Court.

## Court may set aside a summons

145. (1) A Court may set aside a summons issued under Section 144 if the Court is satisfied there are sufficient grounds for setting the summons aside, including—

(a) want of relevance;  
(b) privilege; or  
(c) oppressiveness.

(2) The Court may act on the application of the person served with the summons or on its own initiative.

(3) If a Court sets aside a summons under Subsection (1), the Court may make an order for costs for the benefit of the person on whom the summons was served.

PART XXIV  
SERVICE

## Service etc. of documents.

146. (1) A summons, order or other document to be served for the purposes of this Act may be served in the manner prescribed by the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act with respect to service of summonses under that Act, and if it is so served, the provisions of that Act as to proof of service shall apply to proof of service for the purposes of this Act.

(2) A document to be given to any person for the purposes of this Act shall be taken to have been duly

## Court may summon persons to appear



given if—

(a) it is given to the person personally or to a person authorised by the person to whom it is directed to accept delivery of documents on behalf that person, either generally or in a particular case;

(b) it is left at the place of residence or business of the person to whom it is directed last known to the person who gives it.

(3) A document shall be deemed to have been received by the person to whom it is directed—

(a) where it has been given in the manner referred to in subsection (2)(a), on the day it is so given;

(b) where it has been given in the manner referred to in subsection (2) (b), on the day next following the day it is left at the place specified therein; or

(c) where it has been given in the manner referred to in Subsection (2)(c), unless the contrary is proved, at the time it would be delivered in the ordinary course of post.

(4) A summons or warrant issued to cause a person to appear or to be brought before a Magistrates Court in connection with proceedings under this Act may be served or executed on a Sunday as on any other day.

## Service of Court orders.

147. (1) This section applies if a Court—

(a) has made a protection order;

(b) revokes a protection order; or

(c) varies a protection order (including the conditions imposed by it).

(2) Subject to Subsection (3), the clerk of Court shall—

(a) cause—

(i) a copy of the order; and

(ii) in the case of an interim protection order, a copy of the application for a protection order to which the protection order relates (if a copy has not already been served);

to be given to the respondent; and

(b) cause a copy of the order to be given to the aggrieved person and each named person; and

(c) cause a copy of the order to be given to the National Commissioner of Police.

(3) Where an order referred to in Subsection (1) is made in the absence of the respondent or the aggrieved person or the clerk of Court has not caused a copy of the order to be served on the respondent or given to the aggrieved person before the respondent or, as the case may be, the aggrieved person has departed the Court precincts, the clerk shall—

(a) in the case where a copy is to be served on the respondent, cause two copies of the order to be given to the officer in charge of the police region in which the respondent was last known to the clerk to ordinarily reside; or

(b) in the case where a copy is to be given to the aggrieved person, cause one copy of the order to be given to the officer in charge of the police region in which the aggrieved person was last known to the clerk to ordinarily reside.

(4) The officer in charge of a police region who receives a copy or copies of an order from the clerk of Court

under Subsection (3) shall cause a copy of the order to be served on the respondent or, as the case may be, given to the aggrieved person as soon as is practicable.

## Service of documents by police.

148. (1) Unless otherwise specified, service of any document in terms of this Act shall forthwith be effected in the prescribed manner by a member of the Royal Eswatini Police Service.

(2) The National Commissioner of Police shall ensure that internal arrangements are made to ensure that—

(a) a central register of documents which need to be served under this Act dealing with domestic violence is kept and that such register include provision for the recording of details of service;

(b) appropriate police officers arrange service of documents which need to be served under this Act in a timely manner; and

(c) a senior officer is assigned to regularly check on the progress of service of documents which need to be served under this Act to ensure compliance with Subsection (b).

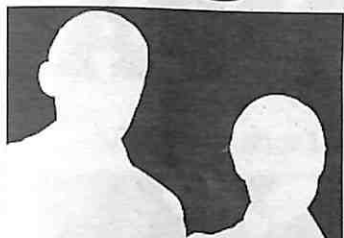
**A summons or warrant issued to cause a person to appear or to be brought before a Magistrates Court in connection with proceedings under this Act may be served or executed on a Sunday as on any other day**



## ESEPARC INSIGHTS



# Betting on local SMEs for long-run economic growth



By Thembumenzi Dlamini and Mangaliso Mohammed

**IT is time for economic policies that will put a fair share of Eswatini's economy in the hands of local entrepreneurs.**

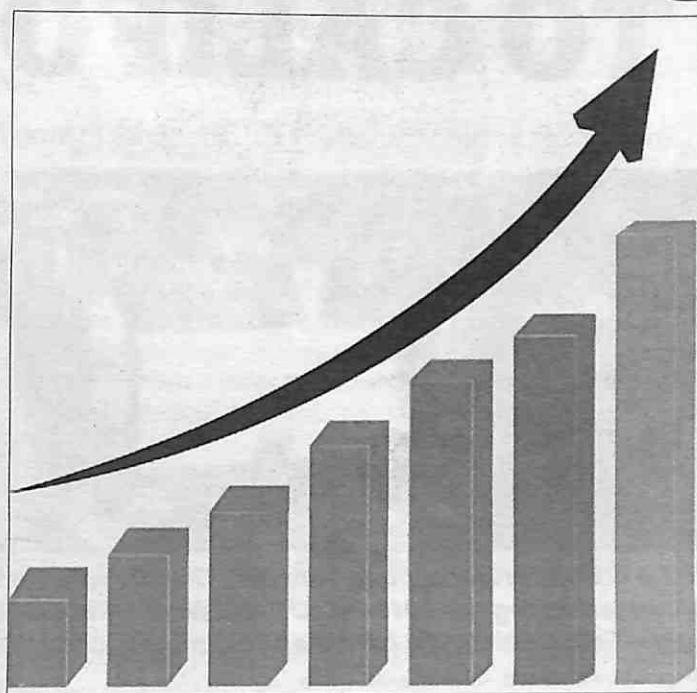
According to the World Economic Forum (WEF), Africa is becoming the most exciting economic frontier with small and medium enterprises (SMEs) at the forefront of this transformation. Africa's SMEs, which are now responsible for about 80 per cent of employment, play a central role in establishing the continent's new middle class, thus fuelling the demand for new goods and services.

As the name suggests, SMEs are small businesses though they cover widely different types of firms in the various sectors of the economy. They include fragile micro-firms generating subsistence level revenues through one or two employees, to fast growing medium-sized firms with up to 250 employees. These SMEs can range from fruit vendors to sophisticated software engineers.

However, as with all small things, SMEs tend to be overlooked for all the wrong reasons. Too often, they are easily forgotten in the shadows of 'big business' and 'big money' despite the fact that SMEs create the bulk of employment for the growing urban and rural labour force.

A study by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (2016) reveals that SMEs contribute over 55 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) and over 65 per cent of total employment in high-income countries. In Europe, small businesses constitute 99 per cent of all businesses that employ approximately 95 million people, an equivalent of 55 per cent of total private sector jobs. In low-income countries, SMEs account for over 60 per cent of GDP and over 70 per cent of total employment.

Although SMEs are growing at a smaller pace in Eswatini, in 2010 there were 4 926 SMEs in the country, each employing about three people. To date, there are 68 536 local SMEs generating E2.8 billion monthly profits, about 5.2 per cent of the E53.5 billion worth of GDP in 2016 (FinMark Trust, 2017). Furthermore, the SME sector provides jobs to 92 643 people (43.7 per cent of the 212 130 employed in Eswatini). Hence, SMEs contribute to the economy in a big way.



Research shows that SMEs are recognised worldwide as significant contributors to national output and employment creation; they facilitate growth in exports and are the bedrock for entrepreneurship and innovation. Most importantly, SMEs have the ability to create opportunities for the youth to engage in business activities for locally produced goods and services.

They can grow the middle class as well as increase disposable incomes for locals, and in tandem, SMEs can create new market opportunities for local and foreign investors.

It is a winning position that the country needs to capitalise on more boldly. With more investments directed to Eswatini's SMEs, the economy can grow beyond the two per cent GDP growth rate glass ceiling.

## UNPACKING THE FDI TRAP

Economic policies for developing countries tend to focus on foreign direct investment (FDI) and attracting 'big business' as a key catalyst for growth and employment creation. The immediate response is that FDIs come with big companies that offer an unprecedented number of jobs and capital. Understandably, we equate 'big money' and many jobs with increased output and economic growth.

For example, the Economic Recovery Strategy (ERS) launched after the fiscal crisis in 2011 emphasised the importance of large-scale foreign and domestic investment. It pushed for FDIs and 'big business' as good sources of substantial capital, sophisticated equipment and machinery, technical expertise, and access to the global market. The view was that FDIs would lay the foundation for commercial and industrial development, while at the same time become perfect spawning ground for SMEs to grow.

Government's focus on attracting FDI is not without good reason: FDIs provide jobs, expertise, technology, state revenue, and when set up right, can transfer skills through learning-by-doing. However, there is an issue of sustainability. What history has taught us is that big international firms operate at economies of scale with watertight business value chains linked to their home economies. What it means is that local SMEs usually get little to no opportunity to link-up with the business chains of the FDI companies.

Some FDI companies specifically set up shop in developing countries just to take advantage of tax holidays and cheap labour, among other benefits, so that when they have made their lucrative profits and sent them back to their home countries, they close shop and move on to the next perfect host economy.

In the case of Eswatini, the departure of some foreign investors has been followed by an economic vacuum and a plethora of issues, such as decreased government revenue, job losses, de-industrialisation, and a mass exodus of skilled labour to other countries.

Indeed FDIs create jobs; however, under the premise of sustainable economic growth, Eswatini has to consider the type and quality of jobs offered by the FDIs, the participation of local firms, and the linkages of the foreign company to the local economy. A good example is the textile industry, where a majority of low or unskilled labour is employed on low salaries tethering below the minimum wage, which is not even enough to cater for basic needs.

Nevertheless, the newly launched Eswatini Strategic Roadmap 2019-2022 recognises that to sustain long-term economic growth, the country will have to invest a little more aggressively on its SMEs. In other words,

the country will have to deliberately formulate and implement economic policies that will support the creation of local entrepreneurs, with special focus on the youth.

## SMES FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

The country desperately needs a more diversified and vibrant private sector for economic growth to occur. A one-sided focus on FDIs and 'big business' will most likely yield the same 0.9 - 1.9 per cent GDP growth rates and fail to pull the country out of stagnation.

A paper published by the Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC) finds that the country has put in place numerous institutional frameworks aimed at enhancing trade and creating an attractive macroeconomic environment favourable to both local and international investors. The study finds that for the most part, Eswatini has been importing more than it has been exporting. As a result, the trade balance remains largely negative. Moreover, Eswatini's export basket consists of a limited number of export products with very little change in the type of export commodities over the years. This is despite all the efforts (institutional, trade relations, and infrastructure development) aimed at promoting local production and trade.

Therefore, government and the private sector need to direct investments to the SMEs owned by local entrepreneurs to ensure the production and circulation of money within the economy. If all these reasons are not convincing enough, the high unemployment rate (23 per cent) makes a strong argument for raving up support towards Eswatini's SMEs. For instance, the Eswatini Labour Force Survey of 2016 reports youth unemployment as high as 47.4 per cent. This implies very low income generation and wealth creation opportunities for the country's future generation.

## FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

It is time the country reconsiders the role of FDIs in shaping our economic path in Eswatini. At the very least of the FDI agenda, the country should leverage FDIs to nurture and grow Swazi-owned businesses, particularly SMEs. At the same time, the point is not to dismiss FDIs; they too can incite real growth if they are well targeted in certain sectors of the economy.

Sustainable development is about making investments in the things that matter in the long-term. In that spirit, government should deliberately increase support to SMEs to ensure that they sustain the integrity and growth of the economy in the long-term.



● "You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me."

— C.S. Lewis

● "To the well-organised mind, death is but the next great adventure."

— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

● "Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself."

— George Bernard Shaw

● "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

— Theodore Roosevelt

● "Listen to the mustn'ts, child. Listen to the don'ts. Listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles, the won'ts. Listen to the never haves, then listen close to me... Anything can happen, child. Anything can be."

— Shel Silverstein

● "When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us."

— Helen Keller

● "Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that."

— Martin Luther King Jr

● "Without music, life would be a mistake."

— Friedrich Nietzsche

● "We accept the love we think we deserve."

— Stephen Chbosky

● "Imperfection is beauty, madness is genius and it's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring."

— Marilyn Monroe

● "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."

— Albert Einstein

● "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."

— Oscar Wilde, *Lady Windermere's Fan*

● "Fairy tales are more than true: not because they tell us that dragons exist, but because they tell us that dragons can be beaten."

— Neil Gaiman, *Coraline*

● "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present."

— Bill Keane

● "I have not failed. I've just found 10 000 ways that won't work."

— Thomas A. Edison

● "Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."

— Oscar Wilde

● "You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching, Love like you'll never be hurt, Sing like there's nobody listening, And live like it's heaven on earth."

— William W. Purkey



# BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

## CONTACTS

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## VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	1.6%
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 EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 05 JULY 2019

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	14.0424	14.0924
British Pound/SZL	17.6696	17.7325
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.6587	7.6846
Swiss France/SZL	14.2505	14.2954
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3158	1.3331
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.8507	9.8900
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.7498	10.7856
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.8314	15.8878
Gold	1,413.5767	
Oil	64.21	

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Standard Bank

# PM TO ACCOMPANY SANU TO CALIFORNIA

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini will accompany Enactus National Champions SANU to the World Cup to be held in California, United States of America (USA).

The event will be held on September 16-18. This was revealed by Enactus Eswatini Board of Directors Chairperson and Nedbank Managing Director (MD) Fikile Nkosi during the national championships held at Esibayeni Lodge in Matsapha on Saturday.

"I would like to inform you that the PM will travel with the team to California, and we do appeal to the corporate sector to accompany the PM in this very important trip. We will be happy to assist with invitation letters for those who want to also accompany the team and also ask the leaders in the corporate world to make sure this happen," he said.

The Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini, who was the main guest, said he was happy to be part of the event. "It is a humbling experience for me to be part of Enactus once again especially because we were

...Premier will be amongst other local dignitaries to attend the Enactus World Cup.



**TO ATTEND: Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini with the winners SANU Health Sciences during the 2019 ENACTUS Eswatini National competition, which was held at the Esibayeni Lodge over the weekend. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)**

there when it started, then known as SIFE International. Together with the Minister of Commerce Manqoba Khumalo, we played a role in this organisation and it makes me happy to see it at this stage now.

"I remember being appointed the first director in the board and then asked to identify other men and women of integrity to be part of the structure," he said.

The PM assured that government would continue supporting Enactus Eswatini to ensure its continued suc-

cess.

"Government contributed about E0.5 million to Enactus every year and will continue supporting them in future. I heard the Board Chairperson that they would love an increase but luckily she again reminded that this organisation is private sector driven," he said.

SANU beat five others during the competition to win the E10 000 cash prize.

A golden Waste project won the tertiary institution the golden tick-

et to the international event. The project includes transforming food waste into three products namely golden liquid, pesticide, detergent.

Taking second position was Gwamile Voctim who walked away with E5 500 after making it to the top two.

The team presented a project on transforming tyres to furniture. The business solution makes various types of furniture made from recycled waste tyres and also promotes environmental awareness.

## RSTP signs agreements with Taiwan companies

BY BAHLE GAMA

**THE Royal Science and Technology Park (RSTP) has signed agreements with two companies in Taiwan.**

The companies are Professional Consultancy Agreement (PCA) with the CECI Engineering and Master Agreement with International Integrated Systems. This was disclosed by RSTP CEO Vumile Dlamini upon his return from Taiwan, further stating that it was important for them to seek best practices and sign agreements with companies that would assist them to establish and maintain world class facilities.

"The Royal Science and Technology Park is working tirelessly to make sure that they collaborate with international institutions to assist in making sure that the institution works to its maximum capacity. We recently signed agreements with a number of companies from the Republic of China on Taiwan which are going to assist RSTP in different areas," he said.

He further disclosed that he had gone to Taiwan with the Vice Chancellor of the University of Eswatini Professor Justice Thwala. UNESWA also signed their own agreements with the Providence University.

The two institutions visited six companies in Taiwan which included CECI Engineering, Inc Taiwan,



**SIGNED: The companies and institutions posing for a group photo after signing the agreements. (Courtesy pic)**

Providence University, International Integrated, Inc, Taiwan, Electronics Testing Centre, Taiwan, NanKang Biotech Incubation Centre and Taiwan Food and Drug Administration, which is under the ministry of health and Social Welfare. The aim of the visit by RSTP and UNESWA was to seek best practices and strengthen already existing relations with some of the institutions as they are already doing some work with them.

"We saw the need for us to partner with institutions like CECI Engineering to assist us as we work towards establishing world class national laboratories for our Biotechnology Park. CECI Engineering will undertake the assessment of our needs, demands, requirements, designs and implementation plan to ensure that the Kingdom of Eswatini establishes national laboratories that uphold international standards," he added.

Dlamini mentioned that RSTP and

CECI signed a Professional Consultancy Agreement for the provision of preliminary planning services for the establishment of National Laboratories in the Kingdom of Eswatini. He highlighted that there is a need for the national laboratories to meet international standards for among other things all product testing and certification as they will lead to the promotion of the biotechnology industry. "The laboratories will assist the country in ensuring that there is value addition in a number of sectors which may include agriculture, pharmaceuticals, electronics, clinical testing, cosmetics and computing among other," said Dlamini.

The company also signed a Master Agreement on ICT Cooperation and a Service Order for collaboration programmes for ICT Capacity Building and e-Learning Platform development with International Integrated Systems, Inc, Taiwan. According to

Dlamini, this agreement is a result of the good relations and bilateral relations between Kingdom of Eswatini and the Republic of China on Taiwan. It will see collaboration and exchange programmes between the Advanced School of Information Technology (ASIT) which is a business unit at RSTP and the Taiwan Institute for Information Industry (III) and the Industry Technology Research Institutes (ITRI).

He further disclosed that the Taiwanese government will be funding this project with an approved budget of almost E2 million, and that this project will help them a great deal as it will enable ASIT to provide online training, which will not only assist in making the institution competitive but also assist a number of locals to upskill, while they continue to be productive at work or in their businesses.

He also thanked His Majesty for ensuring that the country continues to have such cordial relations with the Republic of China on Taiwan as they are proving to be valuable development partners of the Kingdom.

"We believe that with partnerships with such development partners, RSTP will be able to deliver on its mandate," Dlamini said. He added that the good working relationship that exists between RSTP and UNESWA will add value not only in the education sector but also the economy as the two institutions share views and resources.



# LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY TARGET SET-AGRICULTURE

BY BAHLE GAMA

**TO achieve Land Degradation Neutrality by 2030, Eswatini will increase net land productivity by 10 per cent in all land cover categories through Sustainable Land Management practices, amongst others.**

The Minister of Agriculture Jabulani Mabuza disclosed this information during the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) commemoration day at KaNdinda community on Thursday.

"The main drivers of land degradation include population pressure and unsustainable land use practices such as over-grazing, over cultivation and deforestation. These result in the depletion and extinction of species (loss of biodiversity), increasing frequencies of droughts, water stress, dwindling production and pro-



**LAND DEGRADATION: Minister of Agriculture Jabulani Mabuza, Chief Lukhwabitsi, MP Moses Vilakati and PS Bongani Masuku during the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) commemoration day at KaNdinda community on Thursday. (Pic: Bahle Gama)**

ductivity," he said.

The minister said the direct and indirect causes of land degradation in Eswatini included, improper land use, rapid conversion of communal range lands into settlements, climate effects, uncontrolled fires, invasive

alien plant species, population increase, road infrastructure development, effects and impacts of poverty, crop farming practices, livestock farming practices, and others.

