

**Cop murder suspect Bhubesi suspended**

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**Rape accused DJ 'cleared'**

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WEDNESDAY MAY 8, 2019

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PRICE: E6.00 (VAT INCLUSIVE)



OUT: Zephaniah Nkambule.



OUT: Mxolisi 'Waxola' Mabuza.

## MAYORS ZEPHANIAH, WAXOLA OUT



IN: Mbabane Mayor Sikhumbuzo Dube.



IN: Manzini Mayor Jabu Shiba. **STORIES ON PAGE 4**



IN: Nhlangano Mayor Deon Anderson.



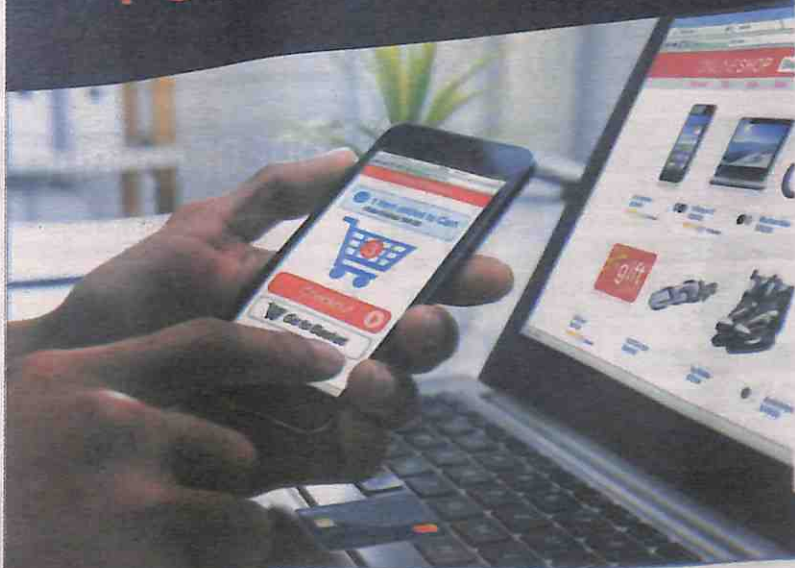
IN: Pigg's Peak Mayor Victor Rodriguez.

# MHUBHE PUPILS MAKE DAMNING CLAIMS AGAINST PRINCIPAL

...The learners want the principal fired from school

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# Murder suspect cop Bhubesi suspended without pay

BY COLISILE SACOLO  
Mbabane

**MURDER suspect Constable Sibusiso Shongwe, well-known as Bhubesi, has been suspended from work without pay by the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS).**

This was with effect from March 25th

2019. This was communicated through a correspondence served to him in prison. Shongwe is currently in custody as his bail was opposed by the state.

This was confirmed by Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

Supt. Vilakati said they followed the Police Act of 2018 Section 43 (8) which empowers the national commissioner

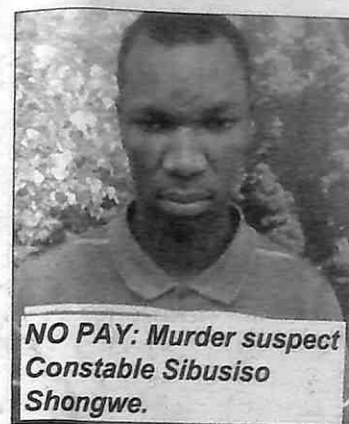
to suspend an officer arrested for a serious criminal act without pay whilst awaiting trial.

Shongwe is currently in custody as his bail is being opposed by the state. The officer is accused of having killed his girlfriend Lindokuhle Mlangeni, who was a nurse after a short argument while they were together inside the nurse's house at Hlatikulu on Boxing

Day last year.

It is alleged that Shongwe strangled and killed Mlangeni during a domestic dispute.

The bone of contention is said to have been E4 000 which had been borrowed by Mlangeni. It is said as Shongwe demanded the money; a fight ensued that resulted in her death.



**NO PAY: Murder suspect Constable Sibusiso Shongwe.**

# 106 jobs in jeopardy at Eswatini Beverages

STORIES BY MBONO MDLULI  
Mbabane

**IF the government goes ahead with the proposed hike in levy on alcohol products, about 106 jobs are in danger of being lost at Eswatini Beverages.**

Eswatini Beverages is one of the organisations that made submissions to the House of Assembly Sessional Committee, which was having consultations on whether it was viable for government to increase the levy on tobacco and alcohol products or not.

The other organisations that made submissions were Business Eswatini and British American Tobacco Eswatini.

The 106 jobs, according to the submission made by the company, were protected by the fact that Eswatini Beverages was able to produce some

of the alcoholic products locally.

However, the proposed levy would make it possible for the jobs to be lost. To make matters worse, the change in this present model of doing business would take away about E45 million spent in the local economy.

Eswatini Beverages, according to the Sessional Committee report, was a leading beverages company in the country and currently employed 232 permanent employees.

## Workers

About 75 per cent of these were classified as blue-collar workers. Currently, there were more than 550 licenced beer retailers who were registered tax-paying entities and contribute to the country's economy.

Projections for 2019 (excluding the impact of the proposed seven per cent levy) indicated that Eswatini Beverages

Limited would pay E220 million in taxes to government. This represented approximately 1.7 per cent of the country's total budgeted revenue.

Excise taxes on beer have increased by 120 per cent in nominal terms over the past 10 years. The company was also subject to excise taxes imposed by the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and any levy imposed by the government would constitute an additional tax on the company and the industry as a whole.

Eswatini, according to the beverage company, was in close proximity to Mozambique and South Africa and a price differential is likely to increase the potential of smuggling. The higher prices would render alcoholic drinks unaffordable in the country for most consumers. This could increase the consumption of illicit alcoholic drinks.

## Business Eswatini against 7% increase on tobacco, alcohol

**BUSINESS Eswatini foresees economic danger should government decide to increase alcohol and tobacco products produced and imported into the country.**

Business Eswatini is one of the organisations that made submissions to the House of Assembly Sessional Committee which was hosting consultations on whether it was viable for government to increase tobacco and alcohol products or not.

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg tabled the Alcohol and Tobacco Levy Bill on February 27.

The aim of the Bill was to impose a levy of seven per cent on imported alcohol and tobacco products.

The government, through the Bill, also wanted to impose a levy of two per cent on locally-produced alcohol and tobacco products.

Business Eswatini proposed at least a three per cent levy on imported products and one per cent on locally-produced prod-

ucts. The other two organisations were totally against the imposition of levy on their products. The organisations stated that the imposition of levies could be detrimental to the economy of the country. The levy could make it difficult for Emaswati to buy these products because they would be expensive.

As a result, the legal market of these products would suffer as Emaswati would opt for counterfeit products that would have been illegally produced and smuggled into the country.

Eswatini, according to the submission made by the organisations, was in direct proximity to South Africa and Mozambique, where such products were cheap.

The levy imposition on tobacco products, according to the British American Tobacco Eswatini, would create a situation where tobacco would be six per cent more expensive in Eswatini when compared with the same products in South Africa.

The same thing would apply in Mozambique, where tobacco products in Eswatini would be 213 per cent more expensive.

The organisations stated that imposition of levy was not an effective way of fighting abuse of the substances. The organisations proposed that government should work with them in ensuring that they educated Emaswati about the dangers of abuse of these products.

With the right and sufficient campaign, Emaswati could eventually understand that the abuse of alcohol and tobacco products was dangerous.

The organisations submitted that they were well aware of the health effects their products could cause to the nation. But they submitted that they constantly trained the retailers of these products on the dangers of selling the products to anyone. They invited government to work with them in doing the same so that more jobs could be saved.

## Rape accused DJ 'cleared'

BY SIZWE DLAMINI  
Pigg's Peak

**IN a bizarre twist of events, it seems the woman who accused Gift Sibandze otherwise known as 'DJ Merca', of rape at an overcrowded show on Saturday has no visual signs of forced penetration.**

This is after Sibandze and his alleged rape survivor were both taken to the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital by the police on separate occasions to be examined by medical practitioners for signs of forced sex.

The examinations happened on Monday and practitioners discovered that both individuals had no visible scars on their private parts or on their bodies indicating forced penetration. Instead, medical practitioners concluded that the couple had no signs of rough sex at all.

This evidence then led police to assume that the sex might have been consensual.

Following this evidence, a police officer who spoke on condition of anonymity said the medical practitioners' findings corresponded with Sibandze's version of events, who claimed he did not commit the said offence on Saturday at the Gbolondlo Hall.

He is said to have told the police investigators that he had a casual sexual encounter with a young woman who then demanded money.

"Sibandze when interviewed by police said he had met the young woman a week ago and took her to the show where he performed. During the show the two had casual sex in the changing rooms while police patrolled the venue. After their intimate encounter, the woman wanted a certain amount of money but Sibandze failed to deliver. This then led the woman to report the incident as a rape to us," the officer said.

Police revealed that Sibandze was

arrested but was then allowed to go free after medical practitioners conducted medical investigations, but have not yet closed the case per se.

"We had arrested Sibandze on Sunday for about two hours, however, the medical practitioners concluded that there were no visible scares indicating a rape had occurred. But as Sibandze left the hospital he asked us to investigate the rape survivor who extorted him for money. Currently, the rape survivor is being investigated for extortion because we believe that she wanted money for sex," the source revealed.

Deputy Director of Health Services Dr. Velephi Okello, when contacted on the medical results, said that medical practitioners could only submit their findings to the police but they could not say that the evidence constitutes a rape or not.

"Medical practitioners are not the police. Only the police can charge an individual for rape. Medical practitioners only present their findings to the police who then make an arrest or free the accused. In this case the practitioners have said that there are no visible signs of rough sex, however, further information has to be ascertained by other investigators in this matter," she said.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (CPICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed that the incident was still under investigation by the police.

**We had arrested Sibandze on Sunday for about two hours, however the medical practitioners concluded that there were no visible scares indicating a rape had occurred**

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# MHUBHE HIGH PUPILS PETITION PRINCIPAL

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

IT is definitely not a good term for principals in the country as pupils in many schools are rioting, calling for the ousting of principals.

Following Monday's riots at two schools, another school yesterday saw pupils protesting over a principal whom they accuse of serious allegations, which the newspaper cannot repeat because they have not been verified.

The learners from Mhubhe High are alleged to have littered the school with pamphlets with names of learners which they claim involved the principal.

The incident happened early yesterday morning. According to the pamphlets, the concerned learners want the principal gone from the school.

This is the third school where there has been drama over a principal who is wanted out as two other schools Mqolo Central Primary and Enhlanganisweni High were involved in a riot on Monday.

Parents stormed the two schools and called for the principals to vacate the premises on allegations of misuse of funds, among other things.

At Mhubhe High, reliable sources said they were shocked when they saw pamphlets scattered all over the school early in the morning with damning allegations against the principal.

It is said the incident happened while

...Accuse him of serious allegations, which the newspaper cannot repeat because they have not been verified



**NOT AWARE: Ministry of Education PS Dr Sibongile Mtshali.**

the principal was away. Soon after the incident which sent most teachers into fright as they were not aware what was going to happen next, inspectors came to the school to get the gist of the matter and report back to the Manzini Regional Education Officer Mlimi Mamba.

It is said there were some pupils who were fingered to be behind the incident. The parents of the children were called, however, the pupils denied their involvement.

Contacted, Manzini REO Mamba said he had received information about the incident and after getting word of what had happened he sent officers to check

what was the commotion about.

By midday, the commotion had died down and learners were back in class. This incident is happening when schools had just resumed operations after they were closed for the first term. This is the third school this week which has seen pupils rioting, calling for the principal to go. Worth noting is that Mhubhe High is the same school where Swaziland National Association of Teachers President Mbongwa Dlamini was accused of unauthorised absenteeism from work and is facing disciplinary charges from the Teaching Service Commission.

The charges have been interpreted by the SNAT leadership as aimed at frustrating the union activities.

When called about the matter, Schools Manager Macanjana Motsa's phone rang unanswered. Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Training Dr. Sibongile Mtshali said she was not aware of the recent case.

She also said she was not aware of previous allegations leveled against the teacher. Dr. Mtshali asked that she be given time to consult with the Manzini Regional Officer Mlimi Mamba to get details of the matter.

When the school principal was called on the matter last night, she confirmed the incident but declined to discuss the allegations over the phone.



**SOMETHING WILL BE DONE: Hhohho REO Tamari Langwenya addressing the parents during the meeting.**

ing salaries for support staff," she said. Nhlabatsi condemned the act of learners leaving classes to fetch water from the river as it compromises their education.

"On the issue of learners made to fetch water from the river, that is not acceptable, learners should go to school to learn not to be subjected to this. This is risking the safety of the learners as any harm can happen while on the way to and from the river. Learners can even drown. In short the lack of water, toilets and security at the school defeats the ministry's Inqaba programme of schools as centres of care and support, where learners' care and safety is a priority," she added.

She concluded by saying the REO should swiftly find a solution to the impasse between the school and the parents and ensure that the best interest of the child is put first.



**LISTENING ATTENTIVELY: The parents listening attentively as the talks were in progress. (Pic: Nongcebo Dlamini)**

## Let's have private auditors - Parents

BY NONGCEBO DLAMINI  
Mpolonjeni

**ANGRY parents at Enhlanganisweni High now want the school books of accounts to be audited by a private firm.**

This transpired during a meeting which was held at the school yesterday.

In a highly charged meeting, the parents accused the ministry's auditors of doing a shoddy job, hence the mismanagement of funds and would prefer a private firm to do their books.

As a result, the parents promised to contribute E100 towards the fees for the private auditors.

Present in the meeting was the Regional Education Officer of the Hhohho region Tamari Langwenya, who said that as the office of the REO they had written to the auditor general's office for assistance in resolving issues at the school.

Langwenya highlighted that the AG's office follows certain procedures and will not just come at the time the parents wanted to.

Coming to the matters of the administration of the school, the REO acknowledged that there had been problems between the school and the committee.

"The problem started in August last year. The main issue was the signing for monies that were needed by the school to continue with its operations," she said.

### Issues

She added that issues emerged when the Chairperson of the committee Meshack Makhubu refused to sign for money needed for school operations. Langwenya said the chairman would miss some meetings and that would frustrate operations at the school. She said when the matter got out of hand Nomthandazo Tembe, the school principal, reported it to the ministry, which took it upon itself to remove Makhubu from the position as per the constitution which states that if a chairperson of a school committee absconds a meeting three consecutive times, that person has automatically removed themselves from the position.

During that ordeal, Langwenya highlighted that they could not call a parents meeting to inform them of their decision because Makhubu had taken the matter of his removal to court.

"Makhubu wanted to be reinstated to his position," she said.

The REO added that an interim committee had been put in place whilst the matter was still being resolved.

When the parents were given an opportunity to ask questions, one of them asked the REO who had called the meetings that Makhubu never attended and who had signed the document that summoned the meeting of the school committee because Makhubu was the only one who had the authority to call meetings and sign off any letters that involved the school.

When Langwenya was given the platform to answer, she stated that she could not answer on anything that concerned Makhubu because his matter was in court.

Another parent asked Langwenya what the ministry of education had done after seeing that there was conflict between the school principal and the chairperson. Once again, Langwenya could not give a straight answer.

"With all due respect REO, why does it look like you are the one that is causing division between the principal and Makhubu? You are not handling the matter in a fair manner," one of the parents said.

However, Langwenya insisted that she could not talk about anything that involved Makhubu because his matter was in the court of law. Every decision that was taken was as per the dictates of the Constitution," she said.

### Chance

When Makhubu was given a chance to talk, he accused the REO of being friends with Tembe and that all she said was not true.

Makhubu added that all the meetings she said he never attended he did not know about because Tembe and the Vice Chairperson Phindile Bhembe used to call meeting without him knowing.

"They called meetings without my knowledge and signed off the letter sanctioning those meetings as if they had been authorised by me.

"They did this for three consecutive times because they wanted me out as chairperson of the school committee," he said.

Makhubu highlighted that as for the issue of going to court, he won the case which was handled by Judge Nkululeko Hlophe where he was reinstated back to his position.

Makhubu, however, added that when he got back to tell Tembe she told him she only took what was said by the REO and could not allow him back to his position.

"REO I tell you I will not rest till this matter is handled properly and things are done in a professional manner. If Tembe is not removed as principal of Enhlanganisweni High School, someone will die," he said.

## Mqolo Primary faces probe

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE  
Mbabane

**MQOLO Central Primary School will be probed.**

This followed the dramatic first day of second school term on Monday where parents and the school committee accused the Head teacher Archie Thwala of some irregularities.

The Hhohho Regional Education Officer Tamari Langwenya revealed that they decided to probe the allegations of mismanagement of funds, the number of churches that are using the school, as well as the unpaid water bills.

This is because the school's financial statements contain figures which are not corresponding to what is happening at the school.

The parents alleged that the school has been without clean tap water for two years because Eswatini Water Services Corporation cut off the school's water supply because it owed the company E75 000 in bills.

Parents also pointed to the over grown vegetation at the school yet they pay for groundsman services. It was alleged that pupils sometimes have to suspend lessons to fetch water from the nearby river.

The principal will be probed on all the above stated thorny issues at the school. This decision came about after an urgent meeting that was held yesterday at the school in the presence of the police who were there to ensure peace and safety.

On May 18, a mass meeting will be held at the school whereby a detailed report by the REO will be presented before parents, school committee and the principal on the findings.

Meanwhile, the Principal Archie Thwala remained unshaken by the news of a probe into the school operations as he maintained his innocence in the entire allegations.

### Investigation

"As I have said yesterday, I am open to the investigation and I am happy now that the truth will come out," he said.

The Swaziland Network Campaign for Education for All (SWANCEFA) blames government for all the problems that are happening at the school.

Neliswe Nhlabatsi, the Director of SWANCEFA, said it is unfortunate that principals will forever be blamed for operations of schools of which in some instances, the principal is innocent.

She said looking at the money owed by schools on utility services, it calls for government to increase Free Primary Education (FPE) grant so that schools could have enough money.

She further stated that government should include schools support staff on its payroll to minimise situations whereby schools do not have security services.

"Again, we are saying government should increase the FPE grant. With the current status quo, schools will continue to suffer. The current E560 paid per child is not enough to run a school smoothly, paying utility bills and pay-

# MANZINI GOES FOR WOMAN IN MAYOR POSITION

STORIES BY BONGIWE DLAMINI  
Manzini

**'WAXOLA'S two-year mayoral journey in Manzini was cut short by Jabu Shiba, who scooped the position with seven votes.**

As soon as the results were announced by Manzini Clerk Lungile Dlamini, Shiba's followers jumped in excitement. Mxolisi 'Waxola' Mabuza was defeated by four votes. Mabuza has been mayor for two consecutive terms at the Manzini Municipal Council.

For the deputy mayor post, Councillor Mduduzi Vilane held his breath for two minutes too many after he became the only candidate nominated for the post.

According to an order as read by the newly-elected Mayor Shiba, when only one candidate was nominated into a position, councillors were supposed to observe two minutes to allow



**CHANGE: Manzini Mayor Jabu Shiba (c) and Deputy Mayor Mduduzi Vilane with Manzini Chief Executive Officer Lungile Dlamini during the elections.**

further nomination of other candidates. In cases where no further candidates are brought forward, the nominated councillor automatically assumes the position.

Vilane took over from Bongani Shongwe. The same applied for Wesley Dlamini and Khetho Dlamini whose

nominations into Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Finance Committee positions were uncontested. On another note, Siboniso Nkabinde and Sandile Bhembe were elected as additional members of the committee, with eight and seven votes respectively.

## 'You made good decision in choosing a woman'

**THE newly-elected Manzini Mayor Jabu Shiba has expressed her sincere appreciation for being elected into the mayor position.**

She said she was cognisant of the fact that some people might have

concerns of being led by a woman, but she assured them that she would leave a mark at the end of her term in office. To the former mayor Mxolisi Mabuza, Shiba said she was grateful for his sound leader-

ship, while he was still in office.

The mayor further promised Manzini citizens that her team was capable and willing to take the city to greater heights, only with enough support.

## Deon Anderson retains Nhlengano mayoral position

BY STARKY MKHONTA  
Nhlengano

**DEON Anderson has been retained as Nhlengano Town mayor.**

Yesterday, councillors in Nhlengano decided to maintain the status quo, as no one was 'relegated' or 'promoted' but all of them retained the positions they were occupying before.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Apollo Maphalala confirmed that there were no changes in the committees and stated that all went well.