"Here at home, there are clear evidences of recovery and restoration

of degraded landscapes through Sustainable Land Management (SLM) practices over the years.

## Degraded

For example, degraded land has been restored through rehabilitation (using gabion baskets and planting

of trees) in Sithobela, Nceka, Sihlangwini, Gucuka, Kukhanyeni, Ngculwini, Ezulwini and many other places," he said.

He further stated that since its adoption in 1994, the UNCCD has contributed to the advancement of sustainable land management further disclosing that to this day, its 197 Parties implement the Convention under coordinated and results-oriented actions with clear targets to recover and restore degraded land.

## Goal

The end goal is to protect the country's land, from over-use and drought, so it can continue to provide everyone with food, water and energy.

"It is also critical that the three Rio conventions should coordinate efforts and work together: that is the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (UNCBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change (UNFCCC). This is important as all of them are addressing the environment for sustaining livelihoods," he added.

**The targets set by the country for achieving Land Degradation Neutrality by 2030 include:**

- Increase forest cover through Afforestation/Agroforestry in existing forests, range lands; areas of shrubs/grassland; wetlands; croplands by 465 290 Ha by 2030
- Increase by 10 per cent net land productivity in all land cover categories through Sustainable Land Management practices by 2030.
- Improve by 50 per cent productivity and Soil Organic Carbon stocks in cropland and grasslands by 2030 as compared to 2015

- Increase Protected Area land coverage from 70 000 Ha to 113 000 Ha by 2022
- Rehabilitate 115 000 hectares of degraded and abandoned land for crop production by 2030
- Reduce current annual loss of forest to cropland of 9.1 km<sup>2</sup> to 4 km<sup>2</sup> by 2022 and achieve 0 km<sup>2</sup> forest loss by 2030
- Reduce the rate of conversion of natural forest to settlements (conversion to artificial land cover) by 30 per cent by 2030 as compared to 2010

Land degradation is a process in which the value of the biophysical environment is affected by a combination of human-induced processes acting upon the land. It is viewed as any change or disturbance to the land perceived to be deleterious or undesirable

## SRA CONCERNED OVER SLOW UPTAKE OF E-TAX PLATFORM

STORIES BY QONDILE NTIWANE

**THE Eswatini Revenue Authority has expressed concern over the slow uptake of E-Tax Registration and Filing platform.**

Making his remarks during the launch of the Filing Season 2019 at the company's Headquarters at Ezulwini, Commissioner General Dumisani Masilela said even the utilisation amongst those that are registered was low.

The SRA launched the e-filing platform in 2015, which started with VAT registered entities and has been expanded to include the filing of all income taxes, the viewing of statements, payment of taxes and the lodgement of queries. "We have promoted e-tax amongst the taxpaying community for a few years now and as at the end of March 2019 we had 2 399 taxpayer regis-

tered. "We are, however, very concerned about the very slow uptake of this very convenient platform and the low utilisation among those are registered," he said. He said they do realise that there may be reasons behind this outcome and are happy to receive comments from taxpayers so they could improve it.

## Jurisdictions

He added that in other jurisdictions, online filing was compulsory for certain categories of taxpayers.

"Please note that the Income Tax Order empowers the Commissioner General to prescribe the form in which returns are to be submitted. In the current year, we have already informed all large taxpayers to file their returns online.

"We believe that online filing is of mutual benefit, hence we invite all taxpayers to register and file their returns online," he said.

## ...OVER 600 TAKE PART IN PAYE, INCOME TAX RETURNS WORKSHOP

**OVER 600 taxpayers took part on the filing of Pay As You Earn (PAYE) and Income Tax Return conducted by the Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) in the month of June.**

SRA Commissioner General Dumisani Masilela said during the launch of the 2019 Filing season that the vigorous education campaigns were attended by businesses in major towns in the country.

He said the workshops would be held in

more towns up until the end of the year.

"From this month to December 31, we will visit more towns to bring the campaign closer to the people.

## Register

This is where we will register new taxpayers, demonstrate online filing and actually help taxpayers to file their returns online.

"We will also run the campaign through other media platforms such as print, radio as well as digital and social media," he said.

## GUNDWVINI PUPIL GETS FSRA INTERNSHIP AWARD

BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI

**GUNDWVINI High School pupil Nqobile Dlamini has earned herself internship at the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) after completing her studies.**

This was one of the prizes won by Dlamini during the 2019 Essay Writing competition, which is an initiative by the organisation aimed at assisting pupils with interests in finances. The champion was also awarded a laptop, certificate of achievement and trophy during the prize giving ceremony held at the George Hotel on Thursday.

Taking second place was Nondumiso Manduna from Ngomane High School and she walked away with a laptop, a certificate of achievement and a trophy while Hermann Gmeiner's Ayanda Dlamini came third and also received a laptop, amongst other prizes. FSRA Chief Executive Officer Sandile Dlamini stated that this initiative was started a few years ago after FSRA saw the need to promote financial literacy among school going children.

He said this was simply because it was seen that pupils did not get an insight on matters that involved personal finances.

"The initiative gives pupils a platform to show how they would improve financial literacy in the country and it has paved a way for many pupils, and has helped in more ways than



**INTERNSHIP AWARD: Nqobile Dlamini who won the competition with last years winner Philile Mthethwa.**

one," he said.

Also present during the event was last year's winner Philile Mthethwa, a former pupil of St Theresa High School, who said when she was told about the competition she almost missed it because of problems she had encountered.

## Happy

Mthethwa said although she was intimidated by pupils from other schools, she was happy to make the top three and to be later named the winner of the competition.

"I want to encourage other pupils not to be afraid but to join the competition. They should believe in themselves and know that everything is possible," he said.

Speaking on behalf of the Schools Representative was Principal of Salesian High School John Houghton,

who expressed gratitude for such an initiative.

"This is a good platform for teachers and I wish it can be extended to teachers as they also need to be taught about personal finance, because in most instances they teach finances and business studies, but leave out other important factors.

"For instance it is hard to tell a pupil to save E10 because we, who earn E10 000, don't save, hence fail to educate the pupil on saving.

He said they had no doubt that their children had bigger greater potential, but would they be able to implement the ideas they have put down on paper.

The principal concluded by saying that the pupils should also find themselves mentors who will help them get to the point they want to get to, not people who will kill their vision.



# SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS FLAGS 56% FALL IN Q2 OPERATING PROFIT

SEOUL - Samsung Electronics said on Friday it expects operating profit to tumble 56 per cent for the second quarter of this year in the face of a weakening chip market.

Operating profit for the April to June period is forecast to reach around 6.5 trillion won (US\$5.6-billion), down 56 per cent from a year earlier, the world's largest maker of smartphones and memory chips said in a statement.

The firm is the flagship subsidiary of the giant Samsung Group, by far the biggest of the family-controlled conglomerates that dominate business in the world's 11th largest economy, and it is crucial to South Korea's economic health.

It has enjoyed record profits in recent years despite a series of setbacks, including the jailing of its de facto chief.

But now the picture is changing, with chip prices falling as global supply increases while demand weakens.

Samsung launched its top-end S10 5G smartphone earlier this year, after



South Korea won the global race to commercially launch the world's first nationwide 5G network.

But in April it made a high-profile decision to push back the release of its new Galaxy Fold phones after reviewers provided with early devices reported screen problems within days of use.

While Samsung's device was not the first folding handset, the smartphone

giant was expected to help spark demand and potentially revive a sector that has been struggling for new innovations.

The South Korean firm had spent nearly eight years developing the Galaxy Fold as part of its strategy to propel growth with groundbreaking gadgets.

The firm is yet to announce its new release date.

AFP

## AMAZON FACES REVIEW BY UK WATCHDOG

LONDON - Amazon.com Inc. is facing an initial review by the UK competition regulator into its bid to buy a slice of fast-growing food delivery startup Deliveroo.

The Competition and Markets Authority on Friday said it has "reasonable grounds" to believe that Amazon and Deliveroo have either ceased to be separate businesses, or will merge in the near future, according to the enforcement order posted online on Friday.

The initial review means that Amazon won't be able to close the deal and that both companies will have to continue acting as independent entities.

While reviews into mergers by the CMA are relatively common, it is unusual for the regulator to examine acquisitions of minority stakes. In May Amazon said it would invest US\$575 million into Deliveroo to help the London-based startup expand its technology team and network and compete against the likes of Just Eat Plc and Uber Technologies Inc. in Europe's fiercely competitive food delivery industry.

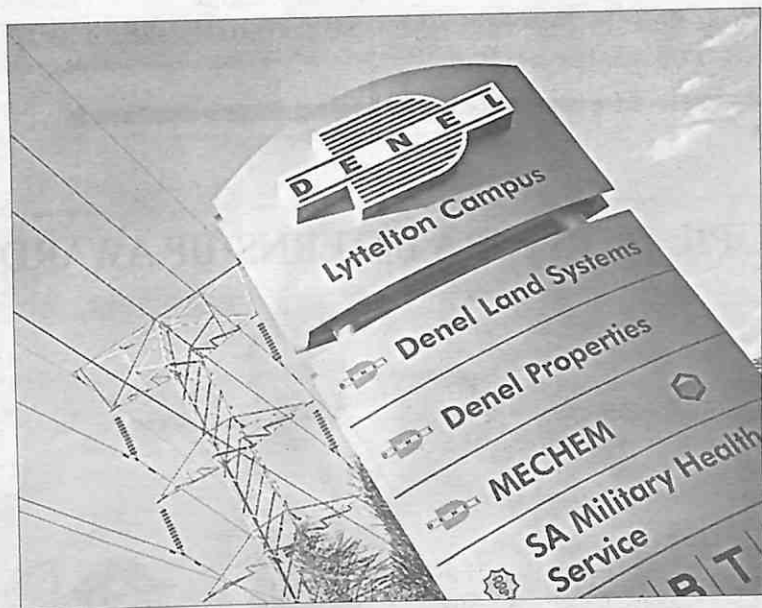
"Deliveroo and Amazon have

been working closely with regulators to obtain regulatory approvals," said a Deliveroo spokesman in a statement.

The UK food delivery marketplace — Deliveroo's home market — is arguably one of the most competitive. Amazon closed down its London-focused food delivery business last year. Amazon has signaled its growing ambitions in the UK with Prime Now, which offers deliveries to major British cities within two hours.

But it faces stiff domestic competition from the likes of Ocado Group Plc, an online grocery pioneer that licences its technology to the likes of Kroger Co. and aims to halve that time with a service called Zoom.

London-based Deliveroo has raised US\$1.5 billion in venture capital since it was founded in 2012 and its self-employed riders have become a familiar sight in many large cities. It now wants to reach half of the UK's population of 65 million by the end of the year, up from the 33 per cent who can currently use its mobile app, said Chief Executive Officer Will Shu. **Bloomberg**



## DENEL ASKS FOR R2.8Bn STATE CASH INJECTION - CEO

PRETORIA - South African state defence company has asked the government for a R2.8 billion (\$200 million) cash injection to help it emerge from a financial crisis and secure lucrative export deals, its chief executive said.

Denel, a cornerstone of the country's once-mighty defence industry, is one of several state firms whose finances were damaged by years of mismanagement during former President Jacob Zuma's tenure.

CEO Danie du Toit, appointed late last year to oversee a turnaround plan, said recovery efforts were progressing well and Denel could win R30 billion of deals in the next two years if it received help to overcome acute liquidity constraints. Denel produces military equipment from ammunition and armoured vehicles to missiles and attack helicopters for the

South African armed forces and for export. "We have an excellent return on investment potential on recapitalisation," he said in an interview at Denel's offices outside Pretoria.

He said he hoped the cash injection would be announced this month and that the funds would arrive in September or October.

He added that Denel would not sell equity in any of its divisions to Saudi Arabia's state defence firm SAMI, which made a \$1 billion bid last year for a broad partnership with Denel.

Under current President Cyril Ramaphosa, public finances are stretched by the need to rescue other ailing state firms such as loss-making power company Eskom and South African Airways, which have both already received cash injections.

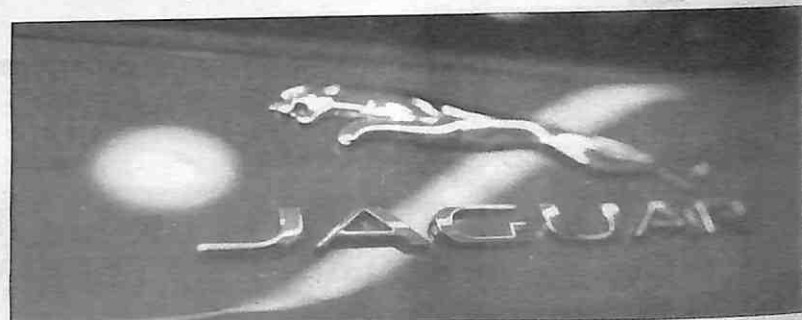
-EWN

## Jaguar boosts UK auto industry with electric cars commitment

LONDON - Jaguar Land Rover plans to build a new range of electrified cars in the UK, safeguarding thousands of jobs and providing a boost for a British automotive industry that's been rocked by job cuts and plant closures.

The move, announced Friday, involves hundreds of millions of pounds in investments. It guarantees the future of the company's Castle Bromwich plant in central England and comes after JLR committed to offering electrified options of all new models from 2020. The first vehicle off the production line will be an all-electric version of Jaguar's flagship XJ saloon.

Brexit, a slowdown in China and flagging demand for diesel-powered vehicles have taken a toll on JLR, which owns the iconic Jaguar sports-car and Land Rover sport-utility brands. The company, part of India's Tata



**JOB SECURITY:** Jaguar Land Rover plans to build a new range of electrified cars in the UK, safeguarding thousands of jobs.

Motors Ltd., said in January it would slash 4 500 jobs worldwide to conserve cash, and Tata is exploring options for the business, Bloomberg reported in March.

While contending with the slowdown JLR, like other carmakers, is also navigating a costly transition

toward electrification. While the Jaguar I-Pace SUV, its first all-electric car, is being made in Austria, the company is retooling part of its Solihull plant to make electric versions of Land Rover's top-end Range Rover models.

**Bloomberg**

## CAMEROON FINES MAIN LOCAL TELECOM COMPANIES

YAOUNDE - The local mobile telecom companies Orange and MTN in Cameroon have been fined over US\$160 million for failing to pay taxes on games and gambling services.

The Central African country corruption board announced on Wednesday. A probe into the sector led to fines totaling US\$283 million, and found other companies including Camtel and Viettel were also in violation of regulations.

The amount paid by each company was not clear and the companies were not immediately available for comment.

In the report the Telecommunications Regulatory Agency said MTN and Orange were also accused of not paying taxes on their money transfer system, known as Mobile Money.



The report is another blow for MTN, which is already contesting a \$3.9 billion fine in Nigeria for failing to disconnect users with unregistered SIM cards.

Unregistered SIM cards can be used

for criminal activity — a growing concern in Nigeria facing the threat of militant Islamist group Boko Haram.

MTN successfully lobbied to get the fine reduced from US\$5.2 billion in December. **Africa News**



# Focus on World News

Global News



**DEAL:** Abbas Araqchi, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs (R), Behrouz Kamalvandi, Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation spokesman (L) and Iran's government spokesman Ali Rabiei attend a news conference in Tehran.

## IRAN REDUCES COMMITMENT TO 2015 NUCLEAR DEAL

**DUBAI** - Iran said yesterday it would further scale back its commitment to the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, raising its uranium enrichment level beyond agreed levels to produce fuel for power plants.

The announcement, confirming what Reuters reported on Saturday, signaled a growing challenge to escalating US sanctions pressure.

In a news conference, senior Iranian officials said Tehran would keep reducing its commitments every 60 days, unless signatories of the pact moved to protect it from US sanctions, but they left the door open to

diplomacy.

Before the deal was sealed, Iran produced 20 per cent enriched uranium needed to fuel its Tehran reactor and the level of enrichment for its southern Bushehr nuclear power plant was five per cent.

### Enrich

"We will enrich uranium based on our needs ... right now we don't need to enrich uranium needed for Tehran reactor," said Behrouz Kamalvandi, Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation spokesman.

"We will enrich uranium to the level that is needed for the Bushehr reactor." In a sign of heightening Western

concern, French President Emmanuel Macron said he and Iran's President Hassan Rouhani had agreed to seek conditions for a resumption of dialogue on the Iranian nuclear question by July 15. Macron's office added that he would keep on talking with Iranian authorities and other involved parties to "engage in a de-escalation of tensions related to Iranian nuclear issue." Long-tense relations between Tehran and Washington took a turn for the worse in May 2018 when US President Donald Trump pulled out of the 2015 nuclear deal reached before he took office, and reimposed sanctions. *Reuters*



**LEAK:** Donald Trump.

## Trump administration is inept and insecure - UK ambassador

**WASHINGTON** - The Trump administration has been labelled "inept", insecure and incompetent in leaked emails from the UK ambassador to Washington.

Sir Kim Darroch said that the White House was "uniquely dysfunctional" and "divided" under Donald Trump.

But he also warned that the US president should not be written off.

The Foreign Office said the leak of the memos to the Mail yesterday was "mischievous" but did not deny their accuracy.

The White House has not yet responded to the revelation of the contents of the memos, but it could test the so-called "special relationship" between the US and UK.

In the messages, Sir Kim said: "We don't really believe this administration is going to become substantially more normal; less

dysfunctional; less unpredictable; less faction-riven; less diplomatically clumsy and inept."

He questioned whether this White House "will ever look competent". Although Sir Kim said Trump was "dazzled" by his state visit to the UK in June, the ambassador warns that his administration will remain self-interested, adding: "This is still the land of America First".

### Climate

Differences between the US and the UK on climate change, media freedoms and the death penalty might come to the fore as the countries seek to improve trading relations after Brexit, the memos said.

To get through to the president, "you need to make your points simple, even blunt", he said. In a message sent last month, Sir Kim branded US policy on Iran as "incoherent, chaotic".

*BBC*

## Russian-led assault in Syria leaves over 500 civilians dead

**AMMAN** - At least 544 civilians have been killed and over 2 000 people injured since a Russian-led assault on the last rebel bastion in north-western Syria began two months ago, rights groups and rescuers said on Saturday.

Russian jets joined the Syrian army on April 26 in the biggest offensive against parts of rebel-held Idlib province

and adjoining northern Hama provinces in the biggest escalation in the war between Syrian President Bashar al Assad and his enemies since last summer.

The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR), which monitors casualties and briefs various UN agencies, said the 544 civilians killed in the hundreds of attacks carried out by Russian

jets and the Syrian army include 130 children. Another 2 117 people have been injured.

"The Russian military and its Syrian ally are deliberately targeting civilians with a record number of medical facilities bombed," Fadel Abdul Ghany, Chairman of SNHR, told Reuters.

Russia and its Syrian army ally deny their jets hit indiscriminately civilian

areas with cluster munitions and incendiary weapons, which residents in opposition areas say are meant to paralyse every-day life.

Moscow says its forces and the Syrian army are fending off terror attacks by al Qaeda militants whom they say hit populated, government-held areas, and it accuses rebels of wrecking a ceasefire deal agreed last year between

Turkey and Russia.

Last month US-based Human Rights Watch said the Russian-Syrian joint military operation had used cluster munitions and incendiary weapons in the attacks along with large air-dropped explosive weapons with wide-area effects in populated civilian areas, based on reports by first responders and witnesses. *Reuters*

### BRIEFS

#### Greeks vote in 1st party election

**ATHENS** - Greeks were voting yesterday in the first parliamentary election since their country emerged from three successive international bailouts still struggling with a crippling nearly decade-long financial crisis.

Opinion polls have suggested Greeks are set to defy the recent European trend of increasing support for populist parties, with conservative opposition party leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis a clear favourite to win.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras called the vote three months earlier than originally planned after his left-wing Syriza party suffered a stinging defeat in European and local elections in May and early June. *AP*

#### Migrants allowed off charity ship

**BERLIN** - A group of 41 rescued migrants have disembarked from a charity ship in Italy, a day after the captain defied a ban on docking in the country. Despite warnings, the Alex sailed to the port on Saturday because of "intolerable hygienic conditions" aboard. The migrants have now all come ashore after hours of waiting under guard. Italy's Interior Minister Matteo Salvini had earlier vowed he would not allow migrants to disembark. "I saw that the German government wrote me a letter today asking to reopen the ports and to let all the migrants disembark," he said on a Facebook live stream.

*BBC*

#### Labour party discuss no confidence vote

**LONDON** - Britain's opposition Labour Party will call a no confidence vote in the government when it believes members of the ruling Conservatives will support it, the party's trade spokesman Barry Gardiner said yesterday. Boris Johnson, the frontrunner to become prime minister this month, has said Britain must leave the European Union on Oct. 31 with or without a deal.

Several Conservative lawmakers have said they would consider voting to try to bring down a government which was pursuing a no-deal Brexit.

*Reuters*

#### 'Iran's enrichment ramp moderate'

**JERUSALEM** - Israel's energy minister described as moderate yesterday an announced increase of Iranian uranium enrichment but accused Tehran of breaking out of internationally agreed limitations on its nuclear projects and moving towards a potential bomb. "Iran has begun - while it is a moderate rise right now - but it has begun to raise, to break out of the uranium enrichment curbs that were imposed on it," Yuval Steinitz, a member of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's security Cabinet, told Israel's Ynet TV. "It means ... that it is brushing off the red lines that were agreed (and) that it has begun its march, a march that is not simple, toward nuclear weaponry." *Reuters*





Focus on

## SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

## MBOWENI, MAKHURA REBUKED



FIND SOLUTIONS: South African President Cyril Ramaphosa.

**JOHANNESBURG - President Cyril Ramaphosa on Saturday issued a stern rebuke to Finance Minister Tito Mboweni and Gauteng Premier David Makhura following their heated exchange on social media over the contentious e-tolls saga.**

Mboweni and Makhura were embroiled in a Twitter spat after the finance minister sparked the debate on Thursday night when he insisted "users must pay" for e-tolls.

So, when you invest in a toll road infrastructure, you expect a return for many years ahead as per contract. Right? Not the cost of your investment today. Future returns. That is what you do in business. Premier Makhura, correct? Or am I missing something here?

His tweets appeared to have been sparked by Makhura's comments during his State of the Province

Address this week, where the premier reiterated his stance that e-tolls were not part and parcel of the future he envisaged for Gauteng.

The heated exchange, which even saw Makhura's executive weigh in on the matter, caused a furore on social media and massive backlash against Mboweni from users.

## Statement

The Presidency has since issued a statement on the matter, saying Ramaphosa viewed the exchange between the Mboweni and the Gauteng provincial government as "unfortunate and deeply regrettable".

"The president says such exchanges on social media are unbecoming of their high offices and fail to provide the leadership required in this instance. "The public interest is best served through collaboration, not conflict, and the appropriate

platform for leaders to express and reconcile differing views is Cabinet and other coordination forums."

The Presidency also confirmed that Ramaphosa had mandated Minister of Transport Fikile Mbalula, together with Mboweni and Makhura, to submit to Cabinet a solution to the impasse around electronic tolling on Gauteng freeways.

He called on the ministers and premier to table proposals to Cabinet by the end of August 2019.

"While the user-pay principle remains a policy of government, the electronic tolling system as part of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Plan (GFIP) presents challenges in its current form.

"The president expects that the consultations within government over the coming weeks will produce workable outcomes," the Presidency said.

Politics Hub

## Good Party calls for probe on the sale of land in Cape Town

**CAPE TOWN - The Good Party's Brett Herron believes there are grounds for the public protector to investigate the sale of a piece of land in the Cape Town CBD.**

Herron approached the public protector's office, after the city's forensic investigation into the matter found no irregularities relating to the sale of the vacant land to Growthpoint Properties.

This comes after affordable housing NGO, Ndifuna Ukwazi, raised alarm over the sale, saying it's been sold off

for far less than its valued.

The piece of land in the City's Foreshore was sold to Growthpoint Properties in 2016.

Since then housing activist groups, Reclaim the City and Ndifuna Ukwazi were at the forefront of questioning the price tag the City put on the property.

It was sold for R86.5 million and comes with 46 000m2 development rights.

The Good party's Brett Herron asked

the Public Protector to investigate.

"I find that difficult to accept that there's absolutely no responsibility for under-valuing the property and I have requested the Public Protector to investigate the transaction and to establish whether there was in fact any misconduct in the sale of that property..."

The city's investigation found there were no irregularities with regards to the sale of the land and welcomed any further investigation into the matter.

-EWN

## Ramaphosa heads in Niger for 'historic' AU summit

**PRETORIA - In a statement, the presidency said President Ramaphosa was accompanied by International Relations and Cooperation Minister Naledi Pandor, Finance Minister Tito Mboweni, and Trade and Industry Minister Ebrahim Patel.**

"The summit marks the entry into force of the Agreement on the Establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and formally launches the operational phase of the African Internal Market," said the presidency statement.

"The summit will also decide on the location and structure of the AfCFTA Secretariat."

At the open session of the summit, Ramaphosa would - alongside President Paul Kagame of Rwanda - participate in the launch of the Tariff Concession Portal.

"The password-controlled tariff concession portal was created to allow countries ready to extend tariff preferences and/or give concessions to do so in a secured manner

To this end, the aforementioned prod-

ucts will attract minimal or no tariffs, thus making them more competitive," the presidency said.

The summit was preceded by the 35th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, and the AfCFTA Business Forum which took place on Saturday.

The presidency said that since its adoption, the AfCFTA had been signed by 52 countries, with 24 ratifications, thus ensuring its entry into force after it surpassed the threshold of 22 ratifications by AU member states. South Africa deposited its Instrument of Ratification of the agreement establishing the AfCFTA in February.

## Destinations

Currently, South Africa's primary export destinations on the continent were mainly within the Southern African Development Community (SADC), followed by East Africa.

The AfCFTA presented South Africa with an opportunity for expansion to new markets in West and North Africa for the export of value-added goods as well as services.

"The AfCFTA aims to make doing

business on the continent easier and encourages African countries to trade among each other while addressing issues that stifle intra-African trade, such as high transport costs, cumbersome customs, among others," the presidency said.

In a "historic" moment for the 55-member bloc, according to its chairman Moussa Faki, heads of state will officially launch AfCFTA at the two-day summit in Niamey, the Nigerien capital.

## Agreement

The agreement comes after 17 years of tough negotiations, and was formalised at the end of April when it crossed the launch threshold.

Nigeria, Africa's most populous country and largest economy, announced this week it would after all join the pact in Niamey, having unexpectedly pulled back from the agreement last year.

Nigeria's Chief Trade Negotiator, Ambassador Chiedu Osakwe, said President Muhammadu Buhari would sign the landmark agreement, "opening Africa up to abundant opportunities.

The Citizen



QUESTIONED: Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane and her deputy Kevin Malunga.

## Public Protector's decision questioned over probe into nepotism

**CAPE TOWN - A complainant has asked for a review of a decision by Public Protector (PP) Busisiwe Mkhwebane with regard to an investigation into allegations of mismanagement and nepotism at one of the City of Cape Town's departments.**

Mkhwebane's office was asked in 2017 to investigate complaints of alleged maladministration, wasteful, fruitless and irregular expenditure related to the contract between the City and asset management company Pragma, which, initially valued at R12million excluding VAT, quickly ran to over R100m.

The appointment of the consulting company for water-related infrastructure maintenance work was also questioned as the department had, according to the complainant, suitably qualified employees.

However, the PP said that she planned to exercise her "discretion on the resolution of complaints" and close the

matter as she was satisfied that the issues raised by the complainant had been thoroughly dealt with by an internal forensic investigation that was conducted by the City's forensic services department (FSD).

A spokesperson for the PP, Oupa Segwale said: "She was favoured with a copy of the FSD's report. She gets progress reports on implementation of the FSDs."

Mkhwebane was asked to investigate whether the City acted properly with regard to:

- Appointments of senior managers in the water and sanitation department in that the advertisements of the posts were amended to suit certain individuals.

- Awarding a tender contract to Pragma Africa in 2016 to conduct certain water-related functions.

Weekend Argus



# Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

## OVER e-TOLL TWAR

Ramaphosa tasks Mbalula, Mboweni, Makhura to find solution

**PRETORIA** - In a statement on Saturday, President Cyril Ramaphosa's office said he had mandated Minister of Transport Fikile Mbalula to work with Finance Minister Tito Mboweni and Gauteng Premier David Makhura to submit to Cabinet a solution to the "impasse" around electronic tolling on Gauteng freeways.

"The President has noted and finds extremely unfortunate and deeply regrettable recent public exchanges between Finance Minister Tito Mboweni and the Gauteng Provincial Government on this matter," said the presidency.

"The President says such exchanges on social media are unbecoming of their high offices and fail to provide the leadership required in this instance."

Some of Mboweni's tweets have subsequently been deleted.

"The public interest is best served through collaboration, not conflict, and the appropriate platform for leaders to express and reconcile differing views is Cabinet and other coordination forums."

He wants them to table their proposals by the end of August.

"While the user-pay principle remains a policy of government, the electronic tolling system as part of the Gauteng Freeway Improvement Plan (GFIP) presents challenges in its current form. "The President expects that the consultations within government over the coming weeks will produce workable outcomes."

Earlier, the opposition DA said in a statement on Saturday that Mboweni's Twitter outburst attacking Makhura's comments during his State of the Province Address about e-tolls had confirmed that e-tolls were here to stay.



**TIT-FOR-TAT:** Finance Minister Tito Mboweni has threatened to reduce allocation for government structures who owe Eskom, while Gauteng Premier David Makhura tells the minister to tweet as he cooks. This after a heated debate over e-tolls.

"Taking to Twitter, Mboweni lambasted Makhura, stating that the unjust user-pay system on Gauteng's freeways will not be removed under his watch," said DA Gauteng leader Solly Msimanga.

"It is Minister Mboweni, not Premier Makhura, who pulls the country's purse strings and has the final say on how taxes are raised," said Msimanga.

### Grants

"Since the grants were switched on in December 2013, the ANC has consistently spoken with a forked tongue on the matter. When it is convenient, they claim that the system will be scrapped. But when the truth comes out, it is clear that they care not for the plight of Gauteng's residents."

Msimanga said that in the years since the e-tolls had gone live, numerous businesses had shut down due to the added "unjust costs" that they had not been able to carry.

"Private road users have been threatened with criminal records for non-compliance should they refuse to be fleeced of their hard-earned money. 90 per cent of the money collected from those who do pay is sent overseas and what is left barely makes a dent in repaying Sanral's bonds."

He pointed out that money collected through other streams of revenue such as renewal fees and levies already contributed to paying for the country's roads.

*The Citizen*

## COSATU DEMANDS ACTION TAKEN AGAINST MBOWENI

**JOHANNESBURG** - Finance Minister Tito Mboweni's comments on e-tolls ruffled the feathers of the ANC tripartite alliance in Gauteng.

The party's alliance partner in the province COSATU lashed out at Mboweni for his defiance about e-tolls being part of government policy. A war of words about the pay system played out on Twitter between Gauteng Premier David Makhura and the minister this week.

The system has been a contentious debate between the provincial and national government, with a res-

olution reached within the ANC that all spheres and the party should find a sustainable solution on the matter. On Friday, the ANC in Gauteng lashed out at Mboweni saying he is the only minister who is still hell bent on the debate.

COSATU's provincial spokesperson Amos Monyela said steps should be taken against the minister.

"The ANC must take action against Minister Mboweni because if they don't it will reflect. He can't speak contrary to what the resolution of the ANC in Gauteng are saying."

### HOW THE E-TOLL TWAR PLAYED OUT

**"MINISTER @tito\_mboweni can continue to tweet as he cooks; he is a minister, not the president."**

Those are the words Makhura told the Mboweni on Twitter.

Mboweni then responded saying "I am certain that the Premier of Gauteng knows that you have to be careful before you pick up a fight with a National Minister of Finance..."

During his first budget speech earlier this year, the minister

made it clear he was against the scrapping of e-tolls.

"If we want a road transport infrastructure that works, we need to pay our tolls. Government remains committed," he said.

"There's nothing for *mahala*. It doesn't exist *mahala*. To get something you must first get something from Paul."

Makhura hit back saying he has referred the matter to President Cyril Ramaphosa.

**-EWN**

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# Focus on Africa News

## Continental News

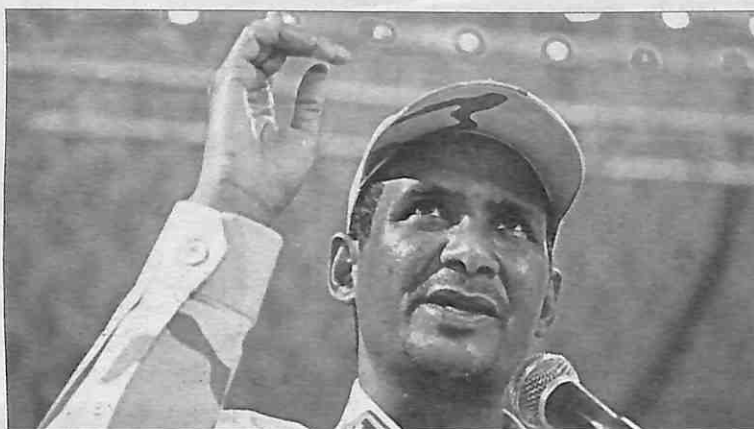
### SUDAN'S MILITARY LEADER WELCOMES POWER-SHARING DEAL

**KHARTOUM** - Sudan's Vice-President of the Transitional Military Council and senior military leader, General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, welcomed a power-sharing agreement on Saturday.

The military council that has ruled the country since the fall of President Omar al-Bashir in April and a coalition of opposition and protest groups have temporarily agreed to share power for three years.

"The long-awaited agreement has been reached and this agreement needs unity and purity of intent", General Dagalo said.

The agreement, which is due to be finalised today, has rekindled hopes for a peaceful transition of power in a country plagued by internal conflicts and years of economic crisis that have contributed to the overthrow



**NEW POWER DEAL:** General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo.

of Al Bashir.

The two sides agreed to establish a sovereign council to be led for the first 21 months by the military and for the last 18 months by civilians.

That's according to a statement by the Sudanese Professionals Association, which has been behind several months of protests against Bashir and the military rulers. *Reuters*

### Sudan rebels criticise protesters' deal with the army

**KHARTOUM** - Sudanese rebel groups have criticised a power-sharing deal between the military and the country's pro-democracy movement aimed at ending weekslong political deadlock.

The protest leaders in the capital, Khartoum, and the ruling military made public an agreement to form a joint government on Friday.

A faction of the Sudan Liberation Movement, led by Minni Minnawi, said late Friday a peace deal had to be reached with rebel groups before embarking on the deal's planned transition.

Another faction of the SLM, led by Abdel Wahid al-Nur, slammed the deal as a "betrayal of the revolution."

The SLM — then fighting an insurgency in the Darfur region — split into rival factions in 2004. *AP*

### German migrant ship denied entry to Maltese waters

**VALLETTA** - A German rescue ship heading to Malta after being refused entry into Italy has not been given clearance to enter Maltese waters, authorities said yesterday.

Italy's migration policy has led to clashes between NGOs and Italian authorities over rules that effectively close off the country's ports to their boats. The Alan Kurdi is the latest of several vessels carrying migrants that has faced problems trying to dock in an Italian port in the past couple of weeks. The German-flagged vessel named after the three-year-old Syrian refugee Alan Kurdi who drowned in the Mediterranean in 2015, decided on Saturday to change course for Malta after a standoff with Rome.

On Sunday, the Maltese armed forces said the government would guide it on the appropriate action to take should the ship enter Maltese waters.

The ship, which has 65 migrants on board, was expected to arrive near Malta

yesterday afternoon. In a tweet on Saturday the German NGO running the Alan Kurdi said it had decided to change course for Malta because it could not wait for a state of emergency to develop on board. "It remains to be seen whether European governments support Italy's position. People are not bargaining chips," the NGO said.

#### Coalition

Italy's coalition government, which includes the right-wing League, blames European partners for leaving it alone to deal with sea arrivals.

New rules were adopted last month threatening NGO ships entering Italian waters without permission with a fine of up to 50 000 euros and the impounding of their vessels. On June 29, Italian police arrested the German captain of the Dutch-flagged Sea-Watch 3, operated by a German charity, after the vessel docked at the island port of Lampedusa though she was later released. *Reuters*

### Tax alcohol, tobacco, to tackle cancer: African Union first ladies

**NIAMEY** - First ladies attending the African Union summit in Niger on Saturday called for a rise in taxes for cancer-causing products such as tobacco and alcohol.

Speaking on the sidelines of the summit at Niamey, Sika Bella Kabore, the first lady of Burkina Faso, read out a joint appeal for more effective measures to tackle cancer. As well as calling for cancer to be included in strategic planning, they called for higher taxes on tobacco, alcohol and other carcinogenic products. Both drink and cigarettes are cheaper in most African countries than in western countries, where a tax on such products tends to be incorporated into health poli-

cies. Cancer specialist Alain Toledano of the Rafael Institute in Paris welcomed the initiative.

"Africa is rightly concerned most of all with contagious diseases," said Toledano, who is also president of the Franco-African Cancerology Association.

#### Issue

But he added the major issue they had forgotten was cancer.

"Nineteen million people will die in a year from cancer, 70 per cent of them in the poorest countries," he said. "So there will be millions of deaths in Africa. 'If we want to succeed in our objective of raising life expectancy from 60 to 75 by 2063, we have to fight cancer,' he added. *Times Live*



**ORDERED:** Former oil minister Diezani Alison-Madueke.

### NIGERIA TO CONFISCATE US\$40M OF ITEMS FROM EX-OIL MINISTER

**ABUJA** - A Nigerian court has ordered the imminent seizure of \$40 million worth of jewellery and a customised gold iPhone belonging to former oil minister Diezani Alison-Madueke, the country's anti-graft agency said on Friday.

The items, including hundreds of bangles, rings, earrings, necklaces and watches, were found at a property owned by Alison-Madueke, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) said in a statement.

Alison-Madueke, who ran the

petroleum ministry from 2011 to 2015, was charged by the EFCC in absentia with money laundering in 2017. Her whereabouts are unknown, and a London-based lawyer who has represented her did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The order gives the EFCC 14 days to print the charges in any national newspaper and allow for her or "anyone interested in the items" to show why they should not be permanently forfeited to the federal government.

*Reuters*

## BRIEFS

### Africa inches toward free trade zone

**NAIROBI** - The African Union launches the "operational phase" this weekend of a long-awaited trade accord, but analysts say the continent faces an uphill task to transform the pact into reality. The 55-nation AU, gathering for a summit in Niger, will give the formal push to a deal to phase out tariffs on trade from the Cape of Good Hope to Cairo. By doing so, say supporters of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), business between African nations will boom.

The economy of Africa, with a GDP of US\$2.5 trillion today, will reach takeoff just as its 1.2 billion population doubles over the next three decades, they predict. *AFP*

### 'I don't recognise my suspension'

**MASERU** - The former secretary-general of the All Basotho Convention (ABC) Samonyane Ntsekele said he didn't recognise his suspension or the special conference that suspended him. Constituencies of the party from 54 regions announced earlier on Saturday they had suspended Prime Minister Tom Thabane, Deputy Secretary-general Nkaku Kabi, and Ntsekele for six years. But Ntsekele said the conference was a joke. He was removed as secretary-general at an elective conference in February, but he was said to still have influence over Thabane.