He said the councillors saw no need of swapping or changing positions, but decided that the councillors should retain their previous positions.

"The status quo has been maintained," said Maphalala.

The CEO said councillors continued showing faith in Anderson to lead them as mayor, a position he has been holding since the council team was ushered into office over a year ago.

"Even his (Anderson) deputy, Mandla Gift Sibandze, retained his position," said Maphalala. The finance committee, which is considered as the main body after the office of the mayor, is headed by Manqoba Ngwenya, who held



**This is how the town council team stands**  
Deon Anderson-Mayor (appointee)  
Mandla Gift Sibandze- Deputy Mayor (elected Ward Four Councillor)  
**Finance Committee**  
Manqoba Ngwenya-Chairman (elected Ward Three/town centre Councillor)  
Bongi Sihlongonyane-Deputy Chairman (elected Ward Six Councillor)  
Siyambonga Shuba Dlamini-Member (elected Ward Five Councillor)  
**Councillors without portfolio**  
Mashumi Shongwe (appointee)  
Dumisani Sibandze (elected Ward Two councillor)  
Mnqobi Mkhonta (elected Ward One councillor)

the same position and the deputy chairman of this committee is Bongi Sihlongonyane, who held the same position, while the additional member is Siyambonga Shuba Dlamini. The likes of popular and prominent football administrator Mashumi Shongwe, Dumisani Sibandze and Mnqobi Mkhonta are members without portfolio.

## Victor Rodriguez reinstated as Pigg's Peak mayor

BY SIZWE DLAMINI  
Pigg's Peak

**IN an overwhelming show of support from Pigg's Peak Town councillors, Victor Rodriguez ran unopposed to be re-instated as the mayor of the town for the third time.**

Rodriguez, who was first elected mayor in November 2017, was reinstated to the same position last night at the Civic Centre Building in Pigg's Peak during a new round of voting.

Joining Rodriguez was Deputy Mayor Mndeni Simelane, who retained the same

position. Meanwhile, Thembisile Dlamini-Ngcampthalala was voted as chairperson of the finance committee while Absalom Ndlovu is Vice Chairperson of the finance committee.

Speaking after the voting, Rodriguez said the councillors and the town council worked well as a cohesive unit.

"I am grateful that the councillors have given me this opportunity to continue as the mayor of Pigg's Peak Town. I appreciate all their support and hard work. I hope we will continue

to work as a peaceful unit, concerned only with improving the beautiful town of ours. It is our duty to improve this town and bring development in any shape or form to the people.

The most important thing to Pigg's Peak is development, and this will be implemented as we all continue to work with the Pigg's Peak Town Council Chief Executive Officer Mzwandile Ndzinisa, who we all support for his diligent work," he said. The elections were officiated by Pigg's Peak Town Council CEO.



## Sikhumbuzo Dube is new Mbabane mayor

STORIES BY SIFTISO DLAMINI  
Mbabane

**THE capital city's new mayor is Ward Six Councillor Sikhumbuzo Dube.**

He was elected yesterday after two ballots, which saw a total of three candidates nominated for the position. His deputy is outgoing mayor Zephaniah Nkambule. The nominated candidates were councillors Dube, Arnold Dlamini and former mayor Nkambule.

The elections were directed by Mbabane Municipality Director of Corporate Services Bongani Dlamini, who was the electoral officer. The mayoral elections were guided by the Elections Standing Orders of 2000 as amended on April 29, 2019 and approved by the Minister of Housing and Urban Development Prince Simelane.

It was an understandably tense voting process, which saw the outgoing mayor Nkambule first emerging as the top candidate with six votes out of a total of 12, while Dube emerged with five votes whereas Dlamini managed to have just one vote.

Dlamini was dully eliminated as he had the least votes compared with the other councillors. In the second ballot, the two councillors were neck to neck as they both obtained six votes each. Some of the councillors requested a third ballot, but the electoral officer referred them back to the standing orders which requested a lot

on such circumstances.

After a brief deliberation, the councillors unanimously agreed to the conduction of a lot, which meant the mayor would be decided in the lottery of a lot, where both councillors' names were placed in a box and one of the municipality's internal auditors drew the one who would be mayor.

Picking Dube as the new mayor was welcomed with a round of applause from his colleagues.

The outgoing mayor was offered a chance of redemption when he was nominated for the deputy mayor position.

The nomination process saw four candidates being nominated and these were councillors Nkambule, Thulani Dlamini, Sabelo Magagula and Simangaliso Gama.

Councillor Magagula declined the nomination which left three nominees. After the first ballot, Dlamini received five votes, Nkambule received four votes and the least number of votes were three, received by Gama, which led to his elimination.

However, Nkambule emerged victorious in the second ballot, with a total of seven votes compared to Dlamini's five votes.

The councillors also voted for the finance committee chairman where councillor Sabelo Magagula was voted as chairman and his deputy is councillor Sithembiso Hlanze. The other two members of the committee are councillor Arnold Dlamini and councillor Sikhumbuzo Gama.



## HONoured TO BE ELECTED

**SIKHUMBUSO Dube is honoured to be elected mayor of the capital city.**

He called for all stakeholders to work hand-in-hand in ensuring

that the city's mandates and goals were met. Dube also urged the ratepayers association to come on board as they are a key component of the city's operations.

## Congratulations to the new mayor

**BUSINESS Eswatini Chief Executive Officer E. Nathi Dlamini has congratulated the new Mbabane mayor and his deputy on their election.**

He applauded the councillors for their transparency during the elections.

Dlamini also urged council to

set a good example since tomorrow the nation will be welcoming an African Union (AU) delegation, which will be visiting the country for assessment as Eswatini is competing to win the hosting rights of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

# MIXED FEELINGS ON NEW CANNABIS REGULATIONS DRAFT

STORIES BY NOKUZOLA THWALA  
Mbabane

THERE were mixed feelings from different stakeholders yesterday as the ministry of health invited them to a cannabis 'Indaba'.

The invited stakeholders included League of Churches, Conference of Churches, Eswatini Cannabis Association (ECA), Business Eswatini, University of Eswatini (UNESWA), Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Truck Logistics, Traditional Healers Organisation, Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) Anti-Drug Unit, World Health Organization (WHO), Attorney General's office and rep-



MEETING: Ministry of Health PS Dr. Simon Zwane.

representatives from the different government ministries.

These stakeholders expressed their different opinions on the cannabis

regulations draft when they were invited by the ministry to comment after going through the draft. Principal Secretary (PS) in the

Ministry of Health Dr. Simon Zwane said this was the last meeting with cannabis stakeholders.

They were mandated to consult with relevant people, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

He noted that many were interested but they did not really understand what it was all about.

"It's not everyone who will be licensed for cannabis growing, but those who meet all the requirements.

"There is actually a lot of enthusiasm amongst some people, as they think that we are granting licences, when the truth is that after this we will take it to the AG's office before Parliament passes it into a law," Dr Zwane said.

## Our members grow dagga - League of Churches

ESWATINI League of Churches member Qaba Dlamini says they are not ignorant of the fact that some of their members make a living through dagga farming.

Dlamini said some have been arrested for dagga possession. He wondered why, under this draft, people who have been charged with the illegal possession of the herb are not eligible to apply for the licence. Bhekiwe Zwane, from Directorate of Public Prosecutions office, emphasised on the need for education and sensitisation on these regulations so that people would know that it was still illegal to either grow dagga or be found in its possession.

Dlamini said foreign companies should be urged to partner with locals to empower them. He alleged that research has shown that preference be given to foreigners and the country's laws accommodated foreigners more than Emaswati.

## Industrial aspect should be considered - ECA

THE use of cannabis goes beyond medicinal and research purposes.

Lusolotja Ginindza, a member of ECA, said there was a need for the ministry of health to look into other products that could be made from dagga, including bricks, clothing apparel and food supplements.

He pleaded that they should consider this a source of income and wondered what the ministry was doing to retain the expertise that is already known by the country's citizens. Ginindza added that there is need for an intense education exercise outside the ministry of health so that

people in the most remote of places could access the information and make decisions from an informed perspective.

Tinyanga Healers Organisation President Dr. Nhlavana Maseko applauded the formation and registration of the Eswatini Cannabis Association, and jokingly suggested that they form a partnership, calling it the Cannabis Development Council (CDC). Dr. Maseko added that value chains should be clearly listed so that Emaswati benefit. He said these include cultivation, processing, packaging and transportation.

## EDUCATION PS NOT PLEASED

PRINCIPAL Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Training Dr. Sibongile Mtshali says there could have been a better angle of introducing the cannabis consultations because once people hear the word dagga, they perceive it as smoking.

She said the extracts of cannabis oil for medicinal use could have been brought in a different mode, such as tablets.

"We have sold the future of this country, as the agenda is now more on money making processes than the children who are the future. Our children in schools will value growing cannabis more than education because they will make money out of it. The value of the education system has really been downplayed," she said. Dr. Mtshali added that there are already cases in schools where children are involved in dagga trade as a money making venture, lending money to teachers; this is money they make, either through farming or working in the dagga farms. She



UNHAPPY: Ministry of Education and Training PS Dr. Sibongile Mtshali.

said her ministry looks at the social aspect and this has had a negative social impact. This will lead to schools not being manageable, as there is violence in the schools where these children are enrolled. Absalom Msibi said the abuse of dagga as a drug could be minimised and violence decreased if the church is involved. He encouraged all stakeholders to hold hands and speak in one voice, united.



## Dr. Nhlavana Maseko condemns lack of communication

PRESIDENT of the Traditional Healers Organisation Dr. Nhlavana Maseko has condemned the lack of communication from the ministry of health.

He said they wanted to contribute and work together with the ministry but there was non communication.

Dr Maseko said he had previously presented documents to the previous Parliament on dagga and these were never returned. He then wondered why the ministry wanted to hilitically own this exercise, as if they are the ones who started it as this was an indigenous system that had been used by forefathers.

## DECENTRALISATION PROCESS POSTPONED FOR NOW

GOING to the different regions, seeking comments from the nation on the cannabis regulations draft, has been postponed.

The first session, which was slated for tomorrow at Gbolondlo,

has been postponed to a later date.

PS Dr. Simon Zwane said this was because the House of Assembly wanted to be part of the exercise, as they are the ones who work with chiefs and their subjects. "The mem-

bers of Parliament want to be part of this exercise, hence the need for a postponement. We requested our portfolio committee to communicate with us when they start so that we join them as we started this,"

he said. He then urged the public to write their comments in the government website or email them to;

[Smz1157@gmail.com](mailto:Smz1157@gmail.com)  
[fortunatebhembe@gmail.com](mailto:fortunatebhembe@gmail.com)  
[zandi\\_mkwana@yahoo.com](mailto:zandi_mkwana@yahoo.com)

## SIGNATURE



DONE DEAL: World Vision Country Programme Director Francis Dube, Esicojeni Foundation Interim Chairman Mvuselelo Fakudze, Vice Chairperson Marjorie Balarin and Secretary General Sibusiso Gwadze signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) at Standard Bank boardroom yesterday. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

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# STOP ISSUING PERMITS IN DISHONEST MANNER - KOMBI ASSOCIATION

STORIES BY SANDILE NKAMBULE  
High Court

THE Swaziland Local Kombi Association (SLKA) has alleged that issuing of public transport permits by the Road Transportation Board (RTB) in an unscrupulous manner will result in chaos in the transport industry.

The association has further stated that it is not afraid of fair competition with members of the association but all they are seeking is that the law should be followed when granting permits.

This was a submission made by the Chairperson of the SLKA Thomas Mkhwanazi in his response through a supporting and explanatory affidavit filed at the High Court yesterday.

Making his submission in the urgent application that has been filed by Ding Dong Transport operator Jabulani Gulwako at the High Court, Mkhwanazi submitted that the RTB is supporting the applicant (Gulwako) in the matter not in pursuit of justice but in a misleading manner.

Gulwako has filed an urgent application at the High Court seeking an order interdicting SLKA or anyone acting on its behalf against preventing his bus from operating along the Mbabane, Mahlanga, Manzini route.

An interim order was last month issued by Judge Mzwandile Fakudze interdicting the association from preventing the bus from operating along this route.

Making submissions further, Mkhwanazi in his papers said the RTB and its appeals board should do an introspection as to whether they



**MAYHEM:** Royal Eswatini Police Service officers in the thick of things as they tried to dissolve the situation at the Mbabane bus rank recently. This was after conductors and marshals threatened to burn down the Ding Dong bus that had a new permit while the municipality had said the rank was full and there would be no new permits issued.

are still serving the interest of the public transport sector or against same.

"Should operators be allowed to obtain permits in an unscrupulous manner such would result in chaos. This matter clearly leaves the RTB with an egg on its face and what they ought to be requesting is that the matter returns to them to ensure they right all the wrongs they did," Mkhwanazi submitted. SLKA is represented by Mbabane based lawyer Sifiso 'Charlie' Jeje of Mbuso Simelane and Attorneys law firm in the matter. The chairperson further informed the court that the RTB is aware or ought to be aware that the central issue in the present proceedings is whether the applicant (Gulwako) has a valid

permit or not and argued that there is no evidence to the effect that the Mbabane station commander was made aware of the applicant and that the Municipal Council of Mbabane was ignored in this matter. He also submitted that there is no evidence brought before court to prove that the application for a public transport permit was advertised in any daily newspaper in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

There is also no evidence that the RTB fulfilled its mandatory duty to cause notice of the application to be published in a government gazette. He added that had such been published the SLKA would have objected to the granting of the permit. SLKA is therefore seeking an order that the application by Gulwako be dismissed with costs.

## Permit legitimate – Ding Dong bus owner

IN his application filed in court, Gulwako had submitted that the public transport permit alleged to have been obtained in an unscrupulous manner is in fact legitimate.

Gulwako had submitted that he underwent all the necessary processes to obtain the permit and there is nothing to

suggest that the permit is not authentic. In his application, he annexed all the documentation signed by the RTB and the permit in question, arguing that his buses are legitimately on the road.

Represented by MH Mdluli Attorneys, the applicant Gulwako stated that contrary to what the respondents are

saying, the Mbabane station commander and the Mbabane Municipal Council was made aware of the matter and the bus was further allocated a platform at the bus rank.

He submitted that the application for amendment of the permit was complied with prior to the hearing of the application by the RTB. He stated that the appeals board had recourse to the application to ensure that the preliminary requirements had been fulfilled.

The matter is before High Court Judge Mzwandile Fakudze and both parties argued after filing their heads of argument. Also before court was the issue of the violence at the Mbabane bus rank as Mkhwanazi had also submitted that while at a meeting at the Mbabane Police Station, he received a call to the effect that there was chaos at the bus rank and he immediately rushed there.

He submitted that upon arrival he found that the applicant's bus was being escorted by the police with people on board. This was after some conductors had blocked the entrance and exit points, stating in no uncertain terms that the only vehicle to use the bus rank would be that of the applicant.



### VACANCIES

On behalf of our client in the hospitality industry in Mbabane we hereby invite applications from suitable and qualifying candidates meeting the criteria below for the specified vacancies to be part of a dynamic and results driven team.

#### Key Skills, Attributes

Leadership Skills, Problem Solving Capability, Results Orientated, Good Interpersonal Skills, High Integrity, Team Player, Negotiation Skills, Business Acumen and Attention to Detail.

#### HOSPITALITY AND RESORT MANAGER

##### Summary of Main Duties:

- Ensure that the company strategy is implemented
- Ensure that written company policies, procedures, and standards of conduct are adhered to by hotel staff.
- Ensure the customer relations function which includes but is not limited to; dealing with guests and employees while exercising empathy, professionalism, respect, and clarity.
- Prepare operational reports and analyses setting forth progress and adverse trends and make appropriate recommendations.
- Ensure hygiene and food standards are achieved.
- Oversee all food preparation areas which include but is not limited to; banquets, room service, restaurants, bar/lounge, and employee cafeteria as well as all support areas.
- Assist in the procurement of the operating supplies and equipment and contracting with third-party vendors for essential equipment and services.

##### Qualification/Experience:

- Degree unrelated to the hotel environment preferably Culinary Arts, Hotel and Restaurant Management.
- Must have at least 5-6 years' experience in the hotel environment.
- Post graduate in a related field will be an added advantage.

#### EXECUTIVE CHEF FOOD AND BEVERAGE MANAGER

##### Summary of Main Duties:

- Ensure that written kitchen policies, procedures, and standards of conduct are adhered to by kitchen staff.
- Accountable for the overall success of the daily kitchen operations.
- Exhibits culinary talents by personally performing tasks while leading the staff and managing all food related functions.
- Ensure the customer relations function which includes but is not limited to; dealing with guests and employees while exercising empathy, professionalism, respect, and clarity.
- Coordinate all training activities for kitchen and service employees.
- Ensure hygiene and food standards are attained.
- Oversee all food preparation areas which include but is not

limited to; banquets, room service, restaurants, bar/lounge, and employee cafeteria as well as all support areas.

##### Qualification/Experience:

- Degree unrelated to the hotel environment preferably Culinary Arts, Hotel and Restaurant Management.
- Must have at least 5-6 years' experience in the hotel environment.
- Post graduate in a related field will be an added advantage.

#### ACCOUNTANT

##### Summary of Main Duties:

- Manage preparation of timely and accurate monthly / quarterly / annual statutory financial reports.
- Compilation and monitoring implementation of the hotel's budget.
- Supervise the finance and administration department.
- Compile month to month management reports.
- Compile annual financial statements for audit purposes.
- Supervise and manage office premises, equipment, and supplies.

##### Qualification/Experience:

- Degree in Accounting, 5 years' experience at least 2 years in a management position in a financial/audit environment; Knowledge of Pastel software packages.

#### MARKETING OFFICER

##### Summary of Main Duties:

- Develop and implement the hotel sales and marketing plan.
- Coordinate hotel sales and marketing initiatives.
- Formulate and monitor the budget and control the budget for the marketing plan.

##### Qualification/Experience:

- Degree in Marketing, Tourism or equivalent.
- At least 5 years' experience in the sales and marketing function, 2 years of which must have been at middle management.

##### How to apply:

Written applications together with a curriculum vitae and 3 traceable references should be emailed (please do not attach copies of qualification via email) to the address stated below saved for example as name&surname\_executive chef/ food and beverage manager, name&surname\_hospitality and resort manager, name&surname\_accountant or name&surname\_marketing officer and submitted by Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019 posted, emailed or hand delivered to:

The Recruitment Partner, LCC Capital Consulting, P. O. Box 3654, Mbabane 3rd Floor, Emforyeni Building, Mbabane  
Email: admin@lcc-capital.com

Doc:20929



SITEKI TOWN COUNCIL

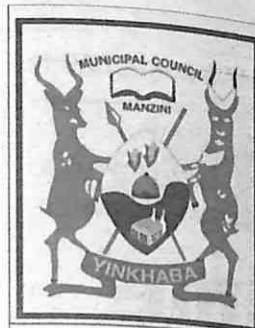
### DRAFT 2019/2020 VALUATION ROLL NOTICE

Siteki Town Council hereby issue a notice in terms of section 16 of the Rating Act of 1995 that:

- a copy of draft valuation roll is available and open for public inspection at the office of Siteki Town Council, and that any person may, free of charge, inspect it and take copies or extracts therefrom from 0800 hours to 1630 from Monday to Friday.
- local authority or the owner or occupier of any property included in such draft valuation roll, or their duly authorised representatives, may make an objection to any valuation, or in respect of any other error, omission or misdescription in such roll, in the case of -
  - a local authority, in respect of any property; and,
  - an owner or occupier of property, in respect of the property;
- Any Objections to the roll should be lodged within the town clerk on or before 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- Objectors should lodge their notices of objection in the prescribed form obtainable from Council offices and take note that no person is entitled to urge any objections before the valuation court unless a notice of objection is filed between 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and 14 June 2019.

Sithembile Simelane  
Town Clerk/ CEO

Doc:19155



# MANZINI NEWS

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



'manzini news'

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## EXCITING! CUSTOMERS NOTE IMPROVEMENT IN MANZINI'S SERVICE DELIVERY

...from previous score of 50%, Council gets 61.8% rating in recent customer satisfaction survey

Indications are that there is an improvement in the way that the Municipal Council of Manzini provides service to its customers.