*EWN*

### Muthanka condemns disputed poll protests

**LILONGWE** - Malawi's President Peter Mutharika on Saturday condemned protests by thousands of people who gathered in Lilongwe last week to denounce his re-election in May. Protesters have been demonstrating for nearly two months against results of the presidential election and are calling for the resignation of Chairperson of the Electoral Commission, Jane Ansah.

The Head of State accused organisers of the protest of plotting to overthrow his government and warned them that the authorities would treat them harshly. "The violence you see is calculated to make Malawi a lawless state."

*AFP*

### Boko Haram kills at least five soldiers

**MAIDUGURI** - Islamist insurgent group Boko Haram ambushed Nigerian soldiers in the northeast of the country, killing at least five and injuring more than a dozen, sources told Reuters yesterday.

The sources said the death toll could increase as a number of soldiers were still missing after the attack on Thursday in Damboa, in Borno state in northeastern Nigeria.

The soldiers had gone to the area to clear a Boko Haram camp, but were ambushed, the sources said. Boko Haram militants have killed thousands and displaced millions in Nigeria during the group's decade-long insurgency against the government. *Reuters*



# ENTERTAINMENT

REVIEWS | STAR SIGNS | CELEBRITY WATCH | C



**LONA NGUMNYAKA WETFU:** Linda Dlamini sings his hit song, 'Lona Ngumyaka wetfu' during the Pre-Holy Ghost Party which was held at Metropolitan Church on Friday evening. (Pics: Nokwanda Sibandze)



**MR SAXOPHONE:** Fakazi Samuel also showcased his skills.



**GET DOWN:** Puleng March dances.

Joyous stars overwhelmed by love from Emaswati

## PRE-HOLY GHOST PARTY LIFTS SPIRITS

STORIES BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

● Linda Dlamini, Joyous Celebration crew brought fire at the house of God

**AUDIENCE** spirits were lifted through praise and worship at the Pre-Holy Ghost Party held at Metropolitan Evangelical Church on Friday evening.

Hosted by Kufeziwe Communications, the show saw local and South African gospel artists showcase their best vocal abilities on stage.

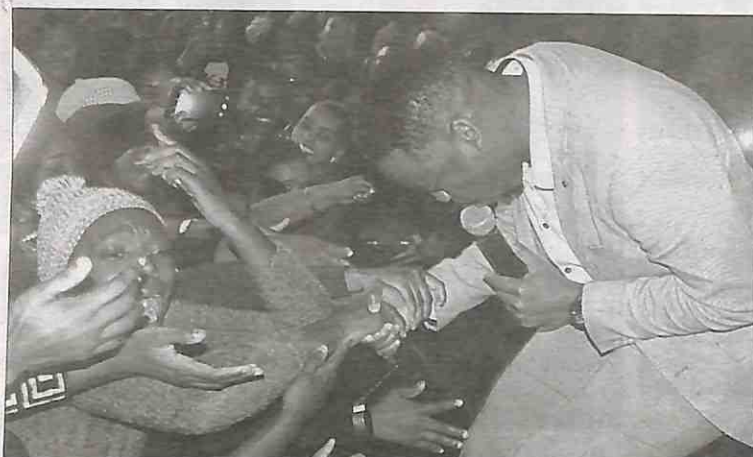
What made the event special was that all the artists were seated on stage and took turns to perform for the crowd by passing on the microphone to the next singer after their rendition.

The artists were also seen dancing and singing each other's songs. They also sang to each other's songs as they exchanged turns on the microphone.

### Support

Kicking off the proceedings was Linda Dlamini who rendered most of his hit songs. The singer also took time to thank the audience for coming to the show and making time to support him.

He also gave out certificates to



**HOLDING ON:** SbuNoah shakes hands with some of the fans.

some of the individuals that helped make the show a success.

Joyous Celebration stars also shined at the event as they rendered all the hit songs that the audience requested. SbuNoah wowed the crowd when he rendered his hit song 'Ewe Getsemane', which was loved by the audience.

The song is also Bishop Nash Shongwe's favourite as he took time to show the attendees that he also was a fan of the singer. His cellphone ringtone is also the singer's hit song as he asked for someone to call his cellphone and it blurted out 'Ewe Getsemane'.

Speaking at the event, Bishop



**IN SPIRITS:** This woman prays on top of a speaker.

Shongwe expressed his love for Linda. "I am so proud of you and I hope you will continue to walk with God and pray for everything that you lay your hands on," said Shongwe.

### Amazed

Also making the crowd dance was Londiwe KaMasondo-Cele who sang 'Ingumilo Lento', which the crowd loved as they danced and sang along.

Puleng March also made the audience lose their minds when she rendered 'Ngobekezela', amongst other songs.

She also sang a Sotho song and was amazed by the audience when they sang along to it.

Mpumie Mhlana rendered 'Sembathise' which sent the crowd into spirit mode as everyone started praying and worshipping God.

The well-attended show also saw young people accepting the Lord as their saviour. This happened when Dlamini made an altar call to anyone who wanted to accept Jesus.

**SPEAKING** to Joyous Celebration stars after the show, SbuNoah and Puleng March said they were overwhelmed by the love and support they receive each time they visit the country.

"It is truly unbelievable. This was my first time in the country as Puleng and I am amazed by the reception of the crowd. This shows that Eswatini loves gospel music and not just certain artists, I would definitely love to come back for another show here," said March.

The singer also expressed how shocked and happy she was when the audience sang along to her Sotho song.

### Sentiments

Sharing the same sentiments was SbuNoah, who said he loved the set up at the show because it felt like a church service more than just a gospel music event.

"I love the fact that two people were saved today and it literally felt like a Sunday church service. For me, that was my highlight of the night. Of course the love we always get here is just outstanding," he said.

Both artists were given ample time to perform their songs as there were two sessions. Each singer also showcased their vocal abilities towards the end of the show when they sang one song led by Linda Dlamini.

## Fakazi Samuel leaves 'em yearning for more

**SAXOPHONIST** Fakazi Samuel wowed the crowd with his ability to play the instrument to a point where he received a standing ovation.

The artist performed only three songs and the crowd was over satisfied as they pleaded with him to return to the stage.

He gladly obliged and went back to the stage to render yet another song for the crowd, only for the attendees to beg him to continue playing even after the encore.

Linda Dlamini acknowledged the singer and all the artists that came to the show.

After the success of the event,

Dlamini said he was humbled by how Emaswati supported him.

### Undying

"I would love to thank my management team headed by Lindiwe Dlamini, not forgetting all my sponsors and my father Bishop Nash Shongwe for their undying support," said the gospel artist.



**CROWD:** Fans dancing to the performances.



# PRE-HOLY GHOST PARTY



**MAN OF THE NIGHT:** Linda Dlamini sings his lungs out during the Pre-Holy Ghost Party held at Metropolitan Evangelical Church in Manzini on Friday evening. (Pics: Nokwanda Sibandze)



**ARTISTS LOVE:** The artists hold hands as the closing prayer was made.



**IN SONG:** Londiwe KaMasondo-Cele took the audience along her worship journey.



**HANDS UP:** Joyous Celebration star Sibusiso 'SbuNoah' Mthembu serenading the crowd.



**DANCE:** Puleng March dances on stage during her performance.



**PRAISE:** Mpumie Mhlanga belting it out.



**WORSHIPPING:** Thobeka Mahlangu also rendered a wonderful set.



**DANCE:** Gospel singer Nothando Hlophe was also featured.



**IN SONG:** Lungelo Matse also shined on stage.



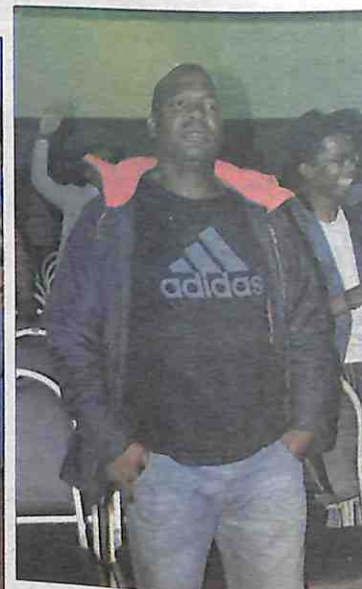
**PROUD FATHER:** Bishop Nash Shongwe expresses his affection for Linda on stage.



**TALENT:** Bhelekazi Shabangu also showcased her talent.



**ALL OUT:** A section of the audience in uncontrolled joy during the event.



**SUPPORT:** Eswatini National Council of Arts and Culture CEO Stanley Dlamini also attended.



# FASHION ON FLEEK AT DURBAN JULY

BY SIMON SHABANGU  
(Durban, South Africa)

IT was glitz and glam at this year's Vodacom Durban July held at Greyville Racecourse on Saturday as celebrities from all over South Africa and beyond descended for the much fancied annual horse race event.

The event attracted about 55 000 people with 13 000 being international visitors.

On the fashion side, celebrities came dressed up to the nines.

All sorts of outfits were witnessed on the day as everyone present looked the part.

Celebrities including the likes of Bonang Matheba, Khanyi Mbau, Unathi Msengana, Casper Nyovest and DJ Fresh were amongst the many who attend-



**ENTERTAINMENT:** A model entertaining guests at Eyadini Sand. This was during the Durban July festival held over the weekend. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

ed the event.

Music was the order of the day at the prestige affair as there were a number of performances from the various stands at the event.

## Prominent

Notable was the Afrotainment Mother of all Parties which featured a number of prominent artists including the likes of Sjava, Kwesta, AKA, DJ Ties, Babes Wodumo and Mampitsha and many others.

The main attraction of the event was the horse race.

The main race was won by last year's winner 'Do It Again' who became the

fifth horse to win the race in two consecutive years.

Top government officials from KZN including the Premier Sihle Zikalala, Minister for Tourism Nomusa Dube-Ncube, Kubayi Ngubane, Minister of Police Bheki Cele, Dr Irvin Khoza were in attendance.

The Durban Tourism in collaboration with KZN Tourism hosted media and trade partners for their annual FAM Trip which seeks to expose them to tourist attractions available in the province mainly in Durban, which plays host to the Vodacom Durban July.

**READY:** Sticks Nxumalo suited up for the night



**BIG DAWG:** DJ Fresh minding his own business at the event.



**SIMPLE:** Ayanda Mbokazi and a friend look simple.



**FAMILY AFFAIRS:** Criselda Kananda and her daughter Thando.



**LAMNANDI IYADI:** Guests at the Eyadini marquee in a relaxed mood.



**REPRESENTING:** Happy Valley Marketing Officer Noxolo Nkabinde pictured with KZN Tourism GM Marketing Thulisile Galelekile and Durban Tourism Public Relations Manager Mpumey Sibiya.



**TOURISTS:** Christopher Teehankee and Tessa Valdes from Phillipines all dressed up for the special day.



**LOCAL IS LEKKER:** EtheKwini Municipality Acting Mayor Fawzia Peer and SA Minister of Tourism Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane looking the part.



**BEAUTY:** Models posing for pictures at one of the many pavilions and marquees.



**LADIES MAN:** Tutu Mokoena posing with his ladies.



**'MJAKES':** Sipho Manzini who plays the part of Mjekejeke on The Queen.





# Celebville

International Celebrity News

## Wonder says he needs kidney transplant

**NEW YORK** - Stevie Wonder says he's putting a pause on touring to undergo surgery for a kidney transplant -- this amid rumours that he's now on dialysis. The legendary singer broke the news on Saturday in England during his set at the British Summer Time Hyde Park music festival, explaining that he'd be doing three more shows before going on a hia-



**NOT NOW: Stevie Wonder.**

tus to get the procedure done in September. Stevie says he's already found a donor, and assured the crowd, "I'm all good, I'm all good, I'm all good." People seemed shocked at first, but then erupted in applause after realising that he was taking care of his health and would presumably be all right. **TMZ**

## Jonas, Sophie wedding snaps everyone talking

**HOLLYWOOD** - Game of Thrones star Sophie Turner and Joe Jonas nearly shut down the internet after sharing the first picture from their French wedding on their Instagram accounts. The couple first tied the knot at a Las Vegas chapel after the groom's electric performance at the 2019 Billboard Music Awards. The first ceremony, which was live-streamed by Diplo on Instagram, was offici-



**Sophie Turner and Joe Jonas.**

ated by an Elvis Presley impersonator, included a live performance by Dan + Shay, and saw the pair exchange Ring Pops. But in a second ceremony held recently, the pair were a lot more formal. In the black-and-white picture posted by Sophie on Instagram, the two are smiling as their guests cheer them on. **TMZ**

## Lalla Hirayama buys her mom a new car

**PRETORIA** - Lalla Hirayama spoils her mom with a new set of wheels. Hirayama's mom was left emotional after the TV personality surprised her with a new car. Taking to Instagram, Lalla also penned a heartfelt note to her mom. "I'd buy you the world if I could, I don't know many who have gone through as much as my mom, one



**BRAND NEW: Lalla Hirayama.**

day I hope she shares her story with the world, she's my hero, my 'why', the reason I won't quit. "If she can go through all she has, I've got the strength to do it all. I'll forever be your protector, your guardian, your daughter. I'd buy you the world if I could, but for now this will have to do, I love you mama." **Times**

**Live**

## Dineo rejects second letter of demand for debt

**PRETORIA** - Metro FM presenter Dineo Ranaka was interrupted by two police officers during her radio show on Saturday to be served with a second letter of demand in less than a year from her former manager.



**REJECTS: Dineo Ranaka.**

small claims court to assist in getting the reality TV star to pay her more than R20 000 that Ranaka allegedly owes her. As Sowetan reported last week, Molemela first served Ranaka with a letter of demand from her lawyer in September to no avail. **Sowetan Live**

Palesa Molemela is seeking the intervention of the

## Ricky, Sheila E. weigh in on Swift's music rights battle

**NEW YORK** - Taylor Swift losing out on the rights to her old tunes is a learning lesson for up-and-coming artists, so say two people who know that game all too well, Ricky Bell and Sheila E. The musicians were asked about Taylor's feud with Scooter Braun on Saturday at LAX, and they each



**BATTLE: Ricky Bell and Taylor Swift.**

had interesting insights on the biz. Short story long, don't hate the player. Ricky -- who started with New Edition, and then went on to form Bell Biv DeVoe -- kicks things off by actually defending Scooter, saying he isn't really the bad guy here, just a businessman making a smart business move by snatching up Taylor's catalog. **TMZ**

## Halle Bailey voicing Ariel the mermaid is pure

**HOLLYWOOD** - Over the week, singer Halle Bailey has become the latest #BlackGirlMagic member to form part of Disney's world and while that has been cause for celebration for many, it has left others sour in these social media streets. Variety reported that Chloe x Halle member Halle is ready to become part of Disney's world. The R&B singer will play Ariel in Disney's next



**Halle Bailey and Ariel.**

live-action adaptation of 'The Little Mermaid.' Ariel is a fictional character and the title character of Walt Disney Pictures' 28th animated film 'The Little Mermaid.' 'The Little Mermaid,' Halle, and Ariel have been taking turns to top the trends list since the casting announcement was made. However, not all the trends were positive. **News 24**

## Desmond Dube to lead new Mzansi Magic drama

**CAPE TOWN** - It took working with a young production team and cast mates in new drama series 'Impilo: The Scam' for veteran actor Desmond Dube to break his four-year acting hiatus. He leads the cast of the Mzansi Magic's TV drama premiering today



**LEADER: Desmond Dube.**

in the hotly-contested 8pm time slot. Dube walks into the room almost unnoticed ahead of the special media screening that was held on Wednesday in the heart of Sandton. He's dressed in incognito with all-black winter layers and bucket hat. **Sowetan Live**

## Emtee is cooking new music in studio

**DURBAN** - Despite his alleged back-and-forth battle with his record label Ambitious Entertainment, rapper Emtee is back in the studio and looking for inspiration. He is looking on the bright side and starting on a new slate by cooking new music and involving his fans on his new path. 'The Roll Up' rapper has made



**BACK IN ACTION: Emtee.**

headlines over the past few weeks after claiming that he wanted to leave Ambitious Entertainment, even tweeting #FreeEmtee. The star told Tshisa Live that besides his battles with his label, which he was trying to sort out amicably, he has also lost his house and car - and his wife and children have moved in with his in-laws. **Times Live**

## WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST



TODAY



**STRUGGLES: Ntwenhle**

Ntwenhle struggles to deal with her first crisis as mother of the valley. Fezile makes it clear he chooses Sengwayo over Cebisile.



TODAY



**RETURNS: Michelle Botes.**

A continuation of Isidingo's 21st Brithday Special.



TODAY

Azwindinini has to bail Vhuthsilo out after he messes up. Mulondo wants Shumi's baby to come stay with them. Nare proposes to Warona, however, her response it's not what he hoped for.



**EXPENSES: Azwindinini.**



TODAY



**THREATENS: David.**

Mzi is trying to pick his way through a minefield. David threatens Lerato. Fats' plans get complicated.



When you're so inlove and you're even thinking of opening a page for relationship advices.



## TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

### Capricorn December 22 – January 19

Certain love and romance matters may cause some tension, Capricorn. Inflated egos may get in the way of important communication that needs to take place for harmony between you and your romantic partner. You're a bit more argumentative than usual. Sparks of disagreement are likely to flare into bonfires if you aren't careful. Keep a fire extinguisher handy.



### Aquarius January 20 – February 18

Take charge of your life, Aquarius. The more action you take, the more alive you will feel. Maybe you will decide to have a career on the stage. This is the kind of day when you need more variety than usual. Bright and happy people will catch your eye. Jump on the fast track. You're ready.



### Pisces February 19 – March 20

Don't hide, Pisces. This is your time to come out of the shadows. There's a spark within that's urging you to act. Move forward and worry about the consequences later. This isn't a good time to search every sentence for hidden meaning. People may be careless with their words. Don't overanalyse them.



### Aries March 21 – April 19

This is a terrific day for you, Aries. Your mood is good and everything is flowing your way. The fire within is burning hot. You will take the lead role in every production. Romance and love are definitely in the cards for you. Be yourself and remember that it's OK to laugh at your mistakes. Humility is good for you.



### Taurus April 20 – May 20

Other people may steal the spotlight from you today, Taurus, but don't let it get you down. The key is to learn from the ones who take charge. Have fun and don't worry about the details. A definite dynamism is helping you transform certain areas of your life that need to change. Get out of the rut you're in.



### Gemini May 21 – June 21

It may seem like close loved ones are trying to pick a fight with you today, Gemini. There may tend to be a "me first" attitude stirring up a pot of trouble. Don't automatically assume that the other person is wrong. There's a valuable lesson to be learned in every conflict. Take each disagreement as an opportunity to learn something about yourself.



### Cancer June 22 – July 22

A close loved one may express displeasure with the way things are, Cancer. Maybe there's some tension in the air. Things could get rather explosive. There's a feeling urging others to act, a certain restlessness that demands that you take action. Unfortunately, this action is likely to meet with opposition if you aren't careful.



### Leo July 23 – August 22

Fire up today, Leo, and let your spirit fly. You have a great deal of ammunition that encouraging you to take charge. Let your adventuresome spirit roam wherever it pleases. Communication with loved ones will be clear. You can expect all social encounters to go smoothly. You will be the hit of any party.



### Virgo August 23 – September 22

Put your reservations aside, Virgo, and go for the thing your heart desires most. Throw caution to the wind and make it happen. Today's energy urges you to take charge of your life and conquer new territory. There's dynamism about the day that could leave you behind unless you latch onto the trend and make it work for you.



### Libra September 23 – October 23

There may be tremendous changes in store for you, Libra. Connect with something futuristic and far out. There may be some roadblocks in the way. Maybe your heart is impeding your progress. You don't need another person to fill in any voids in your life. Your confidence is what you need to bolster your self-esteem.



### Scorpio October 24 – November 21

Be bold and aggressive today, Scorpio. Even if this isn't in your nature, dynamic action can be rewarding on a day like this. People will be delighted to hear from you. Your opinion is precious. You have many insights to offer the group. Your adaptable nature will be tested. You may need to make adjustments in order to match other people's way of thinking.



### Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

Love is on your side today, Sagittarius, and all romantic and social situations are favored. This is the perfect time to take the lead on creative projects or anything requiring a keen eye for beauty. Your mood is apt to be positive and jovial. You can't go wrong in whatever way you choose to express yourself.



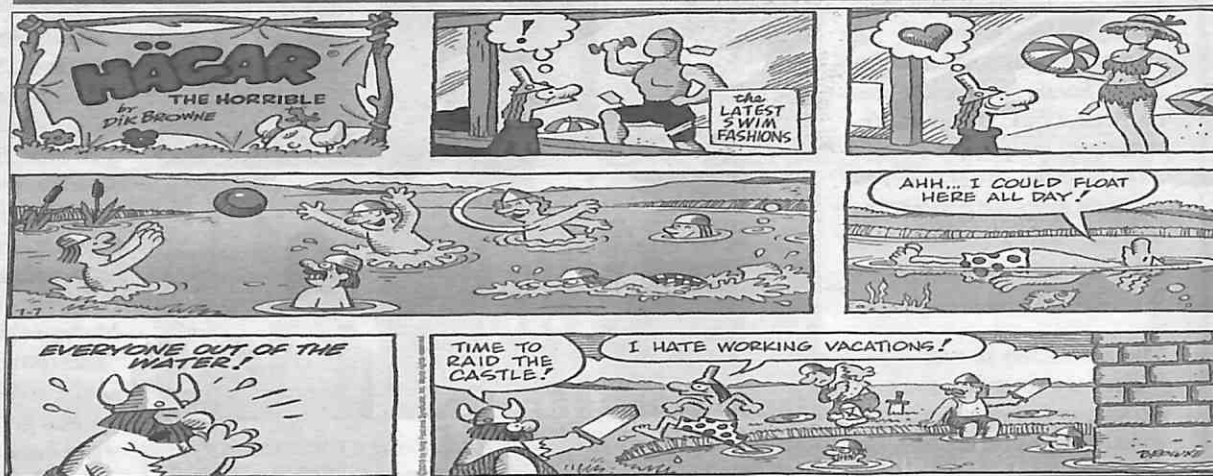
## BUCKLES



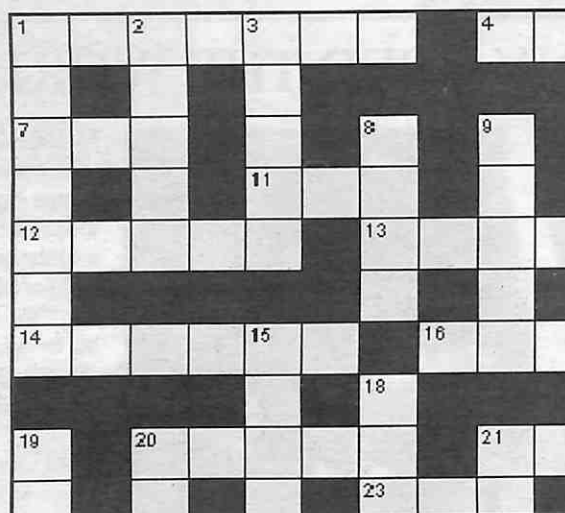
## BUCKLES



## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## THEMED CROSSWORD



### DOWN

1. Largest anthropoid ape (7)
2. Striped African equine (5)
3. Bloodsucking worm (5)
5. Talons (5)
6. Woolly ruminant (5)
8. Male red deer (4)
9. Pertaining to or characteristic of birds (5)
15. European freshwater food fish (5)
17. Small gnawing animals (7)
18. Long-snouted freshwater fish with lean flesh (4)
19. Web-footed, broad-billed swimming birds (5)
20. Venomous elapid snake of Africa and Asia (5)
21. Small terrestrial viper (5)
22. Massive thick-skinned animal of Africa, in short (5)

### ACROSS

1. Small African antelope, Thompson's

### (7)

4. Parasitic arachnids (5)
7. Bone forming part of a cage (3)
10. Simian (3)
11. Feline (3)
12. Freshwater fish, resembling catfish (5)
13. Sign of the zodiac aka The Ram (5)
14. Domestic breed of goat raised for its silky hair (6)
16. Deciduous horn of a member of the deer family (6)
20. Omnivorous mammal of Central America and South America (5)
21. Small plant-sucking insect (5)
23. Young goat (3)
24. Young bear (3)
25. Female swan (3)
26. Ophidian (5)
27. Tropical birds with short, hooked beaks (7)

## LOL

### Two women

Two elderly ladies, Mabel and Evie, meet at a café for a nice cup of coffee and a cake.

After a while, Mabel peers closely at Evie and says, "Evie, it looks like you have a suppository in your

ear!" "What?" "It looks like you have a suppository in your ear, Evie!" says Mabel a bit louder. "Oh," checks Evie, "you're right! Drat, well, at least I know where my hearing aid is now."

## DID YOU KNOW

1. It is physically impossible for you to lick your elbow.
2. Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different.

3. Your heart beats over 100 000 times a day.
4. It takes approximately 12 hours for food to entirely digest.

## MOVIE QUIZ



### Friday's Quiz

QUESTION: Who is Clark Kent better known as?

ANSWER: A. Superman

### Today's Movie Quiz

1. Which 1970s film about a giant ape was a remake of a 1933

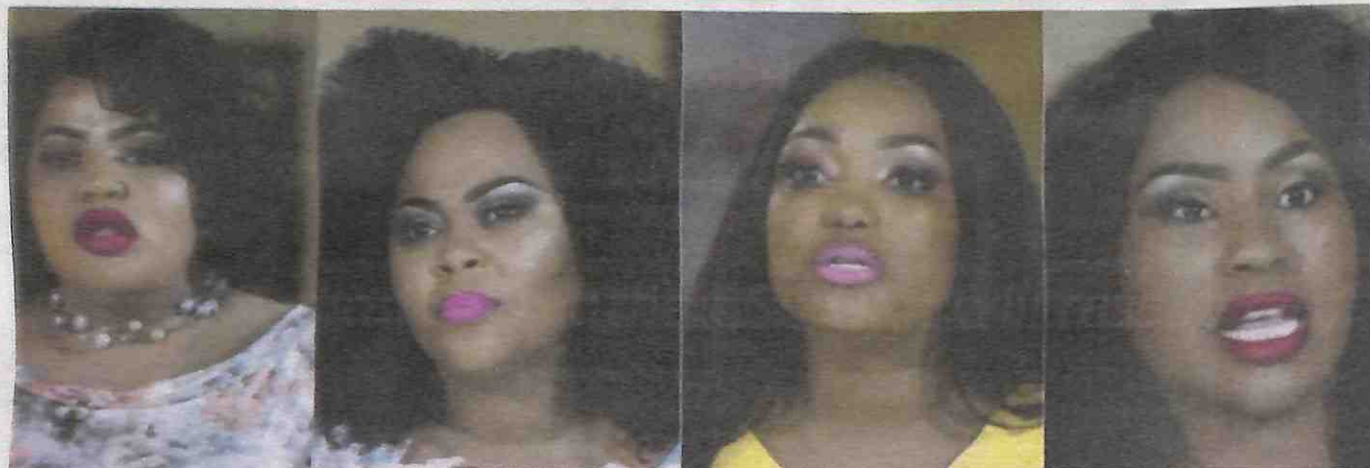
- movie?  
A. King Kong B. Moon





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## FACEBEAT SLAYAGE ON UTHANDO NES'THEMBU!

**WE** look back at how the Mseleku wives slayed and snatched our edges with their make-up this season.

To say the make-up on season 3 of *uThando Nes'thembu* was on fleek would be an understatement.

The Mseleku wives were frying us like we were their eggs with epic facebeats suited to each lady. We take a look at facebeats from our favs:

### MaCele – Lady in red

They say there is a shade of red for every woman, but no one rocks a red lip quite like MaCele.

So good did she look in it that it was her signature look this season and we loved it! It goes perfectly with her strong and warm



nature.

### MaYeni – Queen of the cat eye

We all love a good cat eye whether it's during the day or for a fun night out, for MaYeni

achieving a gorgeous cat eye is easy peasy. With her beautiful almond shaped eyes, make-up finds a stunning home for an understated or dramatic look.

### MaKhumalo – Not afraid of colour

No one does a pop of colour better than MaKhumalo. She has played around with red, orange, green, pink and many more and each time she slayed us like we were her dragons. Not only was she trendy in her make-up but also in how she paired her facebeats with her outfits.

### MaNgwabe – Elegance

MaNgwabe's quiet and calm nature comes out in her make-up. She gives us just enough to stand out but in her own quiet and at times neutral way. With all that natural beauty she needs little makeup but she knows exactly how to rock it.

## FIVE WAYS PAPA PENNY USED THE WORD AHEE!

**MZANSI** has been asking what **Ahee!** means.

We take a look at some of the ways Papa Penny uses it.

Papa Penny is renowned for his unique vocabulary when describing people, things and feelings. He has taken Mzansi by storm with his use of the word "Ahee!" in a number of unrelated situations. We try to breakdown just how many uses the word has according to Papa Penny:

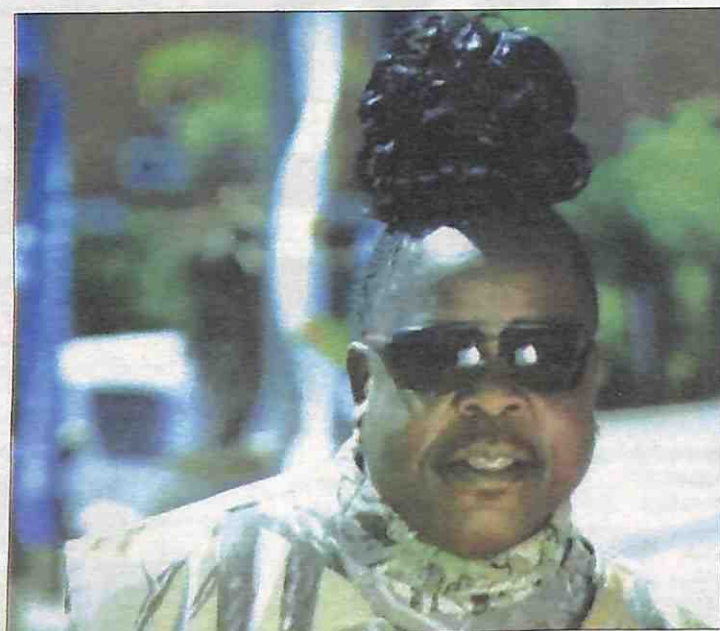
### Ahee! is a way to greet

Papa Penny took over Amsterdam meeting new and old friends. When he went to the Avocado Show, he and his friend Ronnie, exchanged hearty and friendly Ahee!'s to greet each other.

**Ahee! is also the best way to greet** over the phone for Papa Penny and his mother.

### Ahee! means to be happy and content

Naomi's party started with a few hiccups that appeared to bring the birthday girl more stress than excitement. But with her mom and dad



by her side, the 21st birthday party turned out to be a resounding success, leaving daddy's princess very pleased on her special day.

In Papa Penny's words "The party was great and my daughter was Ahee!", meaning she was happy and content.

**Ahee! means to be pregnant** When Mama Nomi had planned

a surprise dinner for Papa Penny upon his return from a business trip, he at first thought she was cheating on him.

He then concluded that there was no way she could do that while she is "Ahee!" so the surprise must indeed be real.

**Ahee! means Papa Penny** Remember when Papa Penny and

Mama Naomi were arguing about who their daughter looks like? Mama Naomi says her daughter looks like her while Papa Penny said she only looked like her mother in complexion. To quote our fav, "She looks like her by colour but by design she is Ahee!" meaning Naomi's features are from Papa Penny.

### Ahee! means to be sick

When Mama Nomi was suffering from morning sickness in the early months of her pregnancy, Papa Penny felt guilty that his desire to grow the family was making his wife sick.

In his words, Shaka Bundu was making Mama Nomi "Ahee!". When Papa Penny took his daughter shopping for a doll, she quickly set her eyes on a dollhouse. Now Papa Penny cannot say no to his daughter so he had to oblige. As soon as the shop assistant came to ask how he could help, he told him that his daughter "wants that Ahee!", pointing at the dollhouse. Stay tuned to Mzansi Magic for more of the best in entertainment.

## Weekly Highlights on DStv What Would Your Kid Do S2

### On iTV Choice

Parents discover what kind of children they are raising and get a glimpse into their future selves.

### Rick and Morty

### On TNT

Rick moves in with his daughter's family and becomes a bad influence on his grandson, Morty. Justin Roiland, Sarah Chalke, Spencer Grammer, Chris Parnell, Eric Bauza, Dan Harmon.

### Superstore S4

### On 1Magic

Jonah helps Amy get creative to stock up on supplies for her new baby, while Glenn & Jerusha take maternity pictures that inspire Dina to have her own photo shoot.

### Cloak & Dagger S2

### Available on Showmax

Having come to terms with their superpowers and how they work better together, Tandy and Ty take a new approach to fighting evil. They also discover how to strengthen their powers.

### The Voice SA S3: Two Hour Finale

### On M-Net

Soul songstress Lira is joined by Riana Nel, Francois van Coke and Ricky Rick on the iconic red chairs, with host Anele Mdoda bringing the vibe in a brand-new season of the reality competition.

### The Republic

### On Mzansi Magic

The Republic is set in the present-day South Africa where the first female president, sharp-tongued President Lufuno Zandile Mulaudzi, is determined to fight corruption and restore dignity to South Africa.

### Landlady Meets Landlord S2

### On Zambezi Magic

Tembo is hoping that Lizzy will succumb to his charms. He is irresponsible and always looks for ways to swindle Lizzy's tenants out of money. Join us for this hilarious series.

### Mpali S2

### On Zambezi Magic

Mpali is a story that revolves around Nguzu (a Polygamist) with seven wives. Nguzu's home appears to be peaceful until he marries Nancy, his seventh wife. All hell breaks loose as the other wives start feeling intimidated and neglected.

### My Flatmates

### On Africa Magic Showcase

A situational comedy documenting the lives of four friends who share an apartment. All sorts of chaotic and hilarious things happen as they go about their daily escapades.

### Halita

### On African Magic Family

Halita is set in Northern Nigeria and tells the story of a young woman who is forced to flee the village and a crooked suitor, only to face the intrigue and drama of a new life in the city with a powerful family.

### Battleground

### On Africa Magic Urban

From infidelity to crooked business deals and constant media scrutiny, the drama just keeps on coming making 'Battleground' a thrilling watch. Stay tuned to this page for exclusive updates as it all unfolds.

### Tinsel

### On Africa Magic Showcase

Don't miss Nigeria's most successful soap opera, Tinsel. Set in the glamorous and fast paced world of film making. This tale is a combination of drama, intrigue, romance, deception, betrayal as well as triumph.

### Our Perfect Wedding

### On Maisha Magic East

Our Perfect Wedding gives viewers a front row seat to the intimate lives of real couples as they plan their perfect weddings.

### Gani Kali

### On Maisha Magic East

An East African Swahili Magazine show, where we play back to back music with a seamless flow and with host Aisha Wanjiku.



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## INDEX

1. NOTICES
  - General Notices
  - Legal Notices
  - Church Notices
  - Announcements
  - Change of Surname
  - Sales & Foreclosure
  - General Items
  - Auctions
2. BUSINESS SERVICES
  - Special Services
  - Business Opportunities
  - Restaurant, Catering & Office
  - Equipment
  - Garage sale
  - Other Business Items
  - Maintenance & Construction
  - Motoring and Transport
3. JOBS or VACANCIES
4. MISCELLANEOUS
  - Medical & Natural Healing
  - Tuition & Courses
5. HEALTH & BEAUTY
6. PETS & PET ACCESSORIES
  - Pets & Adoptions
  - Cats & Kittens
  - Dogs & Puppies
  - Birds & Poultry
  - Fish & Aquarium
  - Other Pet & Accessories
7. ELECTRONICS
  - TV's, DVD Players, Decoders &
  - Satellites
  - Household Appliances
  - Music Equipment, Amplifiers,
  - Equalizers & Speakers
  - Mobile Devices, Smart Phones
  - Tablets
  - Computers, Laptops, Cameras
  - Optics
  - Games, Gaming Consoles &
  - Software
8. HOUSEHOLD
  - Domestic
  - Clothing
  - Baby and Kids
  - Furniture
  - Hobbies, Model Toys,
  - Handcraft
  - Wanted
10. BUILDING, GARDENING & DIY
  - Woodworking
  - Machinery & Tools
  - Plumbing & Electrical
  - Other Building & DIY
  - Plants, Trees & Flowers
  - Garden Furniture & Appliances
  - Other Gardening
11. FARMING EQUIPMENT
  - SPARES
  - Car Spares or Parts
  - Bike Spares
  - Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares
  - Stripping for Spares
  - Farming Equipment & Machinery
  - Livestock
  - Other Farming
12. LEISURE, SPORT & EVENTS
  - Fitness
  - Tennis & squash
  - Watersport
  - Karate, Boxing & Judo
  - Angling & Cycling
  - Other Sport
  - Caravans, Campers and Trailers
  - Leisure, Community and Events
  - Music and Instruments
  - Camping and Outdoor
13. PROPERTY
  - Residential
  - Commercial
  - Farms and Vacant Plots
  - Holiday & Accommodation
  - Apartments / Flats / Houses to Rent
14. VEHICLES
  - Cars
  - Bikes
  - Classics and Custom Builds
  - Trucks
  - Buses Farming
  - Trailers
  - Aircraft
15. DEATH NOTICES

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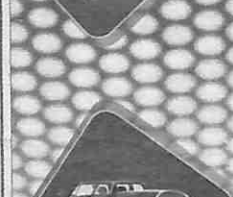
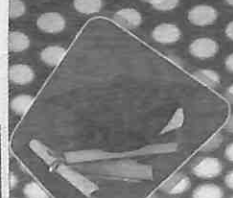
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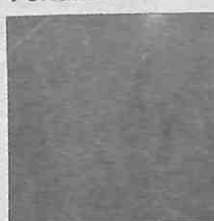
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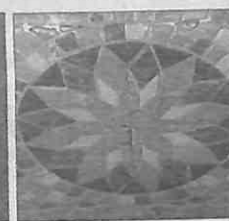
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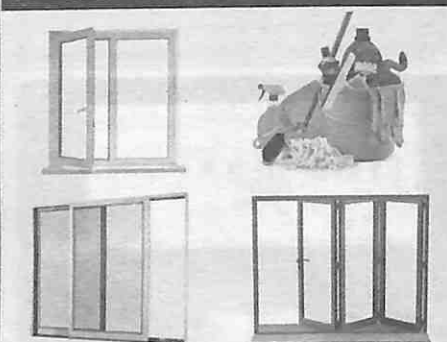
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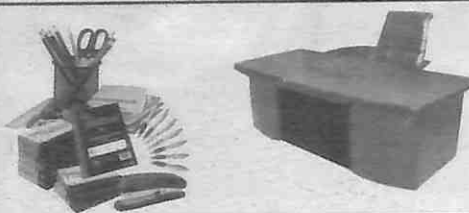
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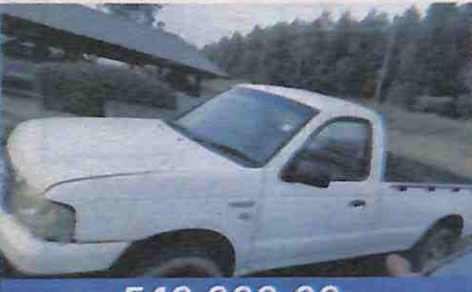
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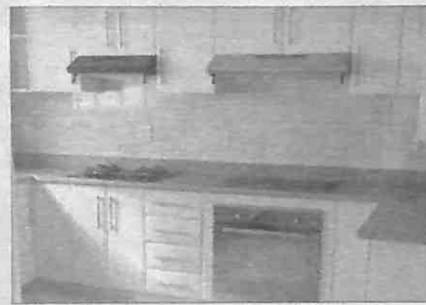
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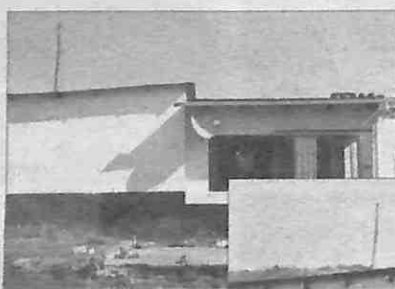
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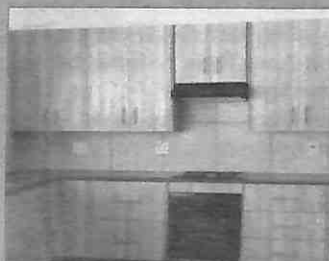
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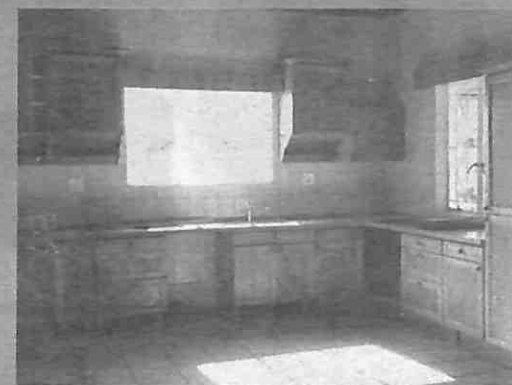
- The proximity of your workplace- it is best to choose a home that is nearer to your place of work.
- Charm of the neighbourhood
- Security- is the neighbourhood safe? Have there been any cases of extreme violence or high crime rates? If yes, put your money back into your pocket and hunt for another location.
- Access to shopping centres- An ideal area should have shops nearby for your convenience
- Schools- if your looking for a family home and have children who have started to attend school, it is best to look for an area with schools nearby. Nothing is more frustrating than having to travel over 60kilometres just to drop off your child at kindergarten
- Public transportation- even if you have a car it is wise to consider both modes of transport.