A recent customer satisfaction survey which was conducted by Council indicates a satisfaction level of 61.8 percent on a number of services that the Municipality provides. This indicates an 11.8 percent improvement from the last survey which was conducted during the 2015/16 financial year. Interestingly, the survey results also highlight areas in which Council is presently not doing so well.

It is worth-mentioning that, through its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan, Council adopted a customer-centric approach with the view to meeting customer requirements and achieving greater service delivery satisfaction levels. One of the means to achieving that

goal was going to be through implementation of the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System which drives the culture of continuous service improvement and customer satisfaction within the organization.

The customer satisfaction survey is an exercise through which Council periodically measures the level of customer satisfaction on municipal services rendered. It also enables the Municipality to better understand its customers' requirements and further stimulate within the organization a culture of continuous improvement towards meeting those requirements. It also helps identify service delivery shortfalls in the city so that appropriate interventions can be solicited.

As part of the survey, a questionnaire was circulated during the 2018 Integrated Development Plan (IDP)

stakeholder submission meetings which were held in all 12 municipal wards. The questionnaire covered a number of service delivery aspects including township roads maintenance, maintenance of the road network in the Central Business District (CBD), management of overgrowth in the city, refuse collection in the city, street sweeping and cleanliness of streets, whether or not customers received feedback on requested services, adequacy and efficiency of available options for rates payment, maintenance of recreational parks, public toilet services, processing of building plans, special consent and rezoning applications, citywide health inspection services and the level of customer etiquette amongst employees of Council.

The survey results indicate that

municipal services that customers are most happy about are the adequacy and efficiency of available options for payment of rates and other services, customer care by employees, refuse collection as well as processing of building plans, special consent and rezoning applications.

The results of the survey further show that there is improvement required in the areas of street sweeping, citywide health inspections, maintenance of public toilets, maintenance of recreational parks as well as provision of feedback on requested services.

Where Council was rated lowly is in the area of maintenance of township roads, maintenance of roads in the Central Business District and management of overgrowth.

### ...CUSTOMER RATINGS ON COUNCIL SERVICES

SERVICE OFFERING	SATISFACTION RATE (%)
Options for payment of rates and other services	80
Customer care by employees	78.4
Refuse collection	76.6
Processing of building plan, special consent & rezoning applications	72.3
Street sweeping	68.7
Citywide health inspections	64.7
Public toilet services	56.4
Maintenance of recreational parks	55.8
Provision of feedback on requested services	54.9
Management of overgrowth	47.6
Maintenance of roads in the Central Business District	46.6
Maintenance of roads in the townships	39.5

### ...STEPS TO BE TAKEN GOING FORWARD

In light of the outcome of the customer satisfaction survey, the Municipal Council of Manzini has set out to carryout a number of interventions that are aimed at improving on the services that were lowly rated in terms of customer satisfaction. The following are some of the activities that will be undertaken in order to achieve the organizational goal of continuous improvement:

- Investigate the root causes for the lowly rated services and devise innovative strategies in order to achieve improvement
- Undertake continual training on good customer service as the organization's desire is to score 100% satisfaction on this aspect
- Establishment of a customer service team that will monitor and advise departments on areas of service improvements
- Introduction of an overall organizational monitoring and evaluation system

## ...GLOBAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS LEARN FROM COUNCIL

A group of 15 students studying Health and Safety Management at the Global University College in Manzini recently had an insightful field trip to the Municipal Council of Manzini as part of the requirements for their course. The students were interested in food safety (food grading), waste management and landfill operations, building designs and construction, food

sampling and laboratory testing. As part of their tour, they visited the Council laboratory and landfill where they had the opportunity to learn how these facilities operate. They were also taken to one of the leading supermarkets in Manzini wherein they learnt how the food grading exercise is conducted. One of the Council building inspectors also took them on site where they learnt how building inspections are

carried out. The students expressed gratitude to Council for allowing them an opportunity to gain practical experience on these aspects of their study. They expressed that the Municipal Council of Manzini had indeed proven that it cared about the success of the education sector and the future of the youth of Manzini. The following pictures were taken during the visit...



CHECK LIST- the students being taken through a practical exercise on how to conduct health inspections in food establishments.



CONSTRUCTION SITE TOUR - the students receiving a briefing from an on-site Safety Officer in one of the exciting structures that are coming up in the city centre.



HOW WASTE IS MANAGED - A section of the students listening to a presentation at the Council Chamber regarding waste management in the vibrant City of Manzini.



ALWAYS BE ON PROTECTIVE GEAR - Manzini Council Building Inspector Mbuso Magongo explaining how building inspections are carried out.



HYGIENIC RESTAURANT - Health Inspector Zama Mavuso and the students inspecting a kitchen prep area in one of the supermarkets in Manzini.

READ THE OBSERVER EVERY WEDNESDAY FOR MANZINI NEWS



**THE YOUNG SHALL GROW:** A puppy learning the bad straying tricks along the Extension 3 streets yesterday. This is another location in Mbabane is greatly affected by stray dogs. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

## Four men attack, rob woman cellphone

BY VUYILE DLAMINI  
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A woman lives to tell the tale of how she managed to fight off four men who attacked her demanding her cellphone at Corporation, Mbabane.

According to Khanyisile Dlamini's recollection of the incident during the trial against Bayandza Sibandze and Zamokuhle Ngwenya, who were said to be two of the four men, she was walking home on the evening of February 16 when she was attacked.

"I was walking home from Mncitsini with my three sisters, as we had gone to borrow some pots for a wedding that took place the following day.

"As I was walking further ahead of my sisters, I came across four men, who seemed to be heading straight for me. I did not have time to run when the four men demanded that I hand over my cellphone," she said.

Dlamini said the men did not even wait for her to take her phone out, when all four of them launched a

barrage of punches all over her body.

"All of them began punching me, and when I tried to duck, they continued to punch my hand away. I even struggled to take my phone out as they would hit my hands. As I attempted to throw my phone on the roof of a nearby home, it landed within that home's yard.

"Two of the men stopped attacking me and headed towards the direction where I threw the phone, while the others continued assaulting me."

"After several cries for help, Dlamini's sisters came running towards them and they managed to overpower one assailant, capturing him in the process. They then proceeded to the police station, where the assailant was arrested and charged with robbery.

During the court proceedings, when asked to identify the assailants Dlamini managed to capture with her sisters, she positively identified Bayandza Sikhondze as a suspect.

The matter was then postponed for the continuation of the trial on May 28.

# Convicted human trafficker appeals 15-year jail time

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE  
High Court

**YET another person has been convicted by the country's courts for human trafficking, and has been sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.**

Agrippa Makhiligi Shongwe of Hluthi has been found guilty by the Nhlanguano Magistrate's Court and has been booked as His Majesty's guest at the Matsapha Maximum Correctional facility, where he is doing time for the offence.

Shongwe is a mine worker based at Mandebelt Mine in the Republic of South Africa.

Shongwe has noted an appeal against the 15-year sentence at the High Court, and has filed an urgent application seeking an order directing the Nhlanguano Magistrate's Court clerk to transmit the record of proceedings to the High Court.

Represented by Mbabane-based lawyer Noncedo Ndlangamandla of Mabila Attorneys in Association with N Ndlangamandla, Shongwe, in his urgent bail application, submitted that he was arrested by the Hluthi police in a charge of human trafficking and was subsequently arraigned before the Nhlanguano Magistrate's Court.

He submitted that on April 18, 2019, he appeared for trial before the same court, and was convicted by Magistrate Florence Msibi on one count of human trafficking and one count of smuggling.

After conviction, he submitted that he was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment without an option to pay a fine on

... "I am currently serving at the Matsapha Maximum Prison and am desirous of noting an appeal against my conviction and sentence, but to date the record of proceedings has still not been transmitted to the High Court, my attorneys have attempted to have same located but in vain hence the present application"



each count and the sentences were ordered to run consecutively.

"I am currently serving at the Matsapha Maximum Prison and am desirous of noting an appeal against my conviction and sentence, but to date the record of proceedings has still not been transmitted to the High Court, my attorneys have attempted to have same located but in vain hence the present application," he submitted.

He brought to the attention of the court that he is unable to even note the appeal in the absence of the record of proceedings, arguing that time is not on his side as the time to note the appeal will

lapse.

He is seeking the High Court's assistance in granting an order directing the first respondent (Clerk of Court) to transcribe the record of proceedings and transmit same to the High Court within 14 days to ensure his appeal is enrolled, possibly in the third session of the High Court.

He pleaded with the court to grant him the order, as his job is at stake since he is employed as a miner in Mandebelt in the Republic of South Africa, adding that his continued incarceration may result in him losing his job.

He stated that the interests of justice clearly favour that he be afforded the relief sought in the notice of his application, as he cannot be afforded the substantial redress at a hearing in due course and in particular because there is no prejudice to be suffered by the respondents.

Shongwe averred that he has been advised and verily believes that matters pertaining to personal liberty are by their very nature urgent, hence he has moved the present application through a certificate of urgency, adding that it is stressful to be in custody not knowing his fate.

## Regional consultation concluded successfully in Eswatini

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**CHIEF negotiators from different countries concluded a series of successful meetings in the country.**

European Union (EU) Chief Negotiators Neven Mimica and Robert Dussey met with African ministers to discuss the African pillar of the future partnership between the EU and 79 countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP).

As with other regional consultations held in the Pacific and the Caribbean regions, the objective was to discuss specific needs and priorities of the region, while exploring how to best address them in the future ACP-EU agreement. The discussion, which took place on Friday, was expected to fuel and enrich the tailor-made Africa pillar to be created within the future ACP-EU agreement, also known as the 'Post-Cotonou' agreement.

EU Chief Negotiator, Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Mimica, said: "Today's meeting has given us a strong basis and political direction on how to reinforce EU-Africa relations under our future agreement.

"We believe that further driving economic growth to improve people's lives and reduce poverty should be at the heart of our work. Other priorities include promoting democratic principles, while

### ABOUT THE COTONOU AGREEMENT

THE Cotonou Agreement currently governing EU-ACP relations, according to the statement is due to expire in 2020. Negotiations on a new ACP-EU Partnership were launched in New York on September 28, 2018 in the margins of the United Nations General Assembly. The two first series of talks mainly focused on the common foundation at EU-ACP level. This contains the values and principles that bring the EU and ACP countries together. It also indicates the strategic priority areas that the two sides intend to prospectively

protecting our citizens and our environment."

The just completed consultation for the Africa region adds to the outcome of consultations for the Caribbean and the Pacific, which have helped us understand better the priorities of the ACP regions.

This is critically important in the context of current negotiations for a new ACP-EU Partnership Agreement.

"We remain focussed on working with our EU partners to address the priorities of the three regions," EU said in a statement.

Speaking on behalf of Eswatini, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Thuli Dladla said the country is honoured and proud, as lead negotiator for the Africa Protocol and host

work on together. The envisaged structure of the future agreement includes a common foundation and specific, action-oriented regional pillars, to focus on each region's needs.

To that end, the first round of consultations on the regional pillars is now concluded. Through the future, EU and ACP countries will seek closer political cooperation on the world stage. Together, they represent more than half of all UN member countries and unite over 1.5 billion people.



**WE ARE HONoured:** Minister of Home Affairs Thuli Dladla.

to the concluded consultations, to have facilitated the expression of Africa's strategic priorities which has set the stage for real engagement to reach a mutually beneficial agreement with the European Union.

## BODY PARTS CENTRE & SPARES

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- Scania.....	E3200.00
- Mercedes Actros / HINO.....	E1900.00
- Iveco / M.A.N. F90 / M.A.N. TG / M.A.N. F2000 / E2000.....	E2200.00

### SERVICE KITS

- Toyota Corolla/Runx.....	E499.00
- Toyota Hilux D4D.....	E599.00
- Nissan Almera/ Sunny/ Primera.....	E499.00
- Honda Jazz.....	E650.00
- Iveco / M.A.N. F90 / M.A.N. TG / M.A.N. F2000 / E2000.....	E2200.00

### Windscreens Specials



All Prices Include VAT...  
FREE FITTING



Ministry of Health



World Health Organization

Eswatini

# THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) CONGRATULATES ALL IMMUNIZATION HEROES



First EPI manager Ms Hilda Mdluli's (late) children collecting the award on her behalf

**T**he World Health Organization (WHO) congratulates all Immunization Heroes who were honoured by the Ministry of Health during the launch of the African Vaccination Week (AVW) at Kwaluseni Inkhundla on Tuesday 30 April 2019.

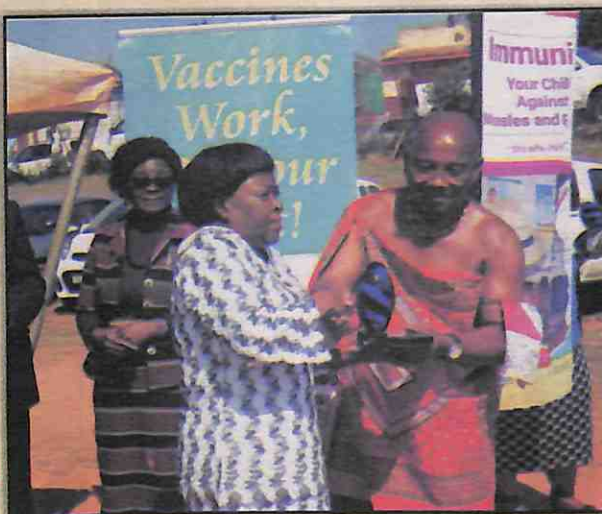
*Protected Together  
#Vaccines Work!*



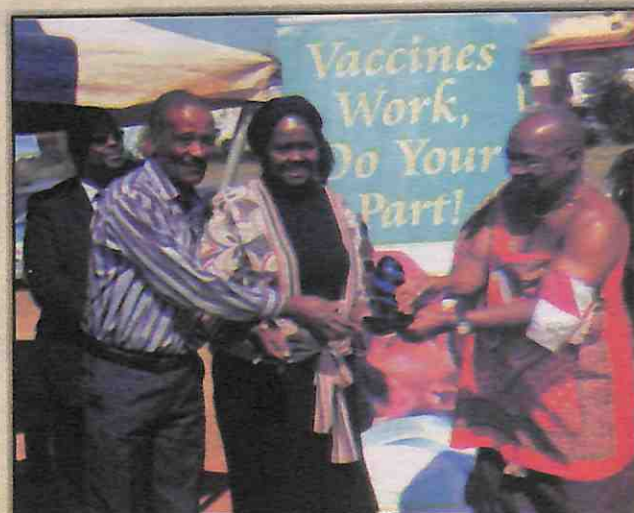
Former EPI Manager Ms Mavis Nxumalo



Former EPI Manager Ms Philile Shabangu



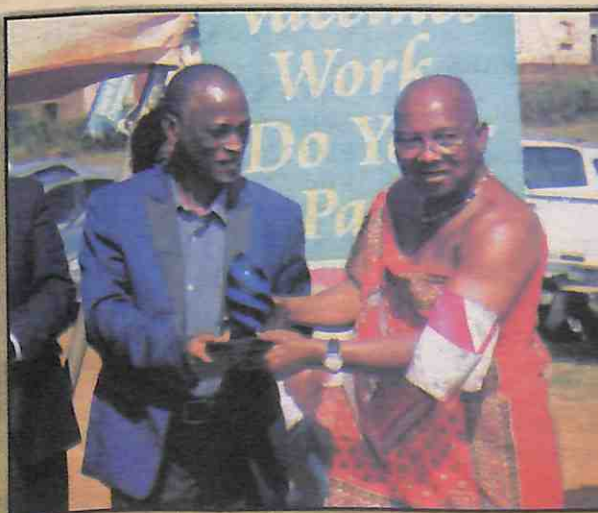
Former EPI Manager Ms Nomsa Dube's (late) mother Catherine



Former Save the Children Fund Director William Msibi's children



Former EPI Cold Chain Technician Victor Matsenjwa



Former EPI Cold Chain Technician Joseph Dlamini



Former Rural Health Motivators (Bagcugcuteli) Manager Elizabeth Tenteleni Mndzebele

## Certificates of recognition

Shiselweni Regional Health Management Team,  
Manzini Regional Health Management Team,  
Lubombo Regional Health Management Team

Hhohho Regional Health Management Team, Rural  
Health Motivators program, Eswatini Broadcasting  
and Information Services,

Voice of the Church  
Swazi Observer, Times of Swaziland, Eswatini TV,  
Channel Yemaswati

# Limkokwing student nabbed for rape of 'girlfriend' (11)

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE  
High Court

A Limkokwing University of Creative Technology student has been arrested for allegedly raping a 11-year-old girl, whom he says is his 'girlfriend.'

The student, whose name has been deliberately withheld for ethical reasons, on Monday filed an urgent application for bail at the High Court as he wants out of jail since he wants to continue with his studies.

Appearing before Judge Mumcy Dlamini, the student, who was represented by Manzini-based Lawyer Khumbulani Msibi of Dlamini, Kunene Attorneys, was granted bail fixed at E50 000 by the court.

He was, however, ordered to pay E5 000 in cash and E45 000 shall be in the form of surety.

According to the charge sheet, the student is charged with the offence of

contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act of 2018, in that he raped the 11-year-old girl, who, by age, is incapable of consenting to sexual intercourse.

Aggravating the circumstances are that during the commission of the crime, he did not use a condom exposing the minor to sexually transmitted diseases.

According to the 28-year-old student, in his affidavit filed before court, he did not commit the offence he is charged with.

In fact, the student submitted that the 11-year-old girl is his girlfriend, whom he has a love relationship with.

He further submitted that he did not commit the offence of rape, but his girlfriend consented to the sexual intercourse.

"I did not commit the offence of rape, but what happened is that we had consensual sexual intercourse with the complainant, who is my girlfriend as we have a love relationship, I must state at this point that we have differ-

ences with the mother of the complainant and she used her daughter to get back at me by framing me in the rape charge," the student submitted.

He pleaded with the court to admit him to bail and stated that he will not abscond trial since he is a student at Limkokwing and wants to continue with his studies until graduation, thereon.

He submitted that he has never committed any crime, and that he is not out on bail for any crime-related matter.

Furthermore, he submitted that upon being admitted to bail, he shall reside at a place far away from where the complainant is, and will not tamper with any of the Crown witnesses, which to this stage are unknown to him.

The Crown was represented by Ayanda Matsenjwa in the matter while the student was represented by Msibi and the student has been warned to appear for his remands at the Magistrate's Court pending setting of his trial date.

## Herd-boy sentenced to 15 years no fine for raping child (7)

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

A herd-boy who was arrested for raping a seven-year-old child has been sentenced to 15 years imprisonment without an option of a fine.

Sabelo Ngozo (26) of Mangcongco area was sentenced by Manzini Principal Magistrate David Khumalo.

The accused was facing a charge of rape, in that while hired to look after cattle at a certain homestead, he raped the child several times without her consent.

The court was informed of how the accused person would lure his victim by calling her into his house after promising her that there were sweets he had bought for her and letting her watch cartoons on his phone.

During trial, it also surfaced that the accused once bought the child a T-shirt and informed her not to tell anyone about the rape ordeal.

It is said the mother of the child noted that there was something wrong with her daughter.

The mother is said to have then questioned the child on what was

wrong with her.

She told the mother about her being raped by the herd-boy. It is then that she was taken to hospital for medical examination.

During trial the accused maintained his plea of not guilty, saying he never raped the child.

Evidence brought to court proved that the accused committed the offence.

When asked why she never reported the matter, the victim informed the court that she was afraid that her grandmother would beat her up.

### Examination

The accused person, during cross examination, informed the court that he never at any point lay his hands on the complainant nor did he threaten her.

The prosecutor presented evidence showing that the accused person had previous criminal records, as he was once sentenced to 13 years imprisonment for rape.

The principal magistrate sentenced the accused to 15 years imprisonment without a fine option. The sentence was set to run after the accused finishes his initial 13 year sentence first.

## Woman facing SODV charge cautioned, released

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI  
Siteki

A woman who was facing a charge of contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act of 2018 after brutally stabbing her lover got out lightly after the court cautioned and discharged her.

Nonhlanhla Nkambule (24) of KaLanga was appearing before Senior Magistrate Donald Mavuso, where she was said to have contravened Section 77(1) of the said Act.

She was said to have wrongfully and unlawfully assaulted Musa Hlatjwako, by stabbing him with a sharp object several times in the head.

The two were said to have been in an intimate relationship at the time of commission of the offence.

### Offence

According to the Act, this amounts to a more serious offence than the ordinary assault charge.

When the charge sheet was read to her, the accused person pleaded guilty to the offence.

Despite that the complainant was said to have sustained serious injuries, the accused person's plea was accepted by the Crown without leading evidence to prove commission of the offence.

The complainant, who was also present when the matter was brought to court, had visible injuries on the head.

During mitigation, the accused

person asked the court to be lenient when passing sentence, saying she did not commit the offence intentionally.

She told the court that for some time, the complainant has been abusive to her.

The accused stated that her relationship with the complainant was always filled with drama, as he would beat her up each time they had a disagreement.

She said on the day of the incident, the complainant splashed her with beer, while they were at one of the drinking halls in Siteki.

"I felt like I could no longer take any more of the abuse, and I reacted violently at this instance," said the accused person, as she wept hysterically throughout the presentation of her evidence.

### Beer

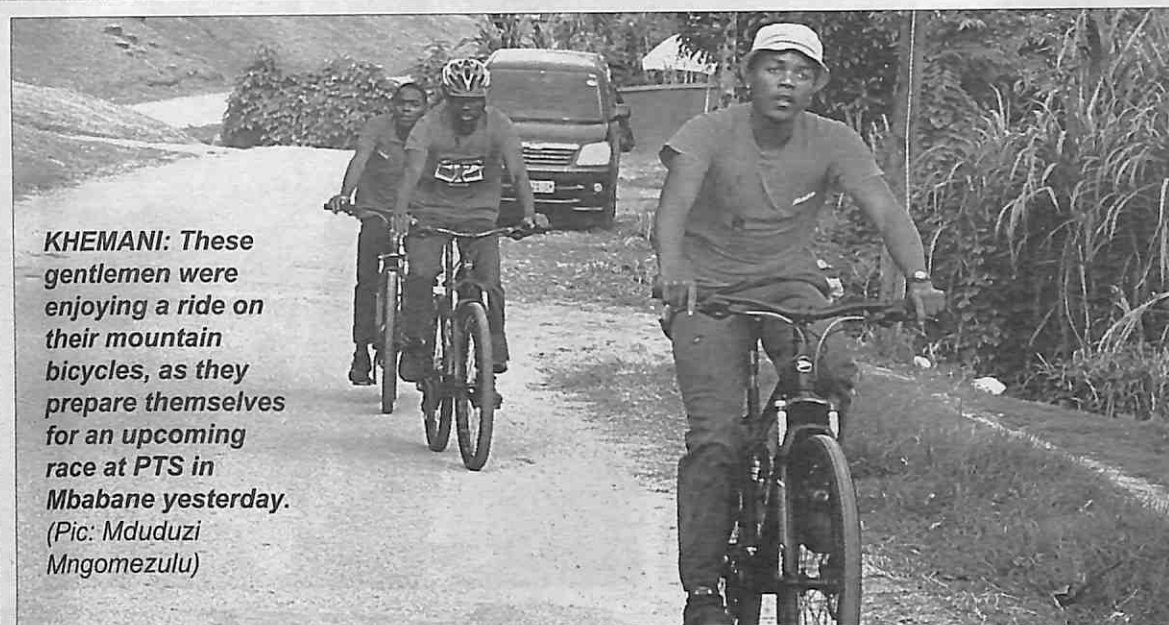
She admitted to have picked up a broken beer bottle and used it to stab the complainant several times in the head.

The accused person alleged that before losing her cool, she had been reporting the abusive nature of her boyfriend to her family.

She said, however, the complainant had no regard of her family and continued to treat her in an abusive manner.

The accused was accordingly found guilty by the court. On sentencing, the accused person was only cautioned and discharged.

The court warned her to refrain from reacting violently to her lover as the SODV Act has made such behaviour to be a serious offence.



**KHEMANI:** These gentlemen were enjoying a ride on their mountain bicycles, as they prepare themselves for an upcoming race at PTS in Mbabane yesterday.  
(Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

## Matsapha Town Council owed E9 million in rates

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**TROUBLE-riddled Matsapha Town Council is owed over E9 million in rates.**

The exact amount is E9 759 917. The town council is fresh from having its councillors dismissed by Minister of Housing and Urban Development Prince Simelane.

The town council has released a long list of ratepayers, who are in arrears.

The ratepayers have been informed to settle their debts within 14 days.

The municipality made it clear that failure to do so, would result in the municipality approaching the court, where it will seek an order for the properties in arrears to be sold by public auction.

Matsapha ratepayers are not happy with the report that they owe about E9 million in rates to the Matsapha Town Council.

This is because, according to some concerned ratepayers, the calculations are not accurate.

### SOME OF THOSE IN ARREARS

NAME	AMOUNT DUE
T.Q.M Textile (Swaziland)	E498 626
Swaziland National Housing Board	E167 226
B and W Investment	E165 220
Peka (Pty) Ltd	E158 415
Kirk Thomas Moore Carl	E28 952
Diesel Services	E105 834
GHB Properties	E624 906
Spintex Swaziland	E209 998
Central Bank of Eswatini	E2 087

The ratepayers said there had been a lot of irregularities in Matsapha, which needs to be fixed first. Some of the ratepayers said they noted that it was said they owe more than what they are supposed to pay.

When contacted about the matter, Matsapha Ratepayers Association Chairman Steven Motsa said he was aware of the released list.

He said it is still too early for him to make a comment on behalf of the association because they are yet to meet with members and discuss the issue.

Motsa said, however, personally he is not happy with the figures, as it is not

a true reflection of what he has to pay.

Among some of those owing the rates are TQM Textile Swaziland (PTY) Limited, which used to be one of the country's largest textile firms, the textile firm, which was sold to a South Africa-based company is owing E498 626 to the Matsapha Town Council. Eswatini Housing Board, on the other hand, is alleged to owe about E167 226 while Spintex owes E209 998.

Matsapha Town Council Chief Executive Officer Lucky Sukati urged owing ratepayers to make sure that they settle their bills before the stipulated deadline date.

# PSAs PURPORTED STRIKE ACTION AWAITING JUDGMENT

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**PUBLIC Sector Associations (PSAs) will soon know their fate on whether they could go ahead with the planned strike action which was supposed to take place in January.**

On Monday, PSAs were informed that the court will issue judgment in due course after hearing arguments from both parties.

The arguments which took place on Monday

at the Industrial Court follow several postponements on the case.

On April 30, government's lawyer Attorney General Sifiso Khumalo, is said to have conceded to have been in receipt of a correspondence from the PSA's counsel on the issues currently under the court's adjudication.

The court proceedings were postponed to last Thursday at 1430hrs to allow further consultations and consideration of positions on the variables at play. This week, the case continued in court and government maintained its stand inter-

dicting the PSAs from proceeding with their strike which was supposed to take place on January 23.

## Freedom

Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) members hope government will lose so that they could continue with the strike action. "The courts of the land have automatically become struggle sites for us as workers.

"Let us relentlessly fight for our economic freedom not as a matter of choice but rather as means for survival," SNAT said in a statement.

PSAs, which were expected to take part in the strike earlier this year include SNAT, the Swaziland National Association of Government Accounting Personnel (SNAGAP), the Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU), and the National Public Service and Allied Workers Union (NAPSAWU).

## Consider

The strike was stopped following a stern warning from Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini that government employees who wanted to take part should consider a number of factors, including risking their jobs.

"Employment is not protected and employees who take part in an unlawful strike action will face disciplinary proceedings and be liable on conviction to be dismissed," the PM said in a statement.

He further pointed out that the principle of no-work-no pay shall apply to any employee engaged in the strike action, including those who will not report for work, employees who will report to work and fail to attend to their duties and those who will report to work and restrict the output of their work in any way.

## Fountain of Life to defend rights of people with disability

BY NOMY NYANDZENI  
Mbabane

**PEOPLE with disabilities in Eswatini will be launching an organisation called Fountain of Life Centre for Independent Living Organisation on Saturday at Prince of Wales Sports Ground.**

Founder and Director of the Fountain of Life Centre for Independent Living Organisation Joyce Nuun said this is a new initiative in the country that will defend the rights of people with disabilities.

She said Fountain covered all people with disabilities, regardless of how.

"The main objective of this day is to assemble people with disabilities and help them to help themselves, and be able to live an independent life," she said.

She said during the launch, there would be an art festival where the people with disabilities would be showcasing their talent.

The festival will be themed 'Support My Ability'. She said their aim was to teach disabled people to live an independent life because they have seen them struggling when they have no guardian.



SITEKI TOWN COUNCIL

## GENERAL NOTICE NO: \_\_1\_\_ OF 2019 THE TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1961 (Act No. 45 of 1961)

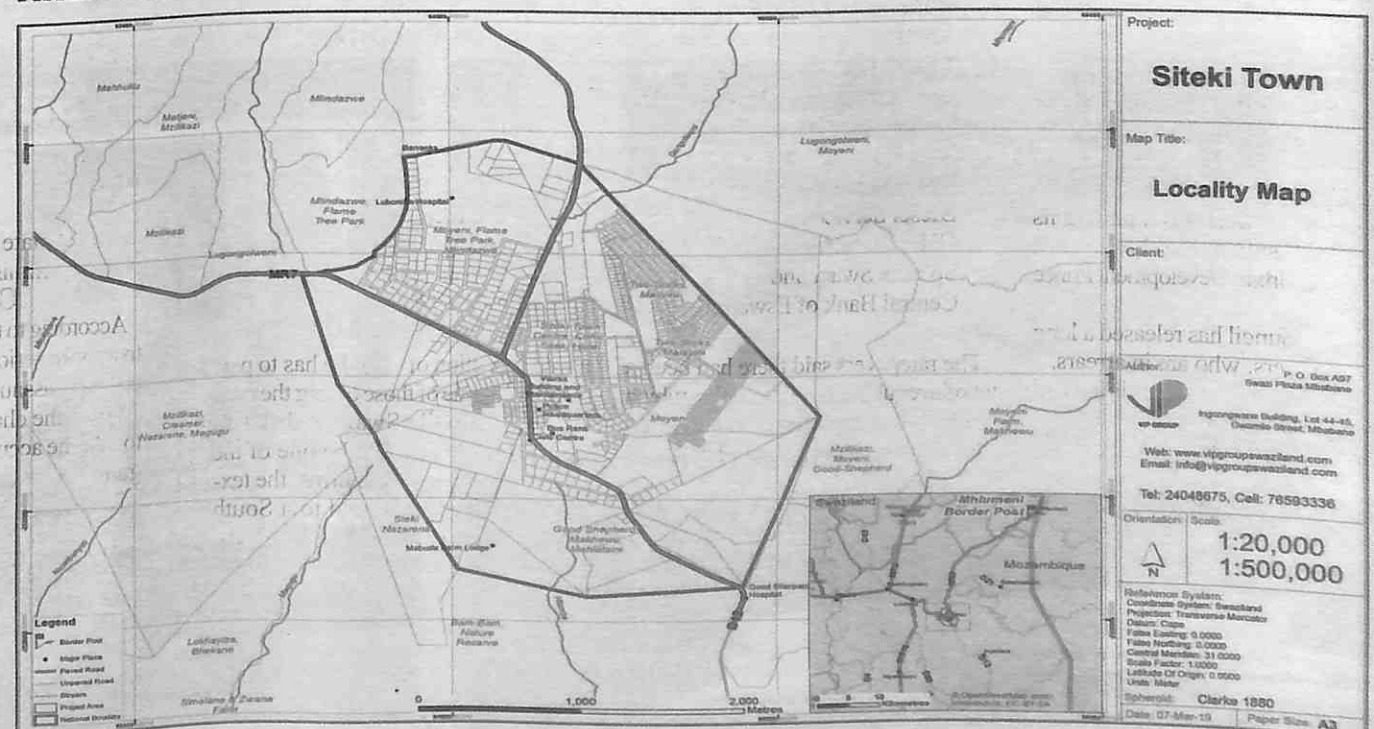
### NOTICE ON THE PREPARATION OF THE SITEKI TOWN PLANNING SCHEME FOR THE SITEKI TOWN COUNCIL (Under Section 10)

Notice is hereby issued, by the Siteki Town Council, informing and advising the General Public that the Minister for Housing and Urban Development has granted Council authority to embark upon the process of preparation of a Town planning Scheme for the Siteki Urban Area. The Town Planning Scheme which aims to regulate physical development in an attempt to ensure harmonious development of the built environment will be applicable and binding to the entire Siteki Urban Area and its residents.

The Town Council has engaged for period of twelve (12) months beginning from February 2019 to January 2020 a Consultant by the name of VIP Property Planning Consultants Pty Ltd to prepare the Scheme. Council pleads with all stakeholders in Government, Public Utility Agencies, Institutions, the Private Sector and the General Public to welcome this consultant during their consultation and research process, and to provide them with all the necessary and relevant information that will help inform the Scheme in Preparation for the benefit of the proper physical development of the Siteki Urban Area and its surroundings.

A map indicating the area to be covered by the Scheme is attached to this notice and can also be viewed at the Siteki Town Council offices, Plot 93-94, Jacaranda Road at any given time during the working hours.

### AREA TO BE COVERED BY THE TOWN PLANNING SCHEME IN PREPARATION



S.V. SIMELANE  
TOWN CLERK/ CEO

Doc19156

## LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Justice Conference Room on the **28 May 2019** starting at **09.00 am**.

### Region Hhohho

1. Mauriswazi Invesments, P. O. Box 2627 Manzini **grant** of a **Restaurant** Liquor Licence situated at Farm 158 Ezulwini known as **Woodlands Restaurant**.

Any person who wishes to lodge an objection to the above-mentioned application may do so with the Secretary of the Liquor Licensing Board in writing, sending a copy to the applicant by registered mail to reach him/her at least ten days before the sitting of the Board.

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING  
BOARD  
P.O. BOX 451  
MBABANE

Rn167573

# WE WILL NOT ALLOW CONDOMS IN SCHOOLS

STORIES BY SIFISO NHLABATSI  
Mbabane

**MINISTER of Education and Training Lady Howard-Mabuza says they will not allow the distribution of condoms in schools.**

This comes after reports that government is committed to ensuring reproductive health commodity security for a 111 Emaswati to be able to choose, obtain, and use quality contraceptives and other reproductive health commodities, whenever and wherever they need them.

The ministry of education has made it clear that it will not allow condoms to be distributed to schools.

According to a Quantification of Family Planning Commodities report for April 2016 to March 2019, access

to a reliable supply of contraceptives, condoms, medicines and equipment is fundamental to all sexual and reproductive health programming and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Responding to questions from this publication, Minister of Education said condom distribution in schools is

not something that Emaswati would be happy about.

She said condoms should be distributed in homes, because sex happened at homes.

The minister said

if government could give the go-ahead on condom distribution in schools, it would be problematic because it will be more like they are encouraging pupils to engage in sex.

*"Utobese umsola ngani lomunye umntfwana nasekalele nalomunye*

*leskolweni because ngitsi lestobe sinnike lama condom,"* the minister said.

She said if there is a debate that pupils are already engaging in sex at schools, then condoms must be given to parents so that they could be the ones who talk to their children instead of shifting the responsibility to government.

## Engaging

Other stakeholders in the health sector had differing views on the subject.

Meanwhile, Minister of Health Lizzy Nkosi said they were engaging in sexual reproductive health rights education in schools working together with the department of education.

Meanwhile, Eswatini Principals Association (EPA) President Welcome Mhlanga said as EPA their position regarding the matter would be that it is a societal issue so needs to be discussed by different constituencies.

"As an organisation, we cannot pronounce a position on the issue. We can only emphasise that schools are learning institutions and our mandate is to teach.

"As this is a policy matter, government can make a pronouncement after due process," Mhlanga said.

## 'Ministry of health must be clear on abortion protocol'

FLAS has also called for the ministry of health to be clear on the protocol regarding abortion.

FLAS Communications Officer Maxwell Dlamini said they strive for a society where Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights are respected, supported and protected. He said these rights included the right of women to make their own choices about their bodies.

Dlamini said currently, the national law allows for safe abortion services on medical or therapeutic grounds, in cases of incest, rape, unlawful sexual intercourse with a mentally retarded female or as parliament may prescribe.

He said, however, those women and girls who become pregnant under these conditions are not able to access safe abortion services due to the absence of a clear protocol. He said this is a violation of human rights and as FLAS, they call upon the ministry of health to urgently put in place this protocol, whose absence has contributed immensely to the high incidence of unsafe abortions.

Dlamini said comprehen-



**CLEAR: FLAS Communications Officer Maxwell Dlamini.**

sive abortion care will put women and girls in control of where, when and how they can terminate their pregnancy.

This should be done with view to address structural barriers to the attainment of health rights for women and girls in a bid to develop rights driven health service delivery, which enhances the right to health for all.

The association strongly advocates that discussions with relevant stakeholders can have frank and open discussion in making sure that rights of women are respected, supported and protected including the right to safe abortion.

## 'Condoms should be readily accessible to young people'

**THE Family Life Association of Swaziland (FLAS), which is a non-governmental organisation, established in 1979, working in the area of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV with a special focus on young people aged 10-24 years, has a different view on the issue.**

Through its Youth Action Movement, FLAS has been engaged in numerous campaigns empowering communities, by ensuring that people, especially young people, enjoy their Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).

The Youth Action Movement has been hosting debates in schools on different topics on SRHR.

FLAS Communications Officer Maxwell Dlamini said condoms are a critical component in a comprehensive and sustainable approach to the prevention of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and are effective for preventing unintended pregnancies.

Dlamini said male and female condoms, both reduced the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and prevent

unintended pregnancy.

He said FLAS advocated that Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights information and services, including condoms, should be readily available and accessible to young people wherever they are to be able to make informed choices about their lives and bodies.

"FLAS acknowledges that schools are places for educational purposes and passing knowledge and information to young people, however, we believe that they can be used as a perfect platform to provide SRHR

services and information to young people with a view to prevent HIV and other sexually transmitted infections and preventing unintended pregnancies," he said.

He added that FLAS encouraged young people, parents, government and other stakeholders to engage in this particular matter to find a long lasting and mutually beneficial solution on it. He said the solution must be one that will allow distribution of these commodities in schools without compromising and eradicating the moral values and traditions of society, but acknowledge the need to save young people.

He said Eswatini can also learn from other countries, in the region, such as neighbouring Mozambique, where SRH, including HIV services, are provided in schools. Dlamini said, perhaps, making condoms freely available to young people in secondary schools could save the country from the pressing problem of teenage pregnancy. Worth noting is that during Geneva's first Global HIV Prevention Coalition meeting, the country received a standing ovation with condom forecasting, procurement and supply management systems which have improved accessibility.

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**'SHORT CUT'**

**INNOVATIVE: An empty crate came in handy here as the woman had to use it after having a challenge with her height while offloading stock at Total Filling Station yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)**



**POSE:** Minister of Foreign Affairs Thuli Dladla with Dazhu Yang flanked by Tinkhundla Minister David Ngcamphalala, Ambassador Zwelethu Mnisi and Legal Advisor at the ministry of foreign affairs Vuyile Dlamini with IAEA staff.

## ESWATINI SIGNS ITS FIRST COUNTRY PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK (CPF)

BY OBSERVER REPORTER  
MBABANE

MINISTER of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Senator Thuli Dladla and Dazhu Yang, IAEA Deputy Director General and Head of the Department of Technical Cooperation, signed the Kingdom of Eswatini's Country Programme Framework (CPF) for the period of 2019-2023 on Monday in Vienna, Austria.

A CPF is the frame of reference for the medium-term planning of technical cooperation between a member state and the IAEA and identifies priority areas where the transfer of nuclear technology and technical cooperation resources will be directed to support national development



**SIGNATURE:** Senator Thuli Dladla with Dazhu Yang IAEA, Deputy Director General and Head of Technical Cooperation signing the Country Programme Framework.



goals. Eswatini has been an IAEA Member State since 2013. Its 2019-

2023 CPF identifies five priority areas:

1. Nuclear and Radiation Safety;
2. Food and Agriculture;
3. Human Health and Nutrition;
4. Energy Planning; and
5. Water Resources Management.