**The site-** this goes beyond location; it is the actual situation of the home. Is it on a hill? How is the scenery? Is it easily accessible to water? Are the soils fertile?

**Neighbourhood-** this is a facet most people ignore yet it is very significant. Look at your neighbours and how they carry themselves in the neighbourhood. Do the neighbours keep their yards clean and tidy? Is there any old trash lying around carelessly? Is it safe enough for people to walk in it?

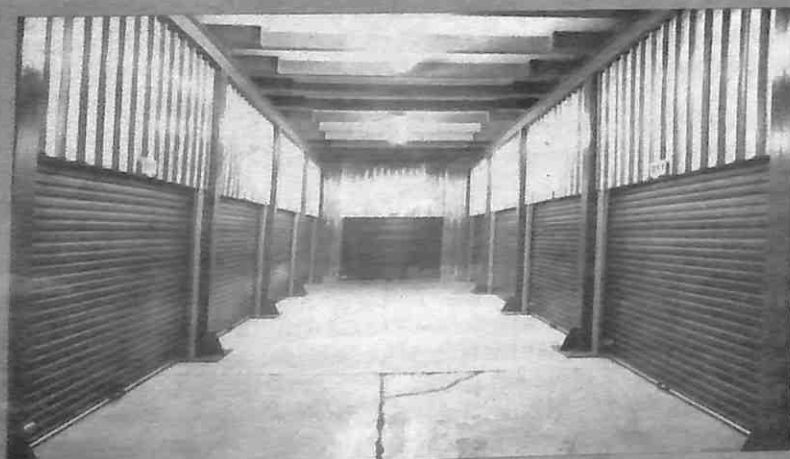


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# Afcon 2019 Updates

## Ighalo's brace sends Super Eagles into Afcon quarterfinals

**CAIRO - Nigeria defeated Cameroon 3-2 in a thrilling Round of 16 fixture at the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations.**

A brace from Odion Ighalo and Alex Iwobi's strike were enough for the Super Eagles to see off the reigning African champions at the Alexandria Stadium on Saturday.

The encounter, as expected, started as a physical contest but Nigeria had the better chances in the opening minutes.

The breakthrough came in the 19th

through Odion Ighalo's effort, which was deflected into the back of Andre Onana's net.

After breaking the deadlock, Nigeria lost control of the game and Clarence Seedorf's men started applying pressure for an equaliser.

In the 24th minute, Clinton Njie benefitted from a defensive slip and then passed to Pierre Kunde, but the Mainz 05 midfielder blasted his effort wide of the post.

Three minutes later, Pierre Kunde

was punished for a late and reckless tackle on Oghenekaro Etebo.

Cameroon's push for an equaliser finally paid off in the 41st minute, with Stephane Bahoken slotting Bassogog's cross past Daniel Akpeyi.

The situation turned sour for Nigeria as Njie fired the Indomitable Lions ahead a minute before the half-time

break.

Five minutes after the restart, Ola Aina nearly made it three for Cameroon after deflecting Njie's cross goalwards, but Akpeyi came to the rescue with his save.

Moses Simon was replaced by Samuel Chukwueze on the hour mark as the Super Eagles pushed for a leveller.

Ighalo inspired the comeback in the 63rd minute after turning a pass from Ahmed Musa into the back of the net to set up a thrilling finale.

Even after getting the equaliser, Nigeria kept pushing for the lead and

it came three minutes later, with Alex Iwobi finishing a fine assist from Ighalo.

While the Indomitable Lions worked to fight back, the Super Eagles held their ground to advance to the last eight.

Two-goal hero Ighalo, who was named the Man of the Match, was later replaced by Paul Onuachu, while Leon Balogun came on for Iwobi at the death of the encounter.

Nigeria are still in the hunt for their fourth Afcon title and will meet South Africa in the quarterfinals on Wednesday.

**Goal**



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## Egypt FA chief quits after shock exit

**CAIRO - The President of the Egyptian Football Association (FA) Hani Abou Rida resigned late on Saturday and "sacked" his technical team after the hosts' shock elimination from the African Cup of Nations.**

The decision had been "a moral obligation" said the Egyptian FA in a statement after "disappointing Egypt's supporters" in a 1-0 defeat to South Africa, adding that all board members had been invited to resign.

Saturday's match saw rank outsiders South Africa stun the record seven-time African champions whose line-up included Liverpool star Mohamed Salah and who were among the favourites to win the tournament. Rida had led the Egyptian FA since 2016, in a three-year reign marked by controversy, including a 2018 World Cup fiasco that saw the Pharaohs fail to get out of the group stages after losing all of their matches.

The location of the team's training base in Grozny, the capital of Muslim-majority Chechnya, spurred widespread criticism - especially from human rights groups - over concerns of abuses by Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov, supported by Russia's President Vladimir Putin. The federation has also feuded with Salah, the reigning African Footballer of the Year and won the Champions League last month with his club Liverpool, who has accused the body of misusing his image inside the country. Recently, the reinstatement of a player who had been banned following sexual harassment charges had provoked further widespread criticism of the Egyptian FA on social media.

Egypt's coach Javier Aguirre came in for criticism for his management of the side during the African Cup of Nations, with Egypt legend Wael Gomaa accusing the Mexican of having "no tactics or strategy". **AFP**

## Egypt coach sacked after Bafana loss

**CAIRO - Egypt head coach Javier Aguirre was sacked following his side's shock loss to Bafana Bafana in the Africa Cup of Nations last 16, while Egyptian Football Association President Abou Rida has also resigned.**

The tournament hosts were dumped out of the competition

after suffering a 1-0 loss to Stuart Baxter's men at a packed Cairo International Stadium. Shortly after the encounter, Aguirre announced his resignation and that was followed by Egyptian Football Association President Abou Rida, who also stepped down. "Hani Abu Reidah announced his resignation from

the presidency of the Egyptian Football Federation and also invited the members of the Board of Directors of the Union to resign, following the departure of the first national team from the round of 16 of the Africa Cup currently organised in Egypt," the tweet, translated said. **Kick-Off**

## ANC hails Bafana, calls on SA to get behind team

**JOHANNESBURG - The African National Congress has joined millions of South Africans in congratulating national soccer team Bafana Bafana for advancing to the quarterfinals of the African Cup of Nations by beating tournament hosts Egypt in Cairo on Saturday**

night.

"Bafana Bafana's sensational victory has brought jubilation at home and abroad.

The ANC also congratulates Theminkosi Lorch for scoring such a crucial goal on his debut, which paved the way for Bafana

Bafana to advance to the quarterfinals," the ANC said in a statement. "The nation stands behind the team coach Stuart Baxter, the technical team, and all our players as they prepare to face Nigeria on Wednesday." **African News Agency**

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# AFCON 2019 UPDATES

## Egyptians light up stadium in tribute to fallen fans

**CAIRO** - Even as Egypt struggled against South Africa in the last 16 of the Africa Cup of Nations on Saturday, the home fans took time to honour a recent tradition.

In the 20th and 72nd minutes of a match that the Egyptians were to lose 1-0, hundreds of supporters switched on their mobile phone flashlights -- a simple tribute to victims killed in deadly stadium clashes after the 2011 revolution. "This is our tradition that we pull out our mobiles," said 19-year-old

Mostafa Atef. "The blood of martyrs has nothing to do whether we support (rival clubs) Al Ahly or Zamalek."

The timing of the flashlight tributes reflect the numbers of fans killed in two separate incidents. There is still uncertainty at the number of fans who died in February 2012 when security forces stormed the field at the Port Said stadium of Al Masry during a match with Cairo-based Al Ahly.

Some reports claim 74 fans died that day, others say 72. Whichever, it was

one of the world's deadliest football clashes.

Three years later, almost to the day in 2015, 20 Zamalek fans -- some reports say 22 -- died after a mass stampede at the June 30 Stadium's gates, prompted by police use of teargas and live bullets. That led to the reinstatement of a total ban on attending domestic games which is still in effect.

For sales representative Islam Abdel Sadek, 30, the tragedies are a reminder that security in football stadiums will

still be necessary after the tournament.

"Egypt is strong and safe now," said Sadek. "But it's a poignant memory and we are praying for the martyrs. So of course we will always turn our lights on." In a tournament designed to promote the country's international image, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi told the national squad that preparations for international audiences were more important than their results on the pitch.

Under Sisi, who led the army's overthrow of President Mohamed Morsi in 2013, a focus on political stability and

crushing dissent has meant that even football has been heavily scrutinised by the security forces.

The Cup of Nations has been a testing ground for fan attendance when the domestic league resumes. "Fans going back to the stadiums has been a great thing for Egyptian football," said Ahmad Yousef, editor of website KingFut.

Authorities, though, have been selective in their choice of who attends matches with a new online system requiring a background check using an Egyptian national ID.

AFP

## Andre Ayew predicts extent of dominance

**CAIRO** - Andre Ayew-captained Ghana seek a seventh straight Africa Cup of Nations victory over Tunisia when they clash

tonight in the final last-16 match in Egypt.

After the countries drew a 1963 group game, the Black Stars defeated the Carthage Eagles in Tunis to win the 1965 final and begin an amazing six-match, 54-year winning streak.

"Tunisia will fall in Ismailia on Monday (today)," predicted Ayew, one of two sons of Ghana legend Abedi 'Pele' Ayew in the Ghana squad.

"Football is not only about tactics, it is also about being united as a team and competing for every ball.

"We have to be smart too and I have no doubt that the boys will deliver against Tunisia and reach the quarterfinals."

The Ayews have made a significant impact already with Crystal Palace forward Jordan scoring two and Fenerbahce midfielder Andre one of the four goals that won group F.

Here, we spotlight the final two last-16 matches with the Ivory Coast playing Mali in Suez before Ghana and Tunisia square off in Ismailia.

Perhaps it is their dominance of Tunisia in the Cup of Nations, or better form in the group phase in Egypt, but Ghana are brimming with confidence.

"We have watched them, know how they play and are going to beat them," promised Ghana midfielder Mubarak Wakaso.

"We are taking this tournament match by match, never looking beyond our next opponents. Our focus is exclusively on defeating Tunisia and reaching the last eight." Tunisia have been a major disappointment apart from forward Wahbi Khazri, failing to win a group match and scraping through in second place, four points behind Mali.

The first victim of the poor showing was mental trainer David Marcel, who has been sacked for "interfering in the technical choices during the tournament", an official said.

### IVORY COAST V MALI

Mali are seeking a first victory over fellow west Africans the Ivory Coast at the Cup of Nations after three losses and a draw. They share 62nd place in the world rankings, suggesting the teams are evenly matched, although the Ivorian Elephants' squad appears stronger than that of the Malian Eagles. Ivory Coast coach Ibrahim Kamara has a wealth of attacking talent to choose from, including Jonathan Kodjia, Nicolas Pepe and Wilfried Zaha from the top five leagues of Europe. *Supersport*

## 'Winning for Nigeria is what matters most'

**CAIRO** - After netting a brace in Nigeria's 3-2 win over Cameroon on Saturday, Odion Ighalo has claimed his contributions were all about getting a win and not his goal tally.

Ighalo scored two goals at the Alexandria Stadium and also provided an assist for Alex Iwobi's match-winning effort, which guided the Super Eagles to the quarterfinals of the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations.

Gernot Rohr's men found themselves trailing 2-1 at half-time and the 30-year-old revealed their loss to Madagascar in the Group Stage motivated their comeback after the restart. "It does not matter if I or anyone score, winning for Nigeria is what matters most, but I will remember these two goals for a long time, I have lived for a tough period of pressure," Ighalo told Goal.

"We do not want to repeat what happened against Madagascar, we prepared well and did our best.

"We conceded two goals in a short time, we could collapse, but we tried until we achieved what we wanted."

Ighalo is currently the joint-top scorer at AFCON alongside Senegal's Sadio Mane with three goals, and he is looking forward to facing the winner between Egypt and South Africa in the quarterfinal on Wednesday. "We are now in quarterfinals, waiting our opponent, Egypt and South Africa are two strong contenders," he continued. "Whoever the opponent is, we have to work hard and try, we now have three matches to the title." *Goal*

## Twitter reacts to Nigeria's win over Cameroon

**CAIRO** - Nigeria's 3-2 victory over Cameroon at the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations has football enthusiasts celebrating across social media.

Despite being down 2-1 at half-time, Gernot Rohr's team showed resilience and fought their way back to victory, with Odion Ighalo's brace and Alex Iwobi's strike doing

the damage at the Alexandria Stadium. The triumph over the Indomitable Lions secured Nigeria's progress to the quarterfinals. Football enthusiasts are delighted by the win but they have called for an improved performance when they face the winner of the game between South Africa and Egypt on Wednesday.

*Goal*

## Uganda coach Desabre leaves job by mutual consent

**CAIRO** - Uganda coach Sebastien Desabre has left his job by mutual consent after the side's Africa Cup of Nations last-16 exit, the country's football federation (FUFA) announced yesterday.

Uganda lost 1-0 to Senegal in Cairo

on Friday after reaching the knockout stage of the competition for the first time since finishing runners-up in 1978.

The Ugandan federation said it would confirm the new coaching staff "in the near future". "Fufo is grateful for Mr Desabre's contribution to the sporting

and professional development of the Uganda Cranes, including qualifying for the finals and the knockout stages of CAN-2019," FUFA said in a statement. The 42-year-old Desabre had been in charge of Uganda since December 2017. *Supersport*





## MIXED DOUBLES GLORY:

# Andy Murray and Serena Williams make strong start

LONDON - Twenty four hours later than scheduled, Andy Murray finally had his return to the Centre Court on Saturday night, two years after limping away from the men's singles quarter final.

He may have been accompanied by the greatest female player of all, but there was a slight feel of Strictly Come Dancing to it all as the dream team took their long-anticipated bow.

Amid all the whooping and cheering, oohs and aahs, there was a mixed doubles tennis match, plenty competitive but with an unmistakable sense of fun. Murray's watching mother Judy, a former primetime ballroom contestant, may have found it quite familiar.

Having been postponed from Friday night, it ended with the Scot and the American safely beating Germany's Andreas Mies and Chile's Alexa Guarachi 6-4 6-1, marking a doubles success for



**IN CELEBRATION:** Serena Williams and Andy Murray shake on their mixed doubles glory. (Reuters)

Williams.

Earlier she had ignited her tournament campaign with the impressive third round dismissal of Julia Goerges. An unusual mixed and singles title double for her looks feasible.

It also rounded off a long and eventful day for Murray, who had suffered a deflating four set loss

in the second round of the men's doubles against sixth seeds Nikola Pietrangeli and Franko Skugor.

Saturday night was less heavy duty, and asked afterwards who was in charge Williams pointed out: "We are a team, there's no 'I' in team. Murray responded: "We are both younger siblings so we are used to being bossed around."p

The Scot's movement looked good. "My back was a bit stiff after the men's doubles but it felt good tonight," he said.

## Shame

He was able to shrug off his exit from the men's event: "It's not a blow really in the grand scheme of things," he added. "I know you guys were talking about winning the doubles. I was aware that wasn't going to be the case most likely. It was a shame because I felt like first couple sets we played well. If we maybe got through that one, could have made a bit of a run."

It was all in contrast to the 32 year-old Scot's last visit, which saw him succumb to the hip problems that were to a herald so much frustration and misery.

Him returning to the scene of so many career highlights fit and healthy guaranteed this to be a happy occasion.

*Daily Mail*



**CHAMP:** Alex Marquez. (AP)

## Alex Marquez heads Moto2 championship after win in Germany

**SACHSENING - Honda rider Alex Marquez regained top spot in the Moto2 championship standings after charging to victory at Sachsenring yesterday.**

The 23-year-old brother of MotoGP's Marc started on pole but did not hit the front until the fifth lap after which he moved clear of the field, setting a new lap record of 1min 24.317sec.

The South African Brad Binder claimed his second successive second place on his KTM while local rider Marcel Schroetter collected a third podium of the season on his Kalex.

"I felt good from the beginning. My start was bad but I came back and found a good gap," said Marquez who now leads the championship with 136 points, eight clear of the Swiss Thomas Luethi.

The Italian rider Lorenzo Dalla Porta won the Moto3 race on his Honda ahead of the Spaniards Marcos Ramirez and Aron Canet.

Dalla Porta now leads the standings with 125 points, two clear of Canet

*AFP*

## MESSI SLAMMED FOR SHOWING 'A LACK OF RESPECT'



**AGGRESSIVE:** Lionel Messi in action during Argentina's loss against Brazil.

**BRAZIL - South America's governing body CONMEBOL have hit back at Lionel Messi after the Argentina star accused them of 'corruption' following his Copa America red card.**

Messi was shown a straight red card in Saturday night's third place play-off win over Chile after clashing with Gary Medel.

And after Argentina's 2-1 win, Messi alleged that the entire tournament had been favourable to the host nation Brazil.