### OUTDOOR SPECIALS

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 Wardrobe 3 door high glass (Brazilian) E1750. <sup>00</sup>	 Couch 2 division (2 seater) red, grey & brown E2199. <sup>00</sup>	 Reception desk L-shape E2799. <sup>00</sup>

## NORTHERN HHOHHO NEWS

...With  
**Sizwe Dlamini**

Pigg's Peak Office

Kai Kai Building opposite Shoprite,  
Office No:3Tel: 2437 1083 Cell: 7670 0678  
Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz**FIRED UP:** A branded Quantum and mini-truck which transport security personnel to their work-stations.**VARIETY:** The different uniforms that Top Two Security personnel wear.**ARMED:** Top Two Security ranger Davis Mngomezulu carrying a long range rifle.

# TOP TWO SECURITY DEPLOYS ARMED GUARDS

**AFTER** watching over the first ever regional trade fair last year without any incidents of crime, Pigg's Peak based security company, Top Two Security is now offering trained personnel armed with firearms to their ever growing list of clients.

The company that provided security to all the regional trade fairs in 2018 except for the one in Manzini, now boasts of 200 personnel in various capacities, who are all trained to use firearms and other forms of protection, including batons and pepper sprays.

In addition to the armed personnel, the company also employs former members of the Royal Eswatini Police service (REPS) to further

bolster their profile. Top Two Security is also credited with providing security in the country's biggest braai in 2018, as well as in 2017.

Speaking to this publication from their new offices at the SEDCO building in Pigg's Peak, Top Two Security Operations Manager Nkosazana Mhlenga said the company is from humble beginnings in late 2014.

## Top

"Top Two Security originates from the Northern Hhohho, that is why we decided to have our head offices in Pigg's Peak.

"We see ourselves as a proud local company that is committed to elevating the security services industry in Eswatini. Top Two, as

a company, shares the vision of safety and security with our clients. In the beginning, it was very hard for local companies to establish a stronghold in the local security services industry due to monopoly, however in recent years through government, locals can establish businesses and excel in their operations."

In 2014, Top Two began looking after the Jesus Calls (JC) Worship Centre in Matsapha. After receiving that contract, the company expanded slowly, securing private areas around Mvemibili, Manzini and Mbabane.

Mhlenga said the company continued to grow rapidly and they now supply Inyatsi Construction and Maguga Dam with armed and

uniformed security personnel.

"All the personnel who handle the firearms are highly-trained and specialise in personal weapon management security.

"Our firearms are legal and possess licences from the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS).

## Training

In addition to training our uniformed and disciplined personnel, Top Two has branded vehicles like a brand new Quantum and various other vehicles like Honda Fits and light duty trucks to transport our staff.

"This branding shows that the organisation is here to stay and is not a fly-by-night company that will disappear once we have received money from clients."

## COMPANY INTRODUCES RANGERS

**TOP Two Security Company has become the first Pigg's Peak-based security services company to open a ranger division in their operations.**

The rangers, who have their own dark blue all weather uniforms, separate themselves from their colleagues, who wear army green or black and white uniforms.

The rangers also carry long distant rifles that are used when manning security in large areas such as privately-owned farms or large reserves, like the Malolotja Nature Reserve.

Top Two Security Operations Manager Nkosazana Mhlenga said the rangers were introduced in 2018 to secure large companies like Peak Timbers and the Plantation Forestry Company forests.

"Northern Hhohho has vast fields of commercial forest land, which are often privately-owned and require security as individuals often access these areas and commit crimes like arson, illegal hunting and gathering of firewood. It is no secret that the commercial forestry industry is important to this region, that is why as a local company, we have taken the initiative to introduce the rangers division. This department does not operate independently, but operates within Top Two as a specialised security division," he said.

Mhlenga said the rangers first endured months of military style exercises that involved physical training. After passing the many exercises, the rangers receive further specialised weapons and conditional training. This second round of training lasts for three months, meaning the rangers train for about six months before they become fully-fledged rangers.

**TROOPS:** Top Two Security now offers vigorously trained security guards, both male and females.

## Three arrested for counterfeit notes at Buhleni in two weeks

**NKOSINATHI** Makhabane (34) from Mhlangatane has become the third person to be arrested for the possession of counterfeit notes in South African Rands.

Makhabane was arrested at Buhleni on Saturday evening, while trying to purchase alcohol with a fake R100 South African note. Unfortunately for Makhabane, the barman, who

wanted to remain anonymous, called the Buhleni police to arrest the accused who still possessed the counterfeit money.

## Possession

According to well-placed sources, Makhabane is the third person to be arrested for the possession of counterfeit money at Buhleni in just 14 days.

"This is the third person to be arrested

with counterfeit money. This has prompted us at the bar here not to accept the South African currency altogether."

Last Monday, Sandile Myeni also from Buhleni was arrested after police found him in the possession of counterfeit money that totalled R400.

After his arrest, Ndumiso Dlamini from Pigg's Peak was also arrested

after he was found with counterfeit money that totalled R200. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (CPICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the arrest of Makhabane.

She said other authorities like the Central Bank of Eswatini are better suited to comment on the prevalence of counterfeit money in the kingdom.

# Rural Women Assembly engages Shiselweni folk on SODV Act

STORIES BY NOMY NYANDZENI AND  
NOKUZOLA THWALA  
Mbabane

**THE Rural Women Assembly is in the process of empowering women from the Shiselweni region on the SODV Act.**

Rural Women Assembly is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) that sharpens women and young girls on making good decisions about their lives so that the country could develop.

Rural Women Assembly Project

Coordinator Zakithi Sibandze said they had programmes to educate women on the newly-enacted Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act 2018 because this legislation does not only affect men, but everyone who fails to abide by the law. "As an organisation, we realised that it is not easy for the relevant people to teach and train people about SODV, especially in the rural areas, so we decided to take the opportunity of helping women on how to raise a girl child," said Sibandze. Sibandze said their main aim was to encourage women to report people who contravene the law.

"We are inspiring rural women to stop accommodating and not reporting law-breakers in the name of 'tibi tendlu'. Last month, we had a training workshop between where we invited lawyers and police to share their expertise and help differentiate between domestic violence vis-à-vis sexual offences," she added. Sibandze said they currently have an ongoing programme, which started in February, where they train people on the SODV Act. She said in these trainings, they invite different people, including lawyers and police who have an input who are well-versed in this law.



**CLASS:** A section of the paralegals who underwent the two-day training programme last week which was held at Shosholozha Hall in Manzini. The paralegals were trained on how to educate members of their respective communities about the SODV Act, as well as how to handle cases of abuse. (Pic: Sifiso Dlamini)

## WOMEN ALSO GET FARMING LESSONS

**RURAL Women Assembly is not only concentrating on the SODV Act training workshops but also on farming activities.**

The organisation's Project Coordinator Zakithi Sibandze said the farming activities helped women in the rural areas to change their lifestyles. She added that with women farming, they are trying to encourage women on healthy lifestyles and they are inspiring them to be independent because most abuse cases occur as a result of not being inde-

pendent as a woman.

She said though they were running the educational programmes in the Shiselweni region, they have not seen any improvement as yet. Meanwhile, Thobile Simelane from Kontjingila said she has benefited from the assembly's trainings on farming without using fertilizer from the shops. They use organic fertilizer (cow dung and horse excretion) which is cheaper and the crops are healthier.

"We are really encouraged and even

considering forming a local cooperative, whereby we will strictly implement what we learnt from the Rural Women Assembly.

Fortunately for us, one of the 80 national organisers is from our community and they brought Blue Green Company, which encourages this type of farming.

We are also encouraged to farm crops that will survive climate change," she said. Simelane also said they did not only sell these crops for monetary gain, but use it as subsistence farming.

## WLSA trains paralegals on SODV Act

BY SIFISO DLAMINI  
Mbabane

**WOMEN and the Law Southern Africa (WLSA) last week trained 40 paralegals on the SODV Act and other legislations.**

WLSA conducted the training programme for 40 of their paralegals stationed in different communities around the country.

The two-day training programme was held last Monday and Tuesday at Shosholozha Hall in Manzini.

The organisation has paralegals stationed in different communities, who act as a medium between WLSA and the communities at ground level.

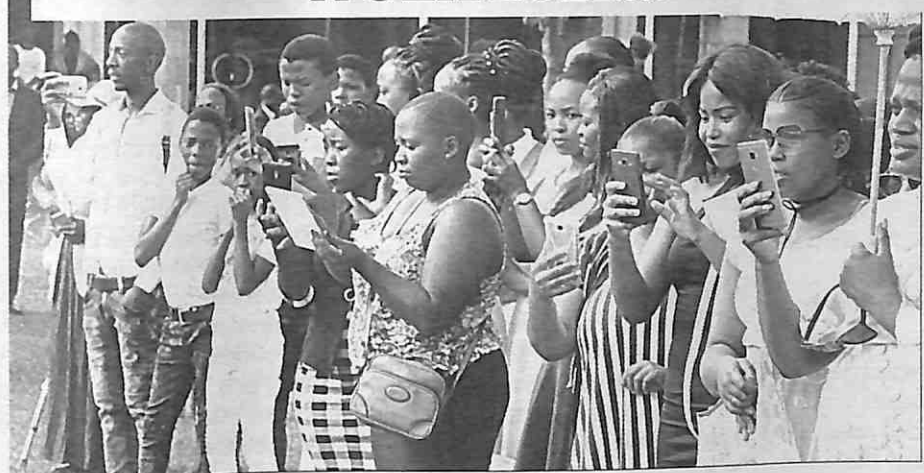
The paralegals were educated on the SODV Act, while also being empowered with knowledge on how to handle cases of abuse or ill-treatment of residents in their respective communities.

WLSA Programme Officer Zanele Thabede-Vilakati said the paralegals would in turn establish learning groups in their communities. Through the learning groups, the paralegals would be able to educate members of their communities about the Act, as well as raise awareness to all those who are not yet familiar with the legislation.

"The paralegals were also furnished with legal advice pertaining to what the law says, as well as taught how to handle situations where there was a crime committed or there was a matter to be dealt with, such as domestic violence, which they should refer to either the police or social welfare officers," she mentioned.

This was part of the organisation lined up projects, which were aimed at decentralising information and knowledge about the consequences of contravening the SODV Act so as to avoid ignorance of the law.

## WOZA 2022...



**FIRST WORLD:** As the country moves closer to the First World status by 2022 its citizens have also adopted the latest technology of recording everything with their smart phones, like these well-wishers at a wedding in Manzini. (Pic: Mduduzi Momezulu)

## One life lost in two weeks

**IN the past two weeks, two accidents have occurred in the , with one of them resulting in the death of a minor.**

One accident occurred in 2017 just after the completion of the project, where a pedestrian was hit by a car and was seriously injured. However, he managed to survive the accident, and is still in the process of recovery as both his legs were fractured.

In the most recent incident, a pedestrian was run over by a car on Thursday at around 2100 hours, while crossing the road.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed that two accidents were officially reported to the police and occurred along the road.

She said one of the incidents happened at Mathayini area, where a bus ran over a minor, who later died at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial (RFM) Hospital the following day. The other incident involved a person, who was knocked along Mkhweni public road, while walking against oncoming traffic.

## NGWANE PARK RESIDENTS WANT SPEED HUMPS

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI  
Manzini

**NGWANE Park residents want the Municipal Council of Manzini to consider erecting speed humps in the area's roads.**

This is because a number of pedestrians have been run over by motorists due to overspeeding.

The council in 2017 finished rehabilitating the Ngwane Park road

from Zakhele to Mkhweni, however, one of the busiest locations was not provided with speed humps. The most noticeable location is Sihlahleni shopping complex along D98 road, with commercial plots on both sides of the road with a high volume of pedestrians.

Before the rehabilitation of the road, there were speed humps separating the two complexes, which in turn deterred motorists from overspeeding.

According to the residents, the lack of speed humps has resulted in a total of three pedestrians being run over by speeding vehicles.

### Collide

A resident said there have been a number of accidents, where vehicles collide after drivers fail to negotiate the bend.

One such incident resulted in a vehicle veering off the road and crashing into a residential wall fence.

Another resident said they have repeatedly reported the concern to the municipality, but were not satisfied with the response they got.

"It is now unsafe to send my children to the shops, as they are not guaranteed safe crossing on the road, as motorists have a tendency of over-speeding, even when they recognise that the road is busy. There is also no pedestrian crossing in the area and it makes crossing it dangerous," said the resident.

## MUNICIPALITY PLANS FOR MORE SPEED HUMPS

**MANZINI City Council Public Relations Officer (PRO) Mathokoza Thwala says the municipality has received requests from residents for speed-humps at Ngwane Park.**

He said council was considerate of people's safety, be it on or off the road. "As council we are aware of the need for an intervention against over speeding in the city roads; par-

ticularly those that have recently been upgraded from gravel to bitumen standard or those that have been rehabilitated. We also acknowledge that, through the various customer feedback platforms available in the municipality, we have received requests for council to construct speed humps in some of the city roads," said Thwala. He added that

while the municipality did not encourage the construction of speed humps as per global standards, they would have to budget for such a project.

He said these have been budgeted for the financial year 2019/20 and, funds permitting, they will be delivered between July and September, 2019. One of them will be constructed at Sihlahleni along D98

road. He further implored motorists to observe the speed limit applicable to the city's roads.

Thwala said there was not even one road within the city boundary that permits speed above 60km/h.

He also advised motorists that council had engaged the traffic section of the Royal Eswatini Police Service with the view to urge them to strengthen their law enforcement initiatives against over-speeding.

# MAN FINED E300 FOR DRINKING ALCOHOL IN PUBLIC

BY MELUSI TSABEDZE  
Eswatini National Court

A 23-year-old man from Nhlanguano, under Chief Mkhulunyelwa Nzima, has been fined E300 for drinking alcohol at the Swazi Plaza in Mbabane.

Eric Simelane was expected to pay the fine or spend three months in a correctional facility.

He was charged with contravening Section 27 (8) of the Liquor Licenses

Act No.30 of 1964.

It was said that on Saturday, he was found consuming alcohol in public while at the Swazi Plaza.

Simelane pleaded guilty to the offence. Constable Chakazile Dlamini told the Eswatini National Court that on Saturday while she was on duty in Mbabane, a man identified as Mhlanga approached her and told her that another man was unlawfully drinking alcohol at the Swazi Plaza.

"Your Honour, I found the accused

sitting next to Fish and Chips outlet, he had placed the alcohol cans on the floor."

Dlamini told the court that she then introduced herself to Simelane.

"I introduced myself to the accused, and asked him why he was drinking in a public area.

"However, his reasons were not satisfactory enough and I then asked him to come with me to the Mbabane Police Post so that he could be investigated further," said Dlamini.

Dlamini further told the court that

Simelane was unwilling to go with her to the police post as he frequently stopped along the way.

## Help

The officer said she sought help from Mhlanga to marshal Simelane to the police post.

"Did Simelane show remorse when the police arrested him for the offence of drinking in public," asked Court President Prince Ngeto Cindzi.

"Your Honour, I was in full uni-

form but Simelane refused to cooperate," said Constable Dlamini.

Simelane apologised to the court for the offence of drinking in public.

"I would like to apologise to the court for my actions. May the court hand out a much lesser sentence? I have children to take care of," said Simelane.

Simelane was then sentenced to three months in a correctional facility or pay a fine of E300.

## Nkwene youth continue to help mkhulu with rare swelling

BY COLISILE SACOLO  
Mbabane

NKWENE Youth Charity Organisation has donated food parcels to Absalom Dlamini (80) who was operated on at the Mbabane Clinic as he had a rare and undiagnosed swelling on his back.

Following his successful operation, the youth organisation paid the old man a visit where they donated the food parcels.

Dlamini is on his own and he does not have a support system.

Nkwene Charity Organisation Vice President Mbuso Sibandze said when the elderly man was due for an operation, there was an outstanding bill which they failed to raise though they had secured the doctor who would operate mkhulu.

He added that the doctor agreed to operate Dlamini despite that the money was not enough.

Sibandze said the balance was later on settled by All Nations Archbishop Bheki Lukhele.

"We decided to do a follow-up on mkhulu's recovery. As he needs food to take his medication, we decided to bring him food parcels."

Sibandze highlighted that he observed that mkhulu still needs assistance going forward.

He added that the senior citizen did not have neighbours as his homestead



**HELPING HAND:** Vice President of Nkwene Youth Charity Organisation Mbuso Sibandze with members of his organisation at mkhulu's homestead. (Pics: Colisile Sacolo)

is surrounded by forests, which is not safe for him because he could be attacked and no one would come to his rescue.

## Healthy

He also said that the environment he stays in is not healthy for him as the hovel he occupies can collapse on him anytime. Sibandze said mkhulu lives in fear at his homestead because there is an

unidentified green snake which he normally sees around his place.

He said when they visited mkhulu's homestead they also found the snake hanging on the rafters inside the elderly man's house and they could not kill it. Sibandze said appealed to the public for help in renovating Dlamini's house.



**DONATIONS:** These are part of the items donated to Gigi's Care Point at Ka-Khoza in Manzini on Saturday. The items included blankets, sanitary pads, roll-ons, face clothes, bath soaps as well as paint. (Pics: Colisile Sacolo)

## Bikers donate to Gigi's Care Point

BY COLISILE SACOLO  
Manzini

**BIKERS** under the Hyena Motor Cycle Club (MMC) have donated blankets and other items to Gigi's Care Point.

The donation, which also included sanitary pads and paint to refurbish the centre was done on Saturday at Ka-Khoza, Manzini.

Hyena MCC captain Ayanda Masina said they did their charity event at Gigi's place as their main focus was on the 100 children kept at the centre.

He said they had bikers from Mozambique, South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho and the local ones.

Masina said Impisi Rally 2019 was their first one after three successful charity events.

He said they also donated a refrig-

erator that would be used to store medicine in Gigi's Care Point's new fully fledged clinic.

"A good heart is one that is always willing to give, if you cleanse your heart you attract positive energy. The children are confident when they have most basic amenities, especially girls," he said.

He also thanked Owami Investments, Mswane Foundation, Inyatsi Construction, South Star Logistics, Mgevu Logistics, Velabaleke, Elcor Swaziland and many more who supported them.

Meanwhile, founder of Gigi's place Gigi Reid-Miles thanked the Hyena MCC for their generous donation to the centre.

"We are thankful for the donation. The refrigerator was much needed and it will house medication that will be used in our community clinic, which is accessed freely by the people," she said.



**LOOKING ON:** Some of the children who stand to benefit from the donation looking on during the event. In the background are members of the Hyena Motorcycle Club who were part of the organisations that donated.



**HOME:** The two dilapidated structures at the homestead which could collapse at any point. The structure in the background is the one mkhulu resides in whereas the hut in front is used as a kitchen.

# BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

## Over 100 companies register for power procurement exercise

STORIES BY QONDILE NTIWANE

THE recently completed exercise for registration of companies looking at participating in the soon to be launched Competitive Power Procurement, has attracted over 100 companies.

Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA) Manager-Consumer and Stakeholder Management Sikhumbuzo Nkambule confirmed yesterday that, following the completion of the registration exercise, over 100 companies from the different sectors registered signalling interest in participating in the soon to be launched procurement exercise.

He added that most of the parties

interested were mostly local but there were some from outside the country, namely; South Africa, France, India, Israel, Netherlands and Germany, to name a few.

He said the invitation for registration was aimed at collecting data which would be used for match-making purposes by prospective bidders.

He added that all prospective project developers would choose which companies to partner with in the development of their power generation projects.

"Partnerships on these power generation projects will involve companies ranging from project developers, long term project financiers, construction and maintenance companies," he said.

Nkambule further mentioned that



**CONFIRMED:**  
Eswatini  
Energy  
Regulatory  
Authority  
Manager  
Consumer and  
Stakeholder  
Management  
Sikhumbuzo  
Nkambule.

though the registration exercise was important, it does not in any way means that companies that

have not shown interest by registering will not participate when the actual tendering exercise begins.

## First batch of 40MW solar tenders out in second quarter

ESERA intends to launch the first batch of 40MW solar tenders in the second quarter of the current calendar year.