The Barcelona player said: "There is no doubt, the whole thing is set up for Brazil. I did not want to be part of this corruption, we shouldn't have to be part of this disrespect we suffered during the Copa America."

"We could have gone further but we weren't allowed into the final. Corruption, referees and all the rest stopped people from enjoying the football."

"I always tell the truth and I'm hon-

est, that is what keeps me calm if what I say has repercussions that is not my business."

The comments came after Messi refused to collect his bronze medal following the contentious red card.

CONMEBOL hit back at him yesterday, however, with an official statement describing Messi's comments as 'unacceptable.'

## Pillar

It read: "In football sometimes you win and sometimes you lose and accepting the outcome of a match with loyalty and respect is a fundamental pillar of fair play. Same goes to the refereeing decisions, that are human and will never be perfect. It's unacceptable that because of incidents proper to the competitions, where 12 nations competed in, all in equal condition, there have been unfounded accusations that misrepresent the truth and put to judgement the integrity of Copa America."

"Said accusations represent a lack

of respect for the competition, all the football players involved and the hundreds of professionals of CONMEBOL, institution that since 2016 has been tirelessly working to transparent, professionalise and develop South American football."

Argentina were leading Chile 2-0 after 37 minutes when Messi chased a ball into the box

and, as it ran out

of play, appeared

to nudge

former Cardiff

City midfielder

Medel, who reacted

with anger.

*Daily*

*Mail*



## Liverpool fear losing Klopp

**LONDON - Liverpool fear Manager Jurgen Klopp's fears of burning out will prevent the German from signing a new deal, according to The Sun.**

Klopp is believed to earn around £7million a year and Fenway Sports Group have made an approach to raise his salary to £10m following Liverpool's Champions League triumph.

Club owners are keen to reward Klopp with another six-year deal extension worth £60m, which would also ward off any raid from their European rivals.

The German manager is believed proceeding with caution, however, when it comes to putting pen to paper on another new deal.

The Sun report he values his health far more than money and does not want to put himself under undue stress by committing to another lengthy contract.

*Daily Mail*

## Juventus 'prepare £120m bid' for Paul Pogba

**TURIN - Juventus will consider making a £120million bid for wantaway Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba, according to The Sunday Times.**

The Italian giants are planning to re-sign the Frenchman, who left to return to Old Trafford in 2016, in an attempt to challenge for the Champions League trophy and boost commercial revenue.

It is thought Manchester United are determined to fend off bids for the 26-year-old with Manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer planning to rebuild his squad.

However, the Red Devils were fretting over whether the World Cup winner would turn up for their

pre-season tour of Oceania and the Far East.

United flew out to Australia yesterday and delayed the announcement of their squad.

## Sceptical

Pogba attended an adidas promotional event in New York on Tuesday and posted Instagram footage in the early hours of Saturday morning of him training in Central Park.

The Frenchman has not yet reported back for pre-season training which began on Thursday and United bosses were sceptical about whether he would feature on tour.

Pogba was, however, later named in the touring party yesterday.

In the meantime, his agent Mino Raiola has caught the attention of European clubs by saying that his client was in the process of leaving United.

"Everyone within the club from the manager to the owner knows Paul's wishes," said Raiola. "Everyone knows the willingness of Paul to move on. We are in the process of that."

United value the World Cup winner at £150m — considerably more than either of his suitors Real Madrid and Juventus have offered so far.

*Daily Mail*

**WANTAWAY:** Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba.



# MADAGASCAR THROUGH TO LAST EIGHT OF AFCON

CAIRO - Debutants Madagascar continued their fairy-tale Africa Cup of Nations campaign by defeating Congo DR on penalties to advance to the quarter-finals.

The islanders were aggressive early in the match and were rewarded in the ninth minute as Ibrahim Amada sent them ahead with a sensational strike from range that found the top corner.

The Leopards got themselves back in the game in the 21st minute as Cedric Bakambu headed home a cross from Ngonda Muzinga at the back post, following a quick attack from their own half.

Florent Ibenge's charges got their confidence back after equalising and Chancel Mbemba had a chance to give them a 2-1 lead in the 32nd minute after being sent through on goal by Muzinga but he struck his shot over the bar.

Following a frenetic start in the first two quarters of the first stanza, the sides were going easy on the attacks in the closing stages, with chances few and far between to go to the break level pegging at 1-1.

Congo DR took the initiative to attack in the early stages of the second stanza but Nicolas Dupuis' men almost restored their lead ten minutes in as Jerome Mombiri had a clear sight of goal but was denied by shot-stopper Ley Matampi while Charles Andriamatsinoro failed to capitalise on a rebound.

Bakambu should have bagged his



brace for the Leopards two minutes before the hour-mark after being sent clear on goal but with only the goal-keeper Melvin Adrien to beat, he scuffed his shot, giving the Malagasy shot-stopper a comfortable save.

Congo needed a creative spark in the last third with 20 minutes remaining, to break-down the rigid Madagascar defence and they called upon Yannick Bolasie in place of Akolo.

However, Faneva Andriatsima restored the lead for the tournament debutants in the last 13 minutes with a header at the far post following a cross from Romain Metanire.

Congo were not losing heart in the closing phase of the encounter and Mbemba eventually levelled matters in the last minute of regulation time with a powerful header on the far side

of the box, following a great delivery by Meschak Elia from a corner-kick to send the game to extra-time.

The Leopards had the upper hand in the early exchanges of the first period of extra-time and nearly went ahead in the tenth minute of added time after Metanire guided a header towards the bottom post following another good cross from Elia, but shot-stopper Adrien made a last-ditch save.

Bolasie almost snatched a sensational winner for Congo in the last five minutes of extra-time with a curling strike from the edge of the box, that missed the far post by inches after a quick shot-corner by Elia as the encounter went to penalties, where Madagascar held their nerve to triumph 4-2 and booked their spot in the last for the first time in their history. **Kick Off**

## 'Sancho should snub Man U and stay at Dortmund'

LONDON - Wayne Rooney has urged Borussia Dortmund winger Jadon Sancho to snub overtures from Manchester United and continue to build his career in Germany.

Sancho enjoyed a breakthrough campaign in 2018-19, contributing 13 goals and 19 assists in all competitions for the Bundesliga runners-up.

Such form saw the former Manchester City teenager earn a first England call-up and interest from Old Trafford began to grow in the prodigious talent.

Reports suggest United's failure to qualify for the Champions League saw them end their pursuit of Sancho this summer, though interest remains in the 19-year-old. But former Red Devils captain Rooney, who remains the club's all-time record goalscorer, has warned Sancho of the dangers of returning to the Premier League, instead believing his development will be aided by remaining on the continent.

"Dortmund is a great club with great fans, they trust their young players and you can see that in Sancho and the progress he has made in the last 12 months," he told Bild. "Now Jadon has to ask himself whether he would get the playing time he gets in Dortmund when he moves to England, or would he just sit on the bench?" "Playing time is so important



**SNUB: Jadon Sancho.**

for a young player like Jadon, so if he gets the most playing time in Dortmund, he should stay there."

With a move for Sancho off the table, United instead moved for Swansea City winger Daniel James to bolster their attacking ranks as Ole Gunnar Solskjaer oversees his first summer transfer market as Manager of the 20-time English champions.

Crystal Palace defender Aaron Wan-Bissaka has followed James through the entrance doors at Old Trafford with reports suggesting Harry Maguire could follow if the club meet Leicester City's asking price, though this figure seems to be rising every week.

Sancho, meanwhile, will be hopeful of combining with Dortmund new boys Thorgan Hazard and Julian Brandt next season following their arrivals from Borussia Monchengladbach and Bayer Leverkusen respectively. **Goal**

## 'I hope he stays - Hudson-Odoi central to Chelsea's future'

LONDON - Chelsea Manager Frank Lampard has admitted he is desperate to hold onto Callum Hudson-Odoi and make him central to the club's plans next season.

The England winger handed in a transfer request last January amid interest from German champions Bayern Munich, but Lampard is hoping that Hudson-Odoi has changed his mind about leaving Stamford Bridge in the near future.

Goal understands the 18-year-old is set to pen a new £100 000-per-week long-term deal with Chelsea, now that Maurizio Sarri has left the club to join Juventus. Under the Italian's watch, Hudson-Odoi started just four league matches last season, which only fuelled his desire to leave the Blues during the campaign.

However, Sarri's replacement has indicated the attacker has a much bigger

role to play in the 2019-20 campaign.

"He [Hudson-Odoi] is going to be central for us on the pitch and that is the opportunity that is really in front of him now," Lampard told reporters. "So that's what I will speak to him about and I hope he stays."

"I am not going say things that are pie in the sky. I am not going to say: 'This is all going to be your way.'"

But knowing his talent he can be central to this team, he can be central to an England team.

"I am going to say I want to work with him, I want to drive him forward. I want to improve him as a player and he can show right here at Chelsea, the club he came through the academy at, that he is going to be an absolute world-class player - because I truly believe that."

Asked about Hudson-Odoi's rumoured near switch to Bayern in January, Lampard claimed he was unsure exactly what transpired between the player and club. **Goal**

## Fresh talks, Bucs defender to pick destination

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates look set to grant defender Gladwin Shitolo his wish to join a team of his choice and not Chippa United.

It was announced by the club on June 21 that Shitolo would be returning to Chippa ahead of the upcoming season following a six-months loan spell there, but the player has since turned up at

Golden Arrows instead.

### Surprise

Both Pirates and Chippa are said to be caught by surprise given that the 29-year-old featured in all but one game for the Chilli Boys when he made the switch during the January transfer window.

The logic suggests he would have been

more than happy to go back to Chippa for what seemed guaranteed game time under coach Clinton Larsen.

But it is Arrows who have benefitted from Shitolo's change of heart, and it looks very likely that his parent club may very well entertaining his wish to move to KwaZulu-Natal rather than PE.

**Laduma**

## FIFA boss and Macron booed at World Cup final ceremony

LYON - The crowd at the women's World Cup final booed FIFA Chief Gianni Infantino and French President Emmanuel Macron as United States fans demanded equal pay for the players after their team claimed a fourth global title by beating the Netherlands 2-0 yesterday.

Macron and Infantino, the head of soccer's world governing body, were turned on by the supporters as they approached the ceremony podium - a sharp contrast with the hero-like reception given to player of the match Megan Rapinoe by the 57 900 crowd.

The US captain, the leading voice for equal pay in a sport where the men are far better paid than the women, scored the opening goal with a VAR-awarded penalty in the 61st minute at the sold-out Groupama Stadium.

Rose Lavelle rounded off the victory eight minutes later as the Americans added to their 1991, 1999 and 2015 world titles.

Earlier this year, members of the US squad were named as plaintiffs in a lawsuit against the national soccer federation alleging gender discrimination.

It was filed in federal court last month and says the women are not paid the same as their male counterparts.

On Saturday, Rapinoe launched a scathing attack on FIFA, saying the organisation did not respect the women's game.

Rapinoe said FIFA's decision to allow the men's Copa America final and Gold Cup showpiece to take place on the same day as the women's final was "unbelievable". Rapinoe shook Infantino and Macron's hands as she received her medal.

"It's unbelievable to know all the people who put in so much in this group," she said.

"We have all our families and friends here. It's surreal. I don't know how to feel right now. It's ridiculous." **Goal**

## Ivory Coast on alert after AFCON upsets

CAIRO - Coach Ibrahim Kamara said his Ivory Coast side would be on their guard going into today's last-16 encounter with Mali after a string of surprise results in this year's Africa Cup of Nations.

The two countries share 62nd place in the world rankings, suggesting the teams are evenly matched, although the Ivorian squad appears stronger than that of their upcoming opponents.

"Nobody thought that Benin could go past Morocco, the same goes for South Africa. So these are indeed messages sent to all the teams," Kamara said yesterday, following the shock exits of hosts Egypt and Herve Renard's Morocco.

"Of course, whether it's Mali or Ivory Coast, or any team at this stage of the competition, you have to give it everything so you don't end up with regrets because there is no return leg, there is no second or third match."

Mali are seeking a first victory over their fellow west Africans at the Cup of Nations after three losses and a draw. "You shouldn't look at the history or listen to the bookmakers, because then I would say that Ivory Coast are favourites, but that's not the case. We've seen that in the results that come in every day," Kamara added. **Goal**



**STAY: Callum Hudson-Odoi.**



# Build-It Under-13s soccer tournament



**CHAMPIONS:** Matsapha Professional Juniors captain Tebogo Dlamini receiving the trophy from Prince Sicalo while Build-It Chairman Sam Issa, acting Minister of Sports David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala, EFA Vice President Dr Comfort Shongwe, Anton Wassanaar and Brian Mokoatle both from Build-It Lowveld look on. This was during the finals of the tournament where Matsapha beat Buhleni Pick Team 3-1 at Mavuso Sports Centre on Saturday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



**JOY:** Andiswa Malaza (12) doing Grade 7 at Bethany Primary School riding his new bicycle presented to him where he also won a E10 000 bursary for school fees.



**NEW WHEELS:** Invited guest Prince Sicalo being presented with a brand new bicycle by Build-It's Sam Issa.



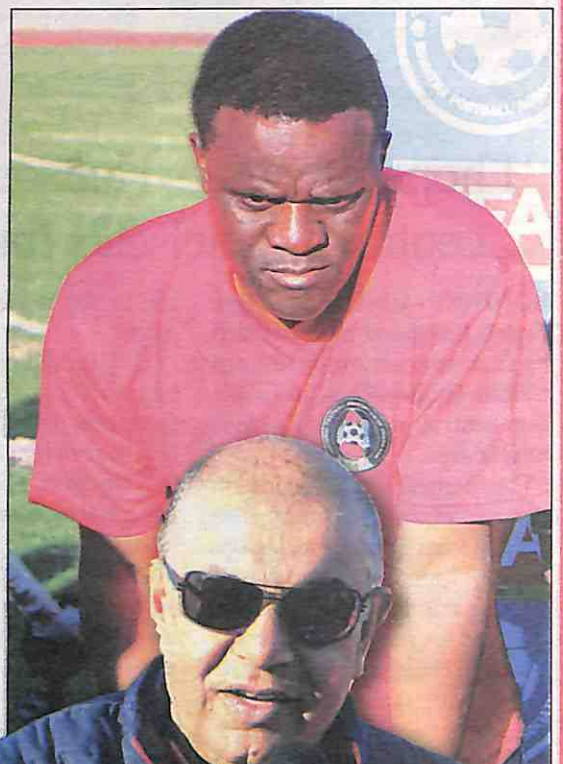
**WATCH:** The young stars admiring their new soccer boots presented by Build-It.



**(ABOVE) WE THANK YOU:** Shongwe presenting a golf T-shirt to SA legend Siyabonga Nomvethe as a token of appreciation.



**(TOP) RUNNERS-UP:** Buhleni Pick Team posing with the dignitaries after receiving their silver medals. **(Right) FOCUS:** EFA Technical Director Boy 'Bizzah' Mkhonta in full concentration.



**DIGNITARIES:** Prince Sicalo posing with Build-It management, SA AmaZulu FC representatives, acting minister of sports and EFA vice president. **(LEFT AND RIGHT) PARTNERS:** Eswatini Football Association CEO Frederick Mngomezulu and Build-It Chairman Sam Issa making their remarks.





# STEFANUTTI STOCKS E15 000 SOCCER TOURNAMENT



**JOVIAL:** Mahlanya Red Swallows fans and players celebrate after the final whistle which saw them win Stefanutti Stocks E15 000 tournament by beating Trouble FC 2 - 1 in the final at Malkerns Country Club yesterday. (Pics:Jongile Xuba)



**MAN DOWN:** Red Swallows's Banele Nkambule receiving medical treatment after a strong challenge.



**ALSO THERE:** EFA Vice President Dr Comfort Shongwe, LRFA Interim Chairman Sifiso Shabalala and MRFA Chairman Ace Sibozza watching the finals.

## iVula-Vala



**SO CLOSE:** Ntotozi Trouble Makers' Mbuso Hlophe attempts to stop Red Swallows' Banele Magagula who eventually gets off his shot narrowly missing the target.



**SAFE HANDS:** Trouble Maker goalkeeper Sibusiso Ngcamphalala catches a shot during the match.



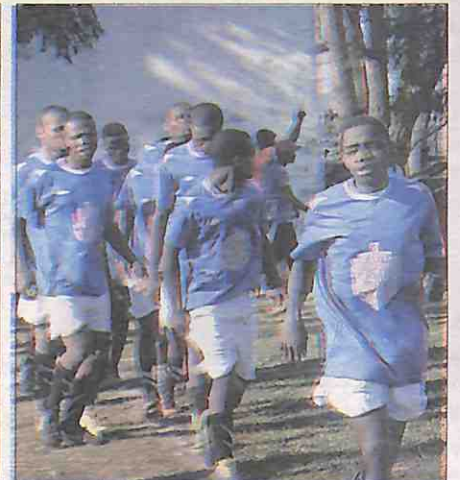
**CLEARANCE:** Red Swallows' Banele Magagula fails to get past Trouble Makers Sibusiso Mavuso.



**TOO SLOW:** Trouble Makers defender watches as the ball is dribbled past him.



**PLAYER COACH:** Red Swallows player and Seven Dreams coach Tobias Ntuli in action during the match.



**GAME TIME:** Mahlanya Red Swallows players taking to the pitch.

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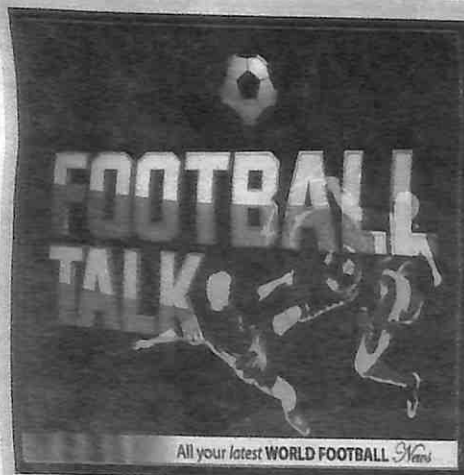
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■ Everton owner Farhad Moshiri wants the Toffees to look into signing Atletico Madrid and Spain striker Diego Costa, 30, as he looks to make a 'statement signing' this summer. (Mail on Sunday)

■ Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola is set to offer 34-year-old midfielder Fernandinho a new deal, just days after signing club-record transfer Rodri as his long-term replacement. (Sun on Sunday)



■ David de Gea looks set to finally commit his future to Manchester United, with the 28-year-old goalkeeper set to sign a new £350 000-a-week five-year deal to remain at Old Trafford. (Sunday Mirror)

■ Arsenal are interested in Bournemouth's Scotland winger Ryan Fraser, 25, as an alternative to Crystal Palace's Wilfried Zaha. (Sunday Mirror)

■ Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer, 33, is considering leaving Bayern Munich this summer, according to his agent. (Sueddeutsche Zeitung - in German)

■ England full-back Danny Rose, 29, heads a list of eight players that Tottenham are looking to offload this summer. (Mail on Sunday)



■ Lazio midfielder Sergej Milinkovic-Savic's agent has flown to London for talks with Manchester United representatives about a potential transfer for the 24-year-old Serbia international. (Sport Mediaset - in Italian)

■ Bournemouth and Netherlands centre-back Nathan Ake has emerged as a shock £40m target for Manchester City. The 24-year-old would be signed as an alternative to Leicester City's Harry Maguire. (Sunday Mirror)

■ Manchester United's Belgium striker Romelu Lukaku wants to leave the club and has been offered to Juventus and Napoli. (Sun on Sunday)



■ Real Betis and Spain Under-21 left-back Junior Firpo has attracted interest from Liverpool and Barcelona. (Muchodeporte - in Spanish)

# Local pair ready for World Universities Championships

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**ATHLETICS – TWO local athletes Erikah Seyama and Ayanda Dlamini have declared their readiness for the International University Sports Federation World University Games currently taking place in Napoli, Italy.**

Long distance runner and Ngwane College pupil Ayanda will be in action today at 9pm in the 1500m race before taking part in the 500m on Thursday afternoon.

Meanwhile, reigning African champion Erikah Seyama will be in action on Thursday morning in the high jump competition.

Team Eswatini head of del-

egation and Eswatini Universities and Colleges Sports Association (EUCSA) Secretary Sibusiso Dlamini said both athletes were looking forward to the students' championships.

"The two athletes are working hard at training in preparing for their respective competitions and we are confident that they will both do well in their categories. We hope the athletes will hoist the country's flag high in the competition," he said.

The Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) pupil Erikah possesses vast international experience after winning a gold medal during the 2018 African Championships which were held in Abuja, Nigeria.



READY: Erikah Seyama and Ayanda Dlamini.

## Smilo wins Inaugural National Rapid, Blitz championships

BY JONGILE XUBA

**CHESS – CANDIDATE Master Smilo Hlophe won the first ever National Rapid and Blitz Championships held at Free Evangelical Assemblies School in Manzini on Saturday.**

The tournament drew participants from all four regions of Eswatini, which included the cream of the crop players such as Fungai Matawah, CM Sikhanyiso Sihlongonyane, WCM Nosipho Dlamini, Classical National Champions Mbongeni Mabuza and Temahlubi Dlamini.

Swiss system format was used in both sections as Mbongeni Mabuza won the Rapid section with 5.5/7 points to get gold while the silver medal went to CM Smilo Hlophe, also on 5.5/7 points.

### ESWATINI CHESS TEAM:

1. CM Smilo Hlophe
2. Nosimilo Mkhonto
3. Mbongeni Mabuza
4. Temahlubi Dlamini.

Simphiwe Dlamini came third on 5.5/7, getting a bronze medal.

All three players were on 5.5/7 but 'tie breakers' favoured Mabuza.

The Blitz section was won by CM Smilo Hlophe, who amassed 7/9 points for gold with Vusumuzi Khumalo getting silver on 6/9 points. Bronze was taken by David Khalema, who scored 6/9.

### Walked

The overall winner of the Rapid and Blitz Championships CM Smilo Hlophe (on 18 points) walked away with E800 and a trophy. Mbongeni Mabuza was the runner-up on 17 points (E600), with

third-placed Simphiwe Dlamini getting E450.

CM Sikhanyiso Sihlongonyane came fourth and received E350 while Fungai Matawah got E300 after finishing fifth.

The best lady slot went to Nosimilo Mkhonto.

Eswatini Chess Federation (ECF) President Dumsane Msibi, who was also a Chief Arbiter of the tournament, was full of praise at the speed in which chess is growing in the kingdom and encouraged all chess lovers to locate clubs near their areas.

The president also announced the four players to represent Eswatini at the all Africa games in Morocco, come August.

These are CM Smilo Hlophe, Nosimilo Mkhonto, Mbongeni Mabuza and Temahlubi Dlamini.

## CORRECTIONAL HAND UEDF FIRST DEFEAT IN NETBALL LEAGUE

BY JONGILE XUBA

**NETBALL – CORRECTIONAL** netball team ended Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force's (UEDF) perfect run in the Swaziland Building Society (SBS) Elite Netball League by handing them their first loss of the season.

This was during league games played at Zakhele Courts in Manzini on Saturday and the defending champions made no mistake in reminding the rest of the teams who they are as they beat UEDF 70-25. Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) beat Mbabane Raiders 63-31 in one of the entertaining games. Manzini Ladies played against Fashion International where they managed a comfortable 52-27 win while OlympAfrica beat Vixens 78-38. The men's league saw REPS take on Vixens in what was an easy assignment for the police side, winning the match 73-23. The weekend results mean UEDF have lost their top spot after suffering their first loss and are now equal with Correctional on six points. They are joined by OlympAfrica and Manzini Ladies, who also have six points which will make this week's round of games interesting.

### SBS ELITE NETBALL LEAGUE RESULTS

Correctional	70-25	UEDF
REPS	63-31	Raiders
Manzini	52-27	Fashion International
OlympAfrica	74-38	Vixens
Males		
REPS	73-23	Vixens



**CHAMPION: CM Smilo Hlophe is the new National Rapid and Blitz Champion after he won the competition held at Free Evangelical Assemblies School. (Pics: Jongile Xuba)**

## NGUDZENI ARE SZ4ME' SCHOOLS ONLINE SOCCER CHAMPS

BY JONGILE XUBA

**SOCCER – NGUDZENI Primary School are champions of the 2019 SZ4ME' Schools Online Soccer Championship after beating KaMzila Primary 2-1 in the finals.**

The game was played at Ngudzeni Sports Ground with the semi-finals being played by learners from the Ngudzeni Primary Schools cluster, namely Ntjanini, Baleni, Ngudzeni and Mzila.

The aim of the competition was to give their Grade Sevens a heads up on the final exams. Ngudzeni managed to beat Baleni Primary 3-2 to advance to the semi-finals while KaMzila edged Ntjanini 2-1.

The final was tightly contested but



**WINNERS: Ngudzeni Primary School team lift their trophy after winning the SZ4ME soccer competition at Ngudzeni Sports Ground on Friday. (Courtesy pic)**

Ngudzeni eventually lifted the trophy. SZ4ME Director Lungelo Dlamini thanked all the participating teams as well as sponsors, who helped with prizes on the day. The champions received a trophy with the best players receiving medals

and string bags. "We would like to appreciate all the teams that took part in the competition and congratulations to all the winners on the day. I would also like to thank Macmillan Education and World Vision for their generous donations,"

he said. The director also mentioned that SZ4ME's next event would be the academic challenge in September.

"On September 20, we will have the academic challenge at Somnjalo High School. We encourage all schools to attend and interested persons can contact me at 7612 8656," he said. SZ4ME's Schools Online is a study programme for primary and high school which learners access on their cellphones and computers for study and examination preparation purposes.

### RESULTS:

SEMI-FINALS		
Ngudzeni	3-2	Baleni
KaMzila	2-1	Ntjanini 1
FINAL		
Ngudzeni	2-1	KaMzila





**BULL:** Mbabane Highlanders technical bench, ex-players and current players captured at Mbabane Central during the team party on Saturday. (Pics: Melusi Mlotso)

# This is our season - Menzi

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER - MBABANE Highlanders new captain Menzi Sithole says the 2019/20 season will be a year of joy for the 'Black Bull'.**

Sithole said they were happy with the improvements made by the team's new boss and promised to repay him by winning trophies. "As players we are so much humbled to have a man of Ally caliber as our director. We can feel the warmth and comfort of working under him. He is completely changing the team to be a big club

and as players we promise not to drag the name of the team in the mud," he said. Sithole also thanked legends for giving them words of advice.

David 'Sarafinah' Madlopha, who spoke on behalf of legends, told the team's players to show a high level of respect wherever they were. He said it was not easy but enjoyable to play for a big team of Mbabane Highlanders' status.

"This is the day the Lord has made and we are hopeful the team will deliver trophies in the upcoming season. It's not easy to play for a big team like this, but it is enjoyable.

Therefore, I want to urge the current players to show respect in and outside the field of play," he said.

Madlopha also welcomed team Director Ally Kgomongwe in the club by presenting him with a black T-shirt from the legends. He further urged Kgomongwe to play for the team's legends.

The capital city giants legends, who were recognised during the event consisted of Jabulani 'Codesa' Maseko, Joel 'Kalusha' Dlamini, Petros 'Brooks' Tembe, Henry Manyika, Sifiso 'Barnes' Mkhulisi, Celumusa 'Sis Monica' Vilakati to mention but only a few.

## Comfort, 'Touch' tell Bull to put proper structures

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER - ESWATINI Football Association Vice President Comfort Shongwe and Premier League of Eswatini Chairman Peter 'Touch' Magagula have told Mbabane Highlanders to put their structures in place so that they become successful.**

Speaking on Saturday at Mbabane Central High School during the unveiling of Ally Kgomongwe as the team's new boss, Shongwe was the first to take the podium and highlighted some few things that made a team successful.

"Some of the things that make a team to be successful are a clear constitution and having qualified working personnel.

For Highlanders to be successful, proper structures must be put on place and make the team a company," he said.

Shongwe added that the team must follow club licensing to the

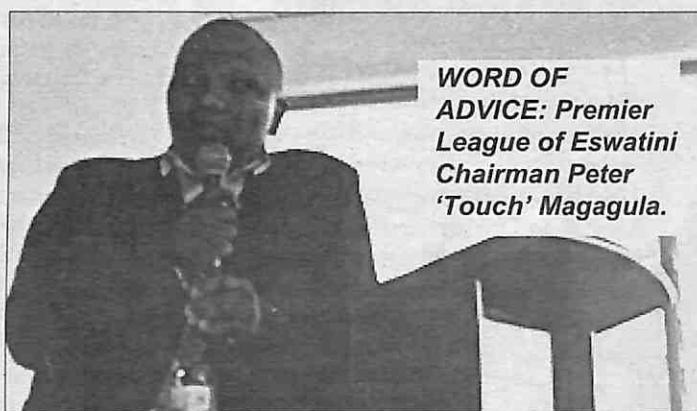
latter and get a fully-fledged office.

He said the capital city giants were one of the successful clubs in the country and that they must have a museum.

Premier League Chairman Peter 'Touch' Magagula welcomed Ally on board and urged him to transform the team as their poor performance was not good for the country's football.

"Highlanders are a big club but their poor performance has also a negative impact on Sihlangu. Football is now business and Kgomongwe must bring proper structures that are clear in the team. Hire qualified people in the team. Don't be afraid to get people who are not Highlanders at heart because football is now a business," he said.

Magagula added that Kgomongwe must acquire land for the team where they would construct their stadium and a club house. He also pointed out that the team must recruit international players if they wanted to be competitive.



**WORD OF ADVICE:** Premier League of Eswatini Chairman Peter 'Touch' Magagula.

## Normalisation committee out, new executive in at SRFA

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**SOCCER - THE Eswatini Football Association normalisation committee's stay in the Shiselweni Regional Football Association is now over.**

This comes after election of the new executive committee for the regional association yesterday afternoon at the King Sobhuza II Stadium hall.

The Mlimi Mamba-led normalisation has been keeping the office afloat since 2015 after outspoken former Chairman Mashumi Shongwe was forced out of office due to his dragging court cases against the national mother body (EFA).

The members elected Bhokani Khumalo in the Chairmanship position unopposed and will be assisted by Rudolph Saulos (vice chairman).

Nkosiathi Kunene assumed the Secretariat position unopposed and he will be assisted by Mndeni Ndwandwe, who managed to beat his competitor Mphakatsi Dladu with a landslide victory of 82 votes against Dladu's meagre two votes.

The elections were conducted by former referee Elphas Ngcamphalala, who was accompanied by Vice President Peter 'Samora' Simelane and CEO Frederick Mngomezulu.

### The full SRFA executive committee:

Chairman: Bhokani Khumalo  
Vice Chairman: Rudolph Saulos  
Secretary: Nkosiathi Kunene  
Treasurer: Sifiso Sikhosana  
Vice Secretary: Mndeni Ndwandwe  
Members: Sibusiso Nzima and Thulani Sihlongonyane

## Bull closing in on Matsapha United star

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER - CAPITAL city giants Mbabane Highlanders are closing in on Matsapha United troublesome Ghanaian forward Emmanuel Effah.**

The speedy forward, who is also on the wanted list of other big clubs, is likely to sign on the dotted line for the black and white outfit, according

to sources within the team.

The player formed part of the trialists yesterday at Ezulwini Sports Ground. Other notable faces were ex-Manzini Wanderers' Makhosi Mtsetfwa, Sibusiso Mkhonta from Manzini Sundowns and Tambuti strong defender Ishmael Zwane to mention but only a few.

The team's Technical Director Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini and interim coach Andries 'Chaka Chaka' Mpondo

closely monitored the session. Team boss Ally Kgomongwe, patrons Benson Dlamini, Moses Dlamini and a fraction of supporters were also in attendance.

The team's Secretary Gcina Dlamini said a final list of the players, who passed the trials, would be released soon.

"For now it's up to the technical bench to identify the players they need and the final list will be released

in due course."

Meanwhile, the team's interim coach Mpondo said coaching a big team like Highlanders was a big challenge for him. He, however, said the team had quality players, who can challenge for honours in the upcoming season. "I love winning and I am confident that with the quality of players we have, I will deliver," he said.

Technical Director, Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini said he would help the South Africa coach settle well in the country together with his physical trainer.

## Mahlanya Red Swallows win S&S soccer tournament

BY JONGILE XUBA

Mahlanya Red Swallows..... (1)2  
Don Don..... (1)1

**SOCCER - MAHLANYA Red Swallows are the champions of Steffanutti Stocks (S&S) Football Competition after beating Trouble FC 2-1 during the finals played at Malkerns Country and Recreational Club yesterday.**

Before the final, Don Don beat Cutter Cosmos 2-1 to finish third in the competition.

The final itself was a highly intense affair with both sides showing full desire to win. A first half goal from Red Swallows' Banele Magagula



**PLAYER COACH:** Red Swallows player and Seven Dreams coach Tobias Ntuli in action during the match. (Pic: Jongile Xuba)

gave them the lead in early stages of the game.

The match went to break with Red Swallows leading 1-0. The second half saw Trouble FC up their tempo as they dominated possession and eventually scored the equalising goal through Phatizwe Mabuza and the game went to extra time.

The match went to extra time and once again it was Mahlanya's Handle Magagula, who snatched the winner to secure an upset for the newly promoted team. Manzini Regional Football Association (MRFA) Chairman Johannes 'Ace' Sibozza said the tournament went well and congratulated the winners.

"We would like to thank all the teams for another peaceful edition of the competition which we really appreciate. Congratulations to

### S&S E15 000 MRFA Tournament results

Third place final  
Don Don 2-1 Cutter Cosmos  
Final  
Mahlanya Red Swallows 2-1 Trouble FC

the winners and hope teams continue to perform like this," he said.

The chairman added that they would announce when the prize presentation would be held, thanking the sponsor for another fruitful year. "This was our third year in partnership with S&S and we would like to thank them together with MP Marwick Khumalo for another successful year. We will release dates for the prize presentation in due course after meeting with the sponsor," he said.



# FIXTURES

18:00 Mali vs Cote d'Ivoire  
21:00 Ghana vs Tunisia

# RESULTS

Madagascar 2-2 D.R. Congo (3-2)  
Algeria 3-0 Guinea

## Weslians sign Laurent Abah from Pirates

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER - HUB** giants Manzini Wanderers have reportedly made the biggest catch yet after they signed Moneni Pirates speedy forward Laurent Abah.

The former Cameroon TKC and Tonnerre Kalara FC striker is said to have penned a three-year deal with the maroon and white outfit.

Abah was once on the books of the top teams in the country at the end of the 2018/19 season, namely Mbabane Highlanders and Green Mamba. The player is said to have started pre-season camp with the 2018/19 Bible Society Cup champions.

The news was also confirmed by the player's agent Lucas Adams, who said Abah is now the property of Manzini Wanderers.

"We have sealed the deal with Laurent Abah; he will not be renewing his contract with Moneni Pirates as he has signed with Manzini Wanderers. All is well and the boy is happy in his new team as he will be getting a good salary," he said.

Manzini Wanderers Public Relations Officer, Mduduzi 'Mr G' Ginindza said he would check with the office about the latest developments.

The maroon and white outfit has already signed other players in the likes of former Vovovo FC midfield dynamo Aboudou Housesou.

Matsapha United player Thami Zulu is said to be closely monitored by Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati and his technical bench. In the same breath, the club has reportedly offloaded nine players.

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# SPORTS

BSERVER

Monday July 8, 2019



## GREEN MAMBA TO FACE SUPERSPORT

- Match scheduled for Saturday
- To also play Highlands Park and Pretoria Callies
- Matches to be used as 2019 CAF Champions League preps

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**SOCCER - MTN Premier League** champions Green Mamba will take on ABSA Premiership side SuperSport United during their upcoming international friendly matches.

The match is set to take place on Saturday at the Lucas Moripe Stadium in Atteridgeville, South Africa.

The Correctional Services side will also face Highlands Park and ABC Motsepe League outfit Pretoria Callies this month as part of their 2019 CAF Champions League. According to reliable sources, 'Inyok' eluhlazana will first take on Matsantsantsa on Saturday before facing Callies four days later (July 17). The green and white ensemble will wrap their South Africa programme on July 20 against Highlands Park at the Makhulong Stadium.

"Preparations for the matches are at an advanced stage and the South African teams have agreed to

play Green Mamba during their pre-season tour," the source said.

Green Mamba Chief Executive Officer Thami Phakathi said they were still working on securing friendly matches with international teams.

### Series

"We are working on a series of international training matches with teams from the neighbouring countries such as South Africa and Mozambique. However, it is still premature to comment much on the matter as we are still awaiting confirmations," he said.

Green Mamba will represent the country in the continent's premier club competition later this year after clinching the league title during the previous campaign.

## ...Mduduzi Nxumalo new Mamba assistant coach

**SOCCER - GREEN Mamba** have enlisted the services of former Sitsebe Samhlekezi and Malanti Chiefs coach Mduduzi 'Sikhalo' Nxumalo as their new assistant coach.

Nxumalo is said to have beaten other candidates in Ernest Mavuso, Dumisani 'DU' Makhanya and Mpendulo Ngwenya, who report-

edly applied for the job.

### Role

Nxumalo assumed his role last week where he started drilling the team on Monday alongside head coach Caleb Ngwenya.

Green Mamba CEO Thami Phakathi confirmed the hiring of Nxumalo when reached for comment yesterday.

"It is true we have roped in Nxumalo as our assistant coach and we would like to congratulate him on his new position.

We are confident he will work with the entire members of the technical team in taking the team to greater heights," he said.



**LYON - The United States** won their fourth Women's World Cup yesterday, defeating Holland 2-0 in Lyon to claim back-to-back titles.

Megan Rapinoe scored the opening goal of the game for the US from the penalty spot after a VAR reversal before Rose Lavelle sealed victory with a brilliant strike from the edge of the box.

Having scored by the 12th minute of every match of their campaign prior to the final, the US were unable to keep the record up in the early stages, with Tobin Heath's free-kick into the box being headed clear just before that point passed.

Holland goalkeeper Sari Van Veenendaal subsequently claimed a Rose Lavelle cross, and counterpart Alyssa Nacher did well to

## USA beat Netherlands to win Women's World Cup 2019



**CHAMPIONS: The USA** won their fourth Women's World Cup title yesterday, defeating Holland 2-0 in Lyon to claim back-to-back titles.

get there first when Vivianne Miedema tried to play in Lineth

Beerensteyn with a through-ball. Van Veenendaal then made a smart

stop in the 27th minute as she pushed away a volley from Julie Ertz.

There were further heroics from Van Veenendaal towards the end of the first half as she produced three excellent stops in quick succession.

First she kept out a Mewis header, then she diverted an Alex Morgan effort against the post with her foot.

And moments later she denied Morgan again, diving to turn her strike behind, before the teams went in at the break with the score still goalless.

The US took the lead in the 62nd

minute through a Rapinoe penalty awarded via VAR.

Stefanie Van Der Gragt made a high-footed challenge on Morgan, who went down in the box, and having initially awarded a corner, referee Stephanie Frappart then watched back footage pitchside before pointing to the spot.

Rapinoe subsequently produced a composed finish from 12 yards to take her goal tally for the tournament to six, moving her level at the top of the scoring charts with Morgan and England's Ellen White.

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