ESERA Manager Consumer and Stakeholder Management Sikhumbuzo Nkambule said, for the purposes of match-making, this data would be made available to all interested stakeholders through the ESERA website.

"A link to this data will be included in the

information package for the request for qualifications document that will soon be launched.

"This will also kick-off the official competitive tendering process for procurement of a 40MW solar and 40MW biomass plants around the country," he said.

Nkambule explained that the power procurement exercise sought to achieve an additional 80MW to the local grid.

"This effort will result to a huge reduction in electricity imports by the country, and in multiple positive economic outflows, including job creation and possibly increase in foreign direct investment."

Nkambule expressed gratitude to all the companies that responded to the invitation to register, noting that this was a sign that they are in support of this exercise



## FESBC rallies behind Eswatini's bid to host AfCFTA

BY BAHLE GAMA

THE Federation of Eswatini Business Community (FESBC) has thrown its full weight behind Eswatini's bid to host the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat.

FESBC Chief Executive Officer Dudu Nhlengethwa yesterday said that if Eswatini wins this bid, small micro medium enterprises (SMMEs) they envisaged business partnerships from winning this bid.

"As MSMs, we normally support big businesses. For example, in terms

of transport and logistics you find that the by businesses are more specialised than us.

Basically, we see potential growth in business in terms of finance, technical expertise and technology between ourselves and other businesses in the region," Nhlengethwa said.

### Creation

She added that they also envisaged the creation of new sectors of the economy; which would ultimately result in job creation and thus reduce poverty in the country.

"That's why we support Eswatini's bid to host the Secretariat and will support other similar initiatives in the future.

"We believe Eswatini is more than ready to host an organ of this magnitude," she said.

On the arrival of the AfCFTA Technical Evaluation Team tomorrow, who will be here to assess the country's readiness to host the Secretariat, Nhlengethwa said as FESBC they were hoping to benefit; even if it slightly.

### Offer

"When they are here, they are likely to buy stuff and probably take souvenirs back home. Even if they don't, they will still know what Eswatini has to offer," Nhlengethwa said.

She then urged the nation to continue to demonstrate the hospitality

that Eswatini are renowned for.

"We are known to be a very peaceful country and thus we need to maintain that friendliness and hospitality associated with Eswatini. When the technical team arrives, the tourism industry stands to benefit hence I cannot over-emphasise the importance of customer service. Customer care is universal and we should show that we a courteous nation.

"If we do that, the technical team will have something positive to say about the country and most probably be able to get us investors in terms of partnership through their experiences and thus benefit the economy," she said.

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## VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	5.1%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E12.80 per litre
Replacement	E12.85 per litre
Diesel	E12.80 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 07 MAY 2019

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	14.4145	14.4645
British Pound/SZL	18.9140	18.9796
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.6484	7.7642
Swiss France/SZL	14.1777	14.2255
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3362	1.3524
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.1334	10.1758
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.7347	10.7687
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	16.1623	16.2183
Gold	1,281.9403	
Oil	72.09	

For more information contact:  
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Standard Bank

# A.G THOMAS BAGS OVER E8.5M EEC TENDER

BY SANDZASIVE NXUMALO

CONSTRUCTION company A.G Thomas (Pty) Ltd has bagged an over E8.5 million Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) tender to rehabilitate the Dwaleni and Magudzuza power stations access roads.

The tender contract, as shown in the Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (ESPPRA), is worth an exact amount of E8 681 342.52.

A.G Thomas (Pty) Ltd is a civil works company located in Matsapha. During

## Details of Best Evaluated Response Tenderer

Name	A.G Thomas (Pty) Ltd
Nationality	Swazi
Proposed Contract	E8,681,342-52
Total Evaluation Score	92%

the evaluation phase, they were able to attain an impressive score of 92 per cent and as the entity with the highest score, they were awarded the intention to award contract.

### Entities

There were a total five entities that had applied for the tender, including A.G Thomas (Pty) Ltd, Inyatsi Construction Limited and Kukhanya

Civil Engineering Contractors who both passed the evaluation, but scored lower than A.G Thomas.

The other two entities, Stefanutti Stocks Construction Swaziland (Pty) LTD and Heptagon Company (Pty) LTD did not meet the minimum requirement of a technical score of 70 per cent and as such did not qualify for further evaluation.

## TRAINING COURSE FOR DAIRY CATTLE FARMERS

BY BAHLE GAMA

ESWATINI Dairy Board has implemented a dairy cattle farming course for farmers country wide.

The course targets mainly dairy cattle owners, keepers and aspiring individuals.

The eight-week long course held at the Enguleni House conference room in Manzini, commenced

yesterday. The sessions will be held on selected days, namely Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The course will be done on modules covering over 10 topics, including calf rearing, fodder production, dairy cattle feeding and more. The course costs E500 per person for the whole session, and participants are advised to register and pay at the dairy board office.

Module	Topic
1	Introduction to Dairy Science and Management
2	Requirements and Preparations for starting a Dairy project
3	Fodder Production
4	Dairy Cattle Feeding
5	Dairy cattle Breeding
6	Calf Rearing
7	Clean Milk Production
8	Legal Issues
9	Disease Prevention and Control
10	Business Plan Preparation and Business management
11	Education Tour



## Redefine search defies ongoing economic, political uncertainty

CAPE TOWN – Redefine Properties increased its distribution for the six months ended on February 28 by four per cent to 49.2 cents in the ongoing economic and political uncertainty ahead of tomorrow's election.

Chief Executive Andrew Konig said yesterday that their market guidance was that the distribution for the full year would be similar to first-half growth of four per cent, subject to conditions not deteriorating further.

He said in an interview that in the context of returns in previous years, four per cent might seem low, but relative to the current environment, 'where our reference points are constantly being reset... the results are pleasing.'

This was because about 79 per cent of the assets were in South Africa. With an August year-end, most of the past financial year was during the run-up to the elections, through a period of very low business and consumer confidence where business decisions were being deferred due to uncertainty. Internationally held assets contributed 25.4 per cent to income, with total assets under management increasing by R500 million

to R99.2 billion. Offshore expansion worth R1.9bn took place, of which R500m was invested into the Polish Logistics Platform – the logistics sector in Europe was one sector with 'promise', said Konig. The local portfolio also received a significant portion of the development spend at R1.3bn.

Konig said confidence needed to return in South Africa to encourage future growth and for the economy to begin driving demand for commercial property space again. 'Confidence will return once there is improved policy certainty. If there is any benefit from the election outcome it will probably only be evident in 2020/21, as opposed to the 2019 financial year,' he said.

The active portfolio operating margin was maintained at 82 per cent, with tenant retention remaining at a high at 96.6 per cent of leases renewed.

Installing renewable energy interventions was an area for growth, notably to alleviate some of the pressure caused by Eskom blackouts and tariff increases. Another move to calibrate to the 'new normal' was a move into flexible workspaces.

**Business report**



ACHIEVERS: The pupils posing with officials from Junior Achievement (JA) Eswatini.

## JA attaches 23 pupils in Job shadow programme

BY SANDZASIVE NXUMALO

AS part of the job shadowing programme, Junior Achievement has managed to attach 23 pupils to five different companies during holidays.

The pupils were attached during the first term holidays to companies, namely MTN Eswatini, The George Hotel, The AIDS Information Centre (TASC), Mbabane Municipality and Industrial Development Company of Eswatini (IDCE).

JA Eswatini Marketing Manager Siphesihle Mkhonta thanked their partners for taking in the pupils and mentoring them in the different professions.

'Without the support of these companies, we wouldn't have achieved this feat and we are grateful to them for always taking part in this project,' she said. Mkhonta said they were looking to have more pupils taking part in the programme during the second term holidays. 'The exchange of ideas and feedback sharing showed just how



EXPERIENCED: The pupils posing with their certificates after job shadowing in five different companies in the country.

much our JA Eswatini pupils have benefited from the Job Shadow programme. Listening to them share their work experience, as they navigate their career paths proved the viability of the programme and its impact,' she said.

She also touched on the importance of awarding the pupils opportunity to experience the workplace long before they leave school.

'The latest Mitchell Institute report, connecting the worlds of learning and work, says collaborating with industry and the community is vital to better prepare children and young people for future work and life. We, therefore, implore government to play a leading role in ensuring that the younger generations are better prepared for their future,' she said.

## COSATU condemns employers forcing employees to work today

JOHANNESBURG – The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) yesterday condemned what it called intransigent employers, who are allegedly threatening workers and forcing them to go to work today instead of voting in general elections.

South Africans will be heading to the polls for its sixth general election today to elect a new government.

### Declared

President Cyril Ramaphosa officially declared election day May 8 as a public holiday, urging employers to encourage staff to use the day to

exercise their right to vote.

But COSATU Spokesperson Sizwe Pamla said the union federation had noted with deep concern the numerous reports from workers that some employers were forcing them to go to work instead of voting.

'We condemn all those intransigent

employers who are victimising workers and reiterate our condemnation of the government's failure to declare elections day a non-trading holiday,' Pamla said.

'The federation is encouraging all workers who are being victimised to report to COSATU offices and those

of our affiliated trade unions.'

Pamla said COSATU was challenging Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) to condemn all those businesses that are intimidating workers, saying that BUSA should make a public statement to the effect that all workers have a right to vote on elections day.

**African News Agency**



# ESWATINI HOSTS AFRICA

## WE WELCOME AfCFTA TECHNICAL EVALUATION TEAM

AFTER weeks of waiting, hoping and often times mixed emotions; the moment of truth has finally arrived. Well, not quite.

But, what happens in the next couple of days will most likely determine our fate in our race to host the much-acclaimed African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat as Eswatini.

It is only less than 24 hours before the AfCFTA Technical Evaluation Team (TET) arrives in the kingdom, to assess our readiness to host the secretariat. Therefore, it is only natural that as a country we may feel a bit apprehensive. After all, the report that the TET will submit to the African Union Commission (AUC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, will give us the final picture.

And losing is not an option – not after the efforts that the AfCFTA Bid National Steering Committee appointed by Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Manqoba Khumalo in February this year have been putting to ensure we are the preferred hosts of this organ. Hopefully, their labour will not be in vain!

Our readiness could be in many facets – from general things such as infrastructure to our passion, drive and determination as a country to host an office of this magnitude. It is thus imperative that all of us, as Emaswati, a nation known for its hospitality and by extension its peace, continue to believe in ourselves and our capacity to host an African Union organ.

We cannot, however, lie to ourselves and think our hospitality will score us points and ultimately seal the deal for us. In fact, as previously alluded to, the evaluation team will not be here for our smiles and handshakes. To demonstrate that they will be here



**WELCOME:** Part of the AfCFTA team that was introduced in Nigeria at a recent meeting.

for serious business, we are expecting not less than 10 high-level professionals from the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). They represent key sectors of the economy, such as regional integration, legal, trade, finance, human resource, and policy formulation, amongst others. That should all give us an idea that they are not here to play.

It's not easy competing at such a scale for a country this small in size.

One writer even described the kingdom as walking on a tightrope. But, we are not talking about a country that's strange to trade issues here. We are talking about a kingdom that has time and again proven its commitment to the global trade programme and went on to demonstrate its commitment to the regional integration agenda by being among the first to sign and ratify the AfCFTA.

The question that keeps popping up is what gives Eswatini the confidence that we can win this bid? And we

have humbly submitted that because we are the best country to host – regardless of our population size. We are not only a determined nation, but we are the best choice amongst our competitors.

We have already outlined the major benefits that the country will reap if we win this bid. In fact, this could just be the genie that Eswatini needs to rub in order to dramatically turn around its economy.

Hence the reason we welcome the arrival of the Technical Evaluation

Team to our beautiful kingdom. When they get here, we shall make sure that we leave an impression – an indelible mark that they will take back to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with them. And this we shall do if as Emaswati we collectively work together to guarantee that their two days' stay in the country is memorable in every aspect.

After we impress them, we shall continue to intensify our lobbying efforts as a country in all eight Regional Economic Communities (RECs). Fortunately, we enjoy the privilege of being the only competing country to be in more than one REC.

### Efforts

A lot of groundwork has been done in the SADC region, thanks to efforts by our Prime Minister Mandvulo Ambrose Dlamini and the minister of commerce, industry and trade and Cabinet as a whole.

But, there remains a lot of work in the other seven RECs; which our chief lobbyist Treasure Maphanga and our Ambassador to Ethiopia Promise Msibi shall be engaging shortly. With such capable people driving our mandate and with support from His Majesty King Mswati III and the entire Cabinet, there is no way as a country we should fail to bring this home.

After all, we are all aware of what this victory could mean for Eswatini and its peoples.

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram #EswatiniHostsAfrica and join the conversation.

## Govt, Eskom hiding dodgy diesel deals - Eskom

**JOHANNESBURG** - The main opposition Democratic Alliance said yesterday that the government and power company Eskom were blocking its demand for details of diesel deals for the struggling state-owned utility because there were "dodgy".

The DA said it had last month submitted a request in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) for Eskom to release copies of all diesel contracts signed between January 2007 and April 3 this year. It said the fact that the terms of an emergency diesel deal for the company were being obscured from the public was an indictment on President Cyril Ramaphosa's governing African National Congress (ANC).

"The ANC's secretive and lucrative diesel deals have been made carelessly, without fear or thought for future consequences," DA shadow minister of public enterprises Natasha Mazzone said. "This is yet another desperate attempt by the failing ANC government to keep the lights on until election day."

The ANC has been in power since the advent of democracy in 1994, but

could see its majority whittled after elections due today against the backdrop of an economy that has struggled to grow over the past decade, with critics largely blaming corruption and mismanagement under the watch of Ramaphosa's predecessor Jacob Zuma.

### Executives

Several senior executives at state-owned entities including Eskom – which has struggled to meet electricity demand – have been implicated in the graft.

Earlier this week, online publication News24 reported that it had received information from Eskom in response to a PAIA request which showed that between 2009 and 2019, the utility paid 48 suppliers R47.4 billion for diesel used to keep the lights on. "So desperate is the ANC that it has now resorted to spending billions it does not have in order create a false impression that there will be light at the end of their tunnel," Mazzone said yesterday, adding that South Africa faced a dark and cold winter.

"The DA will continue to fight to find the truth behind the ANC's dodgy diesel deals," News24

## FOREIGN BUSINESS EXTRAS



## AB InBev first quarter revenue rises 5.9 per cent

**JOHANNESBURG** - The world's largest brewer AB InBev said yesterday its revenue grew by 5.9 per cent in the first quarter of 2019, driven by healthy volume growth, among other factors.

The company said it expected to deliver strong revenue and growth in earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisation (EBITDA) during the 2019 financial year, on the back of the solid performance of its brand portfolio and strong commercial plans.

"Our growth model is even more focused on category expansion, targeting a more balanced top-line growth between volume and revenue per hectolitre. We expect to deliver revenue per hectolitre growth ahead of inflation based on premiumisation and revenue management initiatives, while keeping costs below inflation," it said.

In the first quarter, EBITDA increased by 8.2 per cent. Normalised profit attributable to equity holders of AB InBev was US\$2.516 billion compared with \$1.443 billion during the same quarter last year. Normalised earnings per share increased to \$1.27 from \$0.73, positively impacted by mark-to-market gains linked to the hedging of the company's share-based payment programmes. *Fin24*

## AgriSA concerned about NERSA attitude

**JOHANNESBURG** - Agriculture industry association AgriSA said on Monday that it was concerned about what it called the National Energy Regulator of South Africa's (NERSA's) reluctance to register small-scale embedded generator (SSEG) projects.

In a statement, AgriSA said that its members had the potential to supply the electricity needed to prevent future rolling blackouts, known as load shedding, through small-scale solar photovoltaic installations.

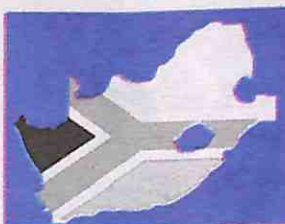
"It is unacceptable that farmers who want to do their part to relieve strain on the grid are not allowed to do so," the Chairperson of AgriSA's Economics and Trade Centre of Excellence, Nicol Jansen, said.

According to a licensing exemption and registration notice gazetted in November 2017, SSEGs are exempt from licensing, but are required to be registered with NERSA.

"However, by failing to register SSEGs, NERSA is preventing completed SSEG projects to be connected to the grid," AgriSA said.

It said non-registration had been the status quo, despite NERSA approving a registration process at an energy regulator meeting last October.

*African News Agency*



## Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

**JOHANNESBURG** - Missed out on registration weekends earlier this year and last year, but you've voted before?

**Do not stress about it, you can still go to a polling station today and cast your vote.**

However, if you have not updated your residential address, it may be a longer process for you than for others.

"Everybody who is on the voters' roll will be entitled to vote. Those who have

## VOTING DAY UPON US, SEE CRUCIAL THINGS TO KNOW

voted before but did not register in January, their names are still on the voters' roll," said Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) Chief Electoral Officer Sy Mamabolo.

### Voters

"But those who do not have their residential address on the voters' roll will have to furnish a residential address at

the polling station before they vote."

Those in a different province to that in which they are registered also need not worry, said Mamabolo.

"If the address locates you in the province in which you are registered, you will get two ballots - national and provincial - but if you are in a province outside your ordinary residence address,

you will get one ballot - for national," said Mamabolo. Oh, and it is possible that your vote won't count even if you go to the polling station and make your mark. This is if you miss one very crucial verification before slotting your ballot paper into the ballot box - the official stamps. Said Mamabolo: "As part of the control measures of the elec-

tion process, every ballot paper has to have a validation stamp at the back. If there is no validation stamp at the back, it means that ballot paper will not be counted." But most importantly, you cannot afford to forget your identity document as you will not be allowed to vote without it - even if you appear on the voters' roll. *Sowetan Live*

## Prominent EFF members leave 'military organisation' party

**EAST LONDON** - The African National Congress (ANC) in the Eastern Cape has welcomed three prominent Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) members to its ranks ahead of today's general election.

EFF Eastern Cape Provincial Organiser Phumzile Ketwa, OR Tambo Regional Secretary Mzwamadoda Sitshalwa - who is also a PR councillor and whip at King Sabatha Dalindyebo Municipality, and regional chairman at OR Tambo and the party's PR councillor and whip at OR Tambo District Municipality, Unathi Ketwa, donned their ANC colours on Monday.

Speaking to the media after the obligatory shirt swapping ceremony, Ketwa said he was leaving the EFF because it abused internal processes that should have been democratic and did not allow structures to question party decisions.

"When I joined EFF in 2013, I thought I was joining a political organisation, but it turned out to be a military organisation that is ruled by an iron fist," said Ketwa.



**NEW HOME:** ANC Eastern Cape Provincial Secretary Lulama Ngcukayitobi, OR Tambo District Municipality Executive Mayor Nomakhosazana Meth and ANC OR Tambo regional Task Team Convenor Ntandokazi Capa with the new party members.

Sitshalwa said he left because he was able to pursue the same objectives - such as land redistribution and economic freedom - through the ANC.

ANC Eastern Cape Provincial Secretary

Lulama Ngcukayitobi said the newly-defected members believed that the ANC was the only political party that could play a leading role in the transformation of South African society. *ANA*

## We won't vote, unless mayor addresses us - Ezakhelani residents

**DURBAN** - Residents of Ezakhelani informal settlement in Umlazi, south of Durban, say they won't vote today unless eThekweni Mayor Zandile Gumede comes to address them, reports GroundUp.

The residents brought the township to a standstill in a protest on Monday morning, complaining that they had been neglected by the local leadership that they voted into power in August 2016.

Resident Nkosi Mbandiwa said they are without houses and proper roads. "All the ward councillors ignore us after we have voted them into power. Ahead of the elections, we are being visited and promised heaven and earth but once we cast our votes, they turn their backs on us and do not offer us services," said Mbandiwa.

Another resident, Thokozani Khoza, yelled that even the current ward councillor, Zipho Mathe, did not serve them.

Khoza said after the floods which had damaged homes in the area, Mathe had called a meeting and asked residents to go 'back to our homes in the rural areas'.

When GroundUp rang Councillor Zipho Mathe, he said: "I will not comment."

### Protesters

Protesters said they would not vote

if Gumede did not visit them. They said they had applied for RDP houses with previous ward councillors and had been promised that they will get houses soon but they were still waiting.

Protesters said there were about 300 shacks in the informal settlement and some families had lived there since 1994.

eThekweni Municipality Spokesperson Msawakhe Mayisela said: "The city cannot build houses for everyone overnight. It is trying to cope with the challenge of urbanisation, as residents come from different areas of the province looking for job opportunities." *News24*

**"All the ward councillors ignore us after we have voted them into power. Ahead of the elections, we are being visited and promised heaven and earth, but once we cast our votes, they turn their backs on us and do not offer us services"**

## 'No trains in KZN until after elections'

**DURBAN** - As KwaZulu-Natal enters its third week since the devastating floods of April 23, passenger trains remain at a standstill across the province, grounded by damage to rail infrastructure.

The Passenger Rail Agency of SA (PRASA) said it expected to resume services after the elections.

Regional Manager Dumi Dube said the suspension of operations was because of fallen trees and mud slides on their rail network.

"It's been 24/7 work by PRASA and engineers to make sure they speed up fixing the affected areas.

"PRASA KZN executive members hold meetings on a daily basis to discuss the mitigating factors and strategies to speed up the process

of getting all the required resources to do the repairs in the areas affected," he said. Dube said the clearing and repairing of some corridors was about to be completed, and other corridors would be completed soon. "Where we do not finish on time, we will try to come up with other ways of assisting our commuters so we can ease the burden of travelling longer distances to get to work," he said. Dube said they had some concerns in some of the corridors where people dumped rubbish on railways. This made these areas inaccessible.

"Communities where residents live close to our lines - these include places like Zwelethu, KwaMashu, Burlington and Bottlebrush."

*African News Agency*

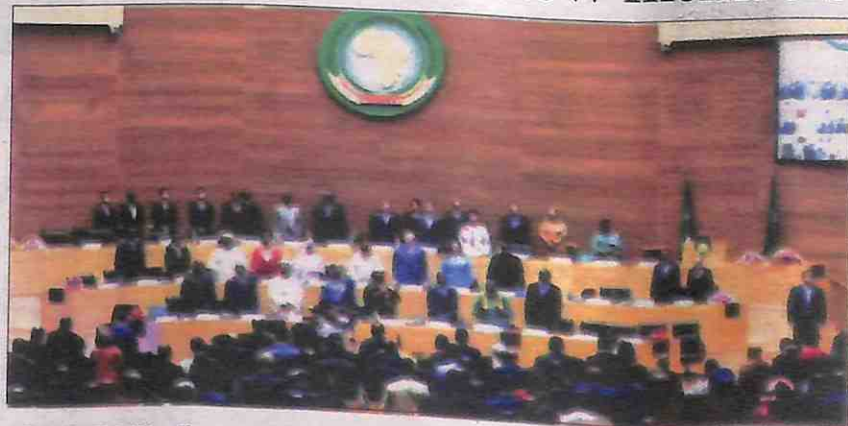
## Pan African Parliament swears in 8 new members

**MIDRAND** - The second ordinary session of the fifth Parliament, of the Pan African Parliament which opened in Midrand on Monday, has sworn in several new members.

Subsequent to elections and change of regimes in a number of African states, at least 40 members of Parliament from eight African countries, that include Mauritania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kingdom of Eswatini and Guinea Bissau, were due to be sworn in as new members of the Pan African Parliament.

Uganda's James Kakooza was among those sworn in as new members of Parliament. President of the Pan-African Parliament, Roger Nkodo Dang, said the on going session will, among other things, debate peace and security in Africa, the report on the statelessness and citizenship and the model law on policing.

"Honourable legislators will engage on advancing the agenda of building viable and inclusive democracies in Africa, as well as the industrial development on our continent, whose foundation is the Continental Free Trade Area; the protocol whose entry into force is much awaited," said Dang,



**SWORN IN:** Representatives attend the closing ceremony of the 32nd African Union (AU) summit of heads of state and government in Addis Ababa.

who is from Cameroon.

The Plenary Session will also be graced by the attendance of the African Union Commission (AUC) Chairperson, H.E. Moussa FAKI MAHAMAT, who is expected to lead debates on the African Union (AU) theme of 2019, 'The Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced

Displacement in Africa.'

In another development, the first female President of the United Arab Emirates' Federal National Council, Hon Dr Amal Abdullah Al Qubaisi addressed women Members of Parliament in a special session at the opening of the Fifth Legislature of the Pan African Parliament yesterday. *African News Agency*

# Focus on World News

Global News

## Cohen tells Trump off before starting jail term

NEW YORK - Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer, headed to a federal prison to begin a three-year sentence on Monday, taking a parting shot at his former boss in remarks to reporters as he left his Manhattan apartment building.

Cohen, who once vowed to 'take a bullet' for Trump but now calls him a 'con man,' must report by 2pm (1800 GMT) to the Federal Correctional Institution in Otisville, New York, about 70 miles (110 km) northwest of New York City to serve his sentence for arranging hush payments to two women who said they had sexual encounters with Trump and lying to the US Congress.

He is expected to stay at the prison's minimum security camp.

Cohen told journalists he hoped that once he completes his sentence that 'when I rejoin my family and friends that the country will be in a place without xenophobia, injustice and lies at the helm of our country. There still remains much to be told. And I look forward to the day that I can share the truth.'

Cohen then got into a black vehicle and drove off. Cohen's prison term completes a stunning fall for the 52-year-old native of New York's Long Island, whose career was tethered to Trump as he evolved from wealthy real estate developer to reality TV personality to politician. For more



**PARTING SHOT:** Michael Cohen, US President Donald Trump's former lawyer will be jailed for three year.

than a decade, Cohen served as Trump's personal lawyer and self-described 'fixer.'

The relationship began to sour after FBI agents raided Cohen's Rockefeller Center office and Park Avenue hotel room in April 2018 as part of an investigation that grew out of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 US election. The information gathered in the raids contributed to a series of criminal charges against Cohen that caused his dramatic split with

Trump.

Cohen publicly broke with Trump in July 2018, telling ABC News he intended to put family and loyalty to his country ahead of the president. Cohen and his wife, Laura Shusterman, 49, have two adult children, Samantha and Jake.

In congressional testimony in February in Washington, Cohen said, "I am ashamed that I chose to take part in concealing Mr. Trump's illicit acts rather than listening to my own conscience. **AFP**



**WRECKED PLANE:** A handout picture released by Mexico's Civil Protection showing the wreckage of a private jet found on Monday in Ocampo.

## No survivors after jet crashes

MEXICO CITY - A plane crash in a remote mountain region in northern Mexico claimed the lives of all 13 people on board, including a family of five who were flying back from watching a boxing match in Las Vegas, authorities and local media said on Monday.

The wreckage of the plane that took off from Las Vegas on Sunday was found via aerial surveillance in the northern municipality of Ocampo, the government of Coahuila state said in a statement.

A photograph published on local television network Milenio showed what it said were the burnt remnants of the plane, broken into pieces, spread over charred soil.

Mexican media reported that the

passengers had been to a boxing match between Mexican boxer Saul 'Canelo' Alvarez and US fighter Daniel Jacobs in Las Vegas on Saturday.

### Victims

The nationalities of the victims were not immediately clear. The surnames of the three crew and 10 passengers published by the Coahuila government were all Hispanic. The victims were between 19 and 57 years old, according to a version of the passenger list published in Mexican media.

Newspaper Diario de Yucatan said on its website that among the victims were 55-year-old businessman Luis Octavio Reyes Dominguez, his wife, and their three children. **Reuters**

## SA signs for South Sudan oil block after US\$1 billion plan

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa signed a deal on an oil block in South Sudan as part of a US\$1 billion investment in the country emerging from civil war.

The countries signed an exploration and production sharing agreement for block B2, the second such contract since South Sudan's independence seven years ago.

The deal will help restore oil out-

put to levels of around 350 000 barrels a day, according to South Sudan Oil Minister Ezekiel Gatkuoth.

### Focusing

South Sudan is focusing on increasing crude production by using oil blocks that were halted during its civil war. South Africa in November reached an initial agreement to invest US\$1 billion in its oil sector.

**Fin24**

## Militant attacks in Moza kill seven, threaten voter registration

MAPUTO - Suspected Islamists have killed seven people in northern Mozambique in weekend attacks, threatening aid to victims of Cyclone Kenneth and paralysing ongoing voter registration for October elections, local sources said on Monday.

Islamist fighters have terrorised remote communities in Mozambique's gas-rich, Muslim-majority Cabo Delgado region since October 2017, killing around 200 people and forcing thousands from their

homes.

Between Friday and Sunday at least four separate villages were attacked in northern Cabo Delgado, local sources said.

"Armed men invaded the district of Meluco, specifically the village of Minhanha, killed three people, and urned about 100 houses on Sunday night," a local source, who did not want to be identified fearing retaliation, told AFP.

Sunday's attack followed another on

Saturday that killed a teacher riding a motorcycle and three other people who were burnt to death in Macomia district. The attacks were the first since Cyclone Kenneth smashed into the country's northern region on April 25, leaving at least 41 dead and more than 240 000 affected.

The delivery of aid to cyclone-hit areas has been underway, but the attacks put aid distribution at risk while they 'paralysed' voter registration. **AFP**

## BRIEFS

### Mali gets new government after protests

**MALI** - Mali's president has named a new government after its predecessor resigned last month amid widespread protests over an upsurge of deadly inter-communal violence, a presidency statement said. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita on Sunday announced the new executive of 37 members under Prime Minister Boubou Cisse, who was appointed on April 22 to oversee the formation of a 'broad-based' government. Last week, Cisse signed a pact with opposition and majority party representatives in the capital Bamako, declaring their willingness to set up a 'politically-inclusive' new government. Cisse's predecessor Soumeylou Boubeye Maiga and his entire Cabinet resigned on April 18 following the massacre of some 160 members of the Fulani herding community on March 23 in the village of Ogossagou near Mali's border with Burkina Faso. **AFP**

### Pilot reveals lightning caused crash landing

**MOSCOW, RUSSIA** - The pilot of a Russian passenger plane that erupted in a ball of fire on the runway of Moscow's busiest airport, killing 41 people, said lightning led to the emergency landing. Investigators were on Monday working to understand the causes of the blaze after the Sukhoi Superjet-100 had to return to Sheremetyevo Airport shortly after take-off on Sunday evening. Pilot Denis Yevdokimov told Russian media the aircraft lost communication and needed to switch to emergency control mode 'because of lightning' on the Aeroflot flight to the Arctic city of Murmansk. He did not specify if the plane was struck directly. "We managed to restore communication through the emergency frequency on our radio connection. But the link was only for a short time and kept cutting out... it was possible to say only a few words," he told the Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper. **AFP**

### Sudanese mediators propose transitional councils

**KHARTOUM** - Due to the continued deadlock between Sudan's Transitional Military Council (TMC) and protest leaders' mediators facilitating talks have proposed the country have two transitional councils, one led by the generals overseeing security and the other by civilians. The two sides have clashed over their respective visions for the future and the composition of a future transitional government and the powers' different parts of the proposed authority would hold. Omar Al Digeir, a senior opposition leader and member of the umbrella protest group the Alliance for Freedom and Change, said a future military council, which will comprise some civilians too, will be responsible for the country's security, the Daily Monitor reported. However, the exact responsibilities of both councils have yet to be decided as no final decisions have been taken yet. **ANA**

### Election Board orders re-run of mayoral vote

**TURKEY** - Turkey's top election Board announced on Monday that the vote for the mayor of Istanbul, the country's largest city and economic hub, will be re-done. The new vote will be held on June 23, according to the Turkish state media quoting the Board. President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Justice and Development (AK) Party had lodged an 'extraordinary objection' and asked for a rerun of the election after several previous appeals it made for a smattering of partial and full recounts across the city were completed. Erdogan's party alleged voting irregularities made the results invalid. Turkey's high election Board members accepted the AK Party's objection to the election results on Monday with seven votes in favour and four votes against, state-run Anadolu news agency reported. **Aljazeera**

# Observer Entertainment

New Reviews Star Signs Celebrity Watch Cartoons

## EMASWATI FOR AFRICA YOUTH SUMMIT

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

**TWO youths of Eswatini will attend The Breaking Down Borders Africa Youth Summit, a Pan-African annual conference for youth leaders from across the continent.**

Sponsored by The Breaking Down Borders Africa Youth Summit, Bertha Sithole will be one of the candidates to represent Eswatini at the summit scheduled for May 22 - 24.

She is part of the core team that will attend the event. Speaking to Sithole, she said organisers saw her biography and the work that she does.

She added that organisers were still scouting for the second person to attend the summit.

### Media

"Anyone who is in the business, technology and art industry can apply and the deadline is on May 10," she said.

Sithole said she would share everything about the summit experience and information on social media as it happens.

The summit will be hosted under



**TO REPRESENT: Bertha Sithole will be one of the candidates to represent Eswatini at the summit.**

the theme 'Reclaim Africa', which organisers describe as a call to action for young people to work towards an Africa they desire to be a part of.

The three-day gathering encourages youth participation in governance, social change and the economy through topics that impart knowledge, engage thought and inspire action.

Delegates of the summit range from young leaders from diverse backgrounds such as media, politics, academia and business with the aim of driving inter-country relations and collaborations. We have a

vested focus on having delegates from Eswatini this year, as we will also be sponsoring two youths from Eswatini.

### Opportunities

"Since its inception two years ago, the Breaking Down Borders Africa Youth summit has hosted over 200 young leaders representing 18 African countries.

"This has created a web of collaborations and partnerships across various sectors, movements and communities. As a platform, the summit presents an opportunity for young people to connect, learn and create in concert around pertinent areas of leadership, development and

how we can right the future of the kind of Africa we want to exist in," says Programme Manager Paul Modjadji.

The organisers announced in March that this year's summit would be the last one to be hosted in South Africa. This means that the next summit, to be hosted in 2021, will be hosted in another African country.

The summit, which not only brings young people together, also celebrates Africa Day and Month by engaging in conversations, which are led by and serve young people.

The Breaking Down Borders Africa Initiative is a multi-platform initiative that includes education, empowerment drives, as well as the conference. The Leaders Who Dare To Dream Foundation and led by a collective of youth social entrepreneurs, the initiative undertakes efforts to connect African youth through dialogue and conferencing, workshops and arts programmes. Through various partnerships with global NGOs, government and the private sector, the conference has driven robust conversation, given a platform for youth thought leadership and the building of networks among African youth in social and commercial entrepreneurship.

**BREAKING  
DOWN  
BORDERS**  
**AFRICA YOUTH SUMMIT**  
ENABLING AFRICAN YOUTH TO CONNECT

## SETSEMBISO DANCE THEATRE TO HOLD AWARENESS WALK

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

**SETSEMBISO Dance Theatre will hold an awareness walk on domestic violence against women and children.**

This is a 38 kilometre walk from Manzini to Mbabane, scheduled for June 29. This was revealed by Setsembiso Dance Theatre Founder Setsembiso 'Toothless' Magagula, who said the walk sought to bring together individuals and business entities to raise funds for the Setsembiso Dance Theatre, and to further promote awareness on domestic violence against women and children.

"The walk presents an excellent opportunity for businesses to increase their brand visibility through branding of any of the resting points and provision of water and energy drinks at the selected resting points," he said.

He said it will also allow companies to demonstrate their support for the community, provide an opportunity to reach out and connect with their target market through a different position, and to promote their brand and products

The first edition of the walk was in 2018, titled 'The Journey' and was about 132 kilometre walk from Nhlanguano to Mbabane over two days.

'Toothless' mentioned that the walk is open to the public and business entities, hence anybody and everyone is invited to walk in solidarity with survivors, advocates and victims' families as a symbol of commitment not to silently witness the senseless violence happening in communities and to the people we love.

"Funds raised from the walk will support the work of Setsembiso Dance Theatre and some selected agencies that provide advocacy and support to survivors of domestic violence," he added.

'Toothless's plea to organisations was for them to provide any sort of support to bring to life this project.

"Support can come in the provision of promotional apparel for the walk, manning of water points along the route of the walk, donation of financial resources to cover other logistical expenses and any other support as may be deemed relevant by businesses or company," pleaded the dancer.

## LARRY MHLANGA CHOREOGRAPHS AFRICA CARNIVAL

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

**IT was indeed a proud moment for Larry Mhlanga as he represented Eswatini at the #CelebrateAfricaCarnival on May 1 as the coordinator and choreographer of the festival.**

The festival took place in Durban, featuring 11 African countries that showcased their different and diverse cultures.

Speaking to Mhlanga, he said words cannot describe how he felt about the opportunity he had.

"It was an honour and also very exciting for me to be the coordinator and choreographer of the Celebrate Africa Carnival. Working with the amazing team from South Africa was great. It is every choreographer's dream to work with different groups from all over the world," he stated.

He stated that the event was a huge success, as different cultures and nationals came together to celebrate 'Ubuntu bomuntu'. He said the highlights included seeing the member of the Executive Council of KwaZulu-Natal, Minister Themba Mthethwa joining the parade and playing drums.



**AFRICA CARNIVAL: Larry Mhlanga alongside Zanele Mbokazi during the recent Africa Carnival held in Durban.**

"The vibe along the streets of Durban, passing workshop to the main arena was so amazing," he said.

According to Mhlanga #CelebrateAfricaCarnival was also about promoting social cohesion, saying no to xenophobia and a number of other issues that affect the African continent

"Next year we go up to 20 countries. We intend to promote social cohesion, No to xenophobia, #WeAreAfrica, We African Nations, Africa Independent Television Africa,

Africa Youth and Talent Summit Tourism and a lot more," he said.

He then said it would not be the last time doing such work for the festival and other international carnivals.

"As you may recall, I also participate in the biggest African Carnival in Calabar, Nigeria, which has over 10 000 street dancers and is attended by close to 500 000 tourists from all over the world, so I am looking forward to more of these opportunities," he said.

# AMANDA MO PERFORMS AT DURBAN'S GLOBAL BUSINESS ROUND TABLE

BY DELISA THWALA

AMANDA Mo has proven that being recognised globally can be easy when you work hard.

To end her KwaZulu Natal radio tour, Amanda Mo was invited as a guest and speaker at the Global Business Round Table which was hosted and

powered by Durban Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The event was intertwined with celebrating African women in their crafts. It was also to celebrate Africa Day, where guest speaker was Dr Ashantewa, who shared words of wisdom with the audience.

## Opportunities

As always Amanda Mo, shone the light of Eswatini and rendered a stunning performance with songs from her current album 'Sitsandzile'.

Speaking to the singer, she said she was humbled by the opportunities that gave her a platform, to shine and hoist the Eswatini flag high. "I am always humbled by such opportunities, as they grow

me as an artist," said the singer.

## Mission

The Global Business Roundtable is a non-profit organisation which comprises global leaders from a variety of sectors, backgrounds and expertise.

It is critical for the organisation's success that GBR leaders are aligned with its vision, mission, mandate and guiding principles. The leadership structure of GBR occurs at three levels: global, national and local levels.

Amanda Mo also mentioned that she was looking forward to be part of the next events that will be in Johannesburg and Lesotho before the end of winter.

## MDURA'S 2ND ANNUAL BIRTHDAY SHANDIS

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

COMEDIAN Mdura's 2nd Annual Birthday Shandis is slated for May 11.

The celebration will be held at Sibane Hotel and tickets are already available at Ocean Basket Mbabane and at Young Inc in Manzini.

According to the comedian, the show will not just have comedians but DJs as well. "There will be comedy when the show starts, then Eswatini DJs will take over after the comedy show," said the comedian.

Mdura said the show is basically a comedy show that has an after-party with DJs.

"We will have DJ Zulu D, Karly B, Ziyawa and Mistosoul who

will be behind the decks making the crowd dance.

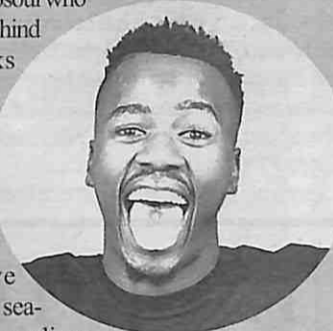
For the comedy part, we

will have seasoned comedians

such as Dr Shakes and Ndosh, who are also my personal friends. Elfoe will be the host of the show," he added.

"The most exciting part of the line-up for me is the very funny comedians who have been coming through the ranks at the Emfuleni Comedy Thursdays, which is a baby of mine; these fellas are so exciting and so very funny. We have Sbu, Mcola, Thembele and Bongiswa. I cannot wait for people to see them. I promise that they will not regret coming to the show," Mdura shared.

Mdura, originally known as Mduduzi Dlamini is one of Eswatini's best comedians. He won the best comedian award at the SWAMA awards last year. He has been attending international shows and has also been to Zanzibar to perform there. Later this year he will be going back there with other Eswatini artists.



## FESTIVAL XPLOSION GENERAL TICKETS COST E250

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

THE organising team will be releasing the first batch of tickets for the Eswatini Festival Xplosion concert slated for July 27.

This was revealed by Marketing Manager Noxolo Nxumalo who stated that general tickets will be the first to be released.

"First to be unveiled are general tickets which are going for E250. Children's ticket prices and the VIP tickets prices is yet to be released, we will also release the date in which the tickets will be available," said Nxumalo. According to Nxumalo, the price of the tickets had been set at E250 to make it affordable for festival lovers who are looking forward to the concert. She stated that because they understand how hard Eswatini worked for their money, it was for that reason that they offered



the best time at an affordable price. Nxumalo said the amount included

access to the venue; a tranquil and scenic place, spectacular world-

class fireworks display, electrifying musical performances, food stalls with mouth-watering cuisines, captivating entertainment and product displays, as well as children's games and activities which would take place during the day.

"We encourage Eswatini to perceive this event as an outing to spend time with their family and loved ones, as mentioned previously that the event is a movement of togetherness, warmth, sharing and adventure, it is an all-inclusive experience and so is our price," she said.

Nxumalo further mentioned that tickets were to be available in all Eswatini Mobile Experience Centres and online on Festival Xplosion website [www.festivalxplosion.com](http://www.festivalxplosion.com).

"We will be providing more information on the process of purchasing tickets online for comprehension and ease of access", she said.

## ORIGINELLE FOR MTV BASE RAPPER CYPHERS

BY DELISA THWALA

Swazi rapper Originelle is amassing golden opportunities.

The rapper will appear on the sixth episode of MTV Base rap ciphers titled 'Yo! MTV Raps Africa'.

The female rapper said she received a call from one of the crew members of 'MTV Raps', and said he heard about her through one of the rappers from Eswatini, who is also one of the directors for the show.

She narrated how they asked her to be a part of the show on a certain date.

"When they gave me the first date, I was saddened because I could not make it to I had a test on the same day, but amazingly I got a second chance and got the call again for a

different day, which was on Monday, she said.

Originelle said she was happy and amazed at such an opportunity.

"It is honestly such a huge honour, MTV Base is my favourite music channel, I always have it on to see what's happening in the industry, what's popping, who is dominating, what's hot and what opportunities are there now for upcoming artists. To finally be part of that and to know there is a younger me out there, who does the same but this time will be watching me and my moves is just phenomenal," said the rapper.

The brand new hip hop music series will be screening on MTV Base from April 25. It is a show that has always been done in the United States of America.

## SEM Cares Foundation to open awards submission lines

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

SEM Cares Foundation will open submission lines to members of the public for the entry applications on May 14.

The awards will include categories such as Best Female Artist, Best Male Artist, Best Music Group, Best Photographer, Best Male Model, Best Female Model and Best Music Video, to name a few.

According to SEM Cares Foundation Founder and Chairman Laurence Lukhele, this is another initiative the foundation had since realised could play a vital role while motivating and empowering the youth into becoming changed agents amongst themselves.

"We believe every skill deserves recognition and every role young people play deserves recognition," he said.

Lukhele stated that not only can one partake by entering the competition,

but also by helping in sponsorship or partnering with them.

"Drafting an award submission might be time-consuming, but entering your business into an awards programme is a great way to showcase your achievements, gain recognition for your hard work and promote your business by telling its story," he said.

He said businesses and individuals would use the award to attract new clients as an award from reputable organisation which would give a business instant credibility and allow it to be seen as a leader in the industry.

He said interested candidates were invited to take part in the initiative, as it will be of a great cause.

He mentioned that SEM Cares Foundation recently had a successful launch, on April 27 at The George Hotel in Manzini. According to him, the event was fully endorsed by Eswatini National Youth Council (ENYC), supported by Lukhele Mobile, New Life and artists

like Floewe, Mimzkhulu, Kangaroo, Kena, Courtney K Poet TK. Our MC for the day was Linda Chester, who is part of Pulse Entertainment and designers were Millennium Trend alongside with Teddz Urban Courtesy.

He further said their first stop was to conduct a market research, which was to determine what the youth really wanted as jobs so they could better channel their objectives towards their needs.

However, should the public wish to donate Lukhele said people can email at [info@semcaresfoundation.org](mailto:info@semcaresfoundation.org).

**We believe every skill deserves recognition and every role young people play deserves recognition**

# LISWATI CLINCHES DEAL WITH SOWETO TV

BY DELISA THWALA

**ONLY** the sky is the limit for South African-based Liswati Zuma Nkambule, famously known as 'ZumaSD'.

The graphic designer has clinched himself a six-months deal with Soweto TV, where he is working on their graphics. Nkambule will be handling the designs for the graphics of 'Take Off,' which is a new breakfast show hosted by Tbo Touch.

'Take Off' is a new breakfast show that airs on Soweto TV channel 251 on DSTV. Since its debut, it has hosted political household names like Julius Malema and Floyd Shivambu. They have also hosted musicians such as Black Coffee. The show is hosted by Tbo Touch, Capro More and Kamo Moth.

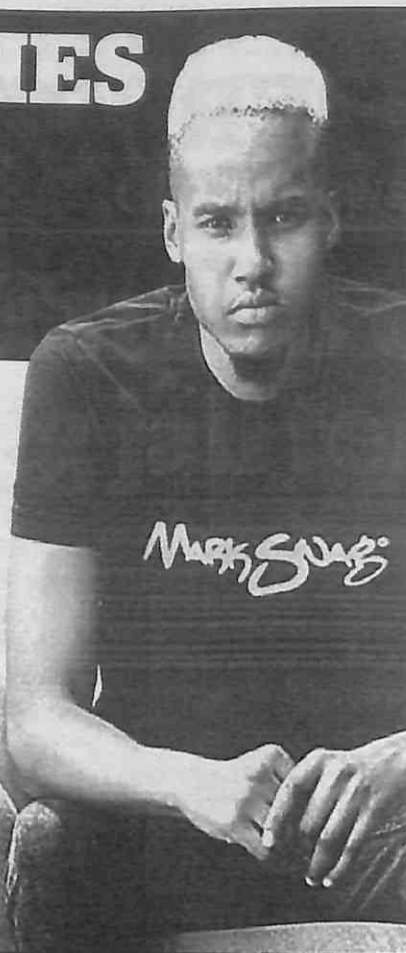
Speaking to the Entertainment Desk,

Nkambule said he would also be responsible for the look and feel of the show. "I have already designed the logo for the show and did the colour scheme as well," said Nkambule.

He was happy with what he has achieved thus far and where he is at with his hustle. The artist said he will not stop but would continue working hard in order to achieve all his goals.

"I am happy with working on this project as it will help me grow as a designer and my client base only grows due to clinching such deals," said Nkambule.

Nkambule is a graphic designer based in South Africa and works for an online radio station 'Touch HD' owned by Tbo Touch.



SKY IS THE LIMIT: SA-based Liswati Zuma 'ZumaSD' Nkambule.

## HIGH TEA EMPOWERMENT FOR WHEN WOMEN WORSHIP

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

**TO** celebrate Women's Month, gospel group When Women Worship will be hosting a high tea empowerment session and launching their latest CD 'Heart of Worship'.

This was revealed by When Women Worship Executive Director Phiwi Mabuza. According to Mabuza, the event would be held on Saturday, at Sibane Hotel from noon to 5pm.

### Launching

When Women Worship released their second album on April 27 and will be launching disk two of the album.

Speakers of the event include fitness and child developer Nonsiki Lukhele, Apostle Welile Mamba, self-esteem and beauty enhancer Busi Dlamini-Johnson and Samu Litsoane, who is a business woman, entrepreneur, social empowerment and relationship expert.

"Every one of us go through different reasures. There are tough situations for all of us, we all have some different types of scars as a result to date we could be where we never intended to be.

### Circumstances

"We're what our minds has interpreted & concluded from circumstances that befall us on day to day basis. Each one is tucked in own shell, 'what can't I live to my Dream'," said Mabuza.

She said women need to step out of confounding atmosphere, minding their attitude for it colours every aspect of their lives.

Entrance at the event is E200.

**FOR EMPOWERMENT:** Business woman Samu Litsoane and Apostle Welile Mamba.



## LK Baba on 'Luhambo' extended play

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

LK BABA yesterday released his second EP titled 'Luhambo: #Road2-Unlimited,' which talks about a challenging journey to success.

According to LK Baba this project is packed with 10 songs, all of which were produced by Alex Muti.

The artist, real name Kwandumusa Gama, said he was grateful that the project finally saw the light of day.

"This project comes as preparation for the release of my debut studio album 'Unlimited,' which is anticipated by my fans.

"It gives listeners an idea on what to expect for 'Unlimited,' thus the hashtag #Road2Unlimited," LK Baba stated.

He said 'Luhambo' tells a cohesive story of a long and challenging journey to success but at the same time, appreciating the process.

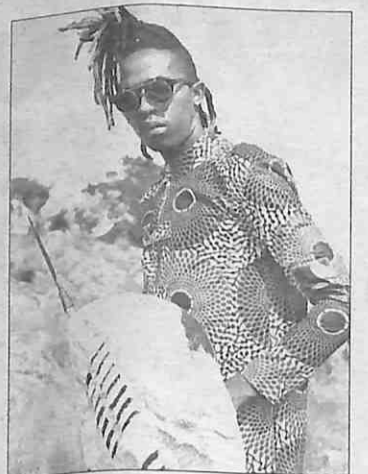
In productions, LK stated that he worked with his longtime friend and collaborator, Alex Muti, who met him halfway with hard-hitting modern hip-hop beats with a touch of African traditional samples.

### Masterpiece

"The sounds blended together perfectly with my lines and lyrics and the melodies became a phenomenal masterpiece," said the rapper.

LK Baba held a private listening session on April 26 at Cool Runnings in Mbabane, whereby a selected crowd had the chance to listen to 'Luhambo' for the first time.

"Everyone who was present during the listening session was totally



LUHAMBO: Kwandumusa 'LK Baba' Gama.

impressed and they all wanted to go home with copies of the LP. 'Luhambo' is a gift from me to my supporters who have seen me through and supported me since the beginning of my career," he said.

### Universal

He continued to explain how the EP tells a story that is relatable to anyone from all walks of life.

"It is a global story that must be heard in all corners of the world. The phrase 'Music is a universal language' was realised in the production of 'Luhambo' and it is of significance that it is appreciated as a musical piece," he said.

He said the project would be on sale through physical copies and also be available for download online.

LK urged his supporters to purchase the CD which would come with additional materials such as lyrics for all the songs.

## 'Umsindvo' making rounds on Channel O, Trace TV

BY DELISA THWALA

**NEW** RnB singer Castro is establishing his brand in all the right places as songs from his debut album 'Umsindvo' play on Trace Africa and Channel O.

The artist, Currency Motsa, released his first album after working on it for two years. The album also has amassed a great following locally and internationally.

The songs 'Ma Out' and 'Camp Chair' have debuted on both music platforms. On his Instagram, the song 'Camp Chair' is currently sitting on over 41 000 views and sitting on a massive 1 900 on his YouTube channel. The album was launched in April at an intimate event at The George Hotel.

Since then, the artist said he has been receiving great feedback from his fans. Channel O is one of the biggest music channels in Africa and plays different kinds of music from all over the world. Trace TV is a music channel that airs on DSTV channel 326 and plays songs from all over Africa as it is a popular channel.

Trace TV Africa also played the artist's songs last weekend. The channel played both 'Ma Out' and 'Camp Chair' which form part of the album which contains 13 tracks.

The artist said he was humbled by this as he did not think he would reach such lengths in a short peri-



UMSINDVO: Currency 'Castro' Motsa.

od of time.

"I first teased the audience with the release of my two singles 'Ma Out' and 'Camp Chair' from the same album but I did not anticipate such response. I am really honoured to see my hard work being recognised," said the singer.

### Expects

He also added that he would commence his album tour in the Lowveld on June 1 where he expects to shut down the whole of Siteki.

Castro's YouTube channel is currently sitting on 136 subscribers and all his work on the channel is sitting on numbers like 5 000 plus.

YouTube is a website designed for sharing video. Millions of users around the world have created accounts on the site that allow them to upload videos that anyone can watch. Every minute of every day, more than 35 hours of video is uploaded on YouTube.

# MET GALA 2019

**C**OLLOQUIALLY and affectionately referred to as 'Fashion's biggest night out,' the Met Gala 2019 is a pinhead of iconic style.

A fundraising benefit for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, the event welcomes celebrity stars, young creatives, and industry paragons alike. And the excitement doesn't

stop here as the gala also signifies the highly anticipated grand opening of the Costume Institute's annual fashion exhibition: 'Camp: Notes on Fashion' opening tomorrow.

This year's Met Gala once again brought out the good, the bad and the funky.

The annual event's fully underway right now in NYC at the

Metropolitan Museum of Art and once again it did not disappoint. As usual, tonnes of celebs poured into the annual and glitzy fundraiser with some intense outfits. From French Montana and Harry Styles to Ashley Graham and Serena Williams.

Here are some of the pink carpet looks:



**CASUAL:** Trevor Noah went casual for the night.



**TWO-HEADED:** Jared Leto came with two heads to fit the theme.



**EYE-LASHED:** Janet Mock stuck to the theme with her dress and four hats.



**ATTENDED:** Jennifer Lopez and Alex Rodriguez.



**IN GREEN:** Alicia Keys and Swizz Beatz went for green-themed outfits to match.



**RIGHT - BUBBLY:** Kardiana B needed extra hands for her to move and walk around.



**IN LOVE:** Iris Aiba and Sabrina Dhowr could not miss out the pink carpet affair.



**QUEEN OF COURT:** Serena Williams went for yellow Nike sneakers to complement her yellow dress.

**FAR RIGHT:** Lupita Nyong'o of Black Panther arrives.



**ABOVE REVEALING GAGA:** Lady Gaga's third outfit was a little revealing.

**LEFT - IN PINK STAPS:** Nicky Minaj went for a pink dress to match the carpet.



# Celebville

International Celebrity News

## Kim Kardashian helped free 17 inmates in 90 days

**HOLLYWOOD** - Kim Kardashian is helping free inmates at an amazingly high rate, and she's been doing it rather quietly until now. We've learned Kim and her legal team helped 17 prisoners gain freedom over the last three months or so each of them having served years of life sentences without parole for low-level drug offenses. It's all part of the 90 Days of Freedom campaign launched by Kim's lawyer, Brittany K. Barnett, in partnership with lawyer MiAngel



Cody of The Decarceration Collective. The campaign puts the First Step Act signed by President Donald Trump last year to work for prisoners who received draconian sentences. Kim is footing the bill while Barnett, who also co-founded the Buried Alive advocacy group, and Cody handle the lawyering. We're told Kim's been secretly funding the campaign over the past few months. (TMZ)

## DeAndre Hopkins wants Oprah for movie role about mom

**HOLLYWOOD** - DeAndre Hopkins' mom is getting a movie made about her inspirational life ... and now, the Houston Texans superstar is giving TMZ Sports his perfect fit for her role Oprah! If you missed it Sabrina Greenlee is set to be the subject of a new Hollywood picture because her story is amazing. Back in 2002, she was ambushed by a woman who threw a dangerous mixture of drain cleaner and Clorox bleach at her face, which blinded her imme-



**MOVIE MADE: DeAndre Hopkins and his mom.**

dately. The attack nearly killed her and sent her into deep depression afterwards but she battled back to be an awesome mother and an active community leader. So, when we got her famous son, DeAndre, out in Bev Hills this past weekend ... we had to ask, who should play Momma in the flick?? (TMZ)

## Mzansi weighs in on Zinhle, AKA's relationship

**MPUMALANGA** - Just one picture of AKA and DJ Zinhle is all it took for the DJ to dominate Twitter's trends list as people weigh in on their love. After months of public speculation on whether the two are back together, AKA finally 'broke the silence' and made their relationship Instagram official. While some have shown the two some love, the picture which has been liked more than 150 000 times seems to have



**IN LOVE: AKA and DJ Zinhle.**

drawn more backlash than positive responses. DJ Zinhle was criticised for taking back AKA, who once left her for Bonang, and is being called anything from "desperate" to "an ambassador of forgiveness". While neither Zinhle or AKA has responded to the backlash, Twitter remains divided on Zinhle's decision to take him back. (Times Live)

## Zodwa Wabantu on proposing to her bae

**DURBAN** - Eat your hearts out, ladies, Ntobeko Linda is off the market. This after Zodwa popped the question to her lifetime bae. Zodwa Wabantu took to Instagram on Sunday to share a video of her going down her knee at Eyadini Lounge, in Durban, and asking Ntobeko to marry her. And get outfits ready fam, the wedding is in June. Speaking to our sister publication TshisaLIVE, Zodwa



**PROPOSED: Ntobeko Linda and Zodwa Wabantu.**

said the clock is ticking for her to get married and so she decided to take the initiative before Ntobeko 'runs away'. "I love him, he has been with me through it all. I'm old and checking my time to marry him before I run out of time or he leaves me." She said that she bought the ring from the money she made from twerking. She said her fiancé was taken by surprise by the proposal. (Sowetan)

## Britney may be using mother to gain freedom

**LOS ANGELES** - Britney Spears is in bad shape her meds aren't working right and she's not nearly fully recovered from her relapse that landed her in a mental health facility and now to make matters worse, we're told she's 'playing' her mom to give her more freedom to make decisions. As we reported, Britney's mom, Lynne Spears, is going to court on Friday asking



**Britney Spear and her mom Lynne.**

the judge who presides over her conservatorship to force Brit's conservator, Jamie Spears, to download her on the medical decisions he's making. Lynne has never been part of the conservatorship. She used to be extremely close to Britney, but when Britney and Justin Timberlake broke up back in 2002, the singer cut her mom out of her life. (TMZ)

## Chris Brown gets visit from woman claiming he cursed son

**LOS ANGELES** - Chris Brown got wrapped into some bad juju after cops say a woman trekked across the country trying to get him to remove a curse she believed CB inflicted on her son. Cops responded to a call on Saturday night, reporting a strange woman with a preteen who was seen wandering around Chris' L.A.-area property throwing a Bible over his wall, no less. Officers responded, and they got quite the tale from the woman. Law



**VISITS: Chris Brown.**

enforcement sources tell TMZ she said she had flown into town from Texas that day with her boy all in the hopes of convincing Chris to lift some voodoo. We're told she felt the presence of a Bible on his lawn would help lift the curse. As for why she thought all of this pretty clearly, cops figured she might have mental health issues. She was taken in for evaluation, and her son was taken into protective custody. Chris wasn't directly involved in the incident as he wasn't home at the time. (TMZ)

## Mshoza on showing up for Gigi Lamanyne

**SOWETO** - Kwaito star Mshoza has told TshisaLIVE that it is important for women in the entertainment industry to support one another in their pursuits. This after she showed up and showed off in a big way for hip hop artist Gigi Lamanyne, who made history on Saturday by being the first South African hip hop artist to host a one-woman show. Mshoza took the stage and delivered on epic performance, much to the crowd's excitement and cheer. "The industry is small and is dominated by men, but as



**ON SHOW UP: Mshoza.**

women, we need to come through for each other. We also need to let go of the fear of making things happen." She said she felt emotional just before she took the stage. "I am so proud that Gigi initiated this. I almost cried just before I took the stage. If this is to continue for much longer, then we will have won as women in music, we will be taken seriously." On female industry colleagues who want to pursue their dreams, Mshoza said they must go for it and use Gigi as their inspiration. She also cited herself as an example people can use as a reminder that anything is possible. (Times Live)

## Vusi Nova hits back at critics

**JOHANNESBURG** - Just days before the nation heads to the polls in the 2019 national elections, Vusi Nova has had to fend off suggestions that he is misleading his followers in the search for coins. AKA and Vusi were among the celebs attending the ANC Siyanqoba rally in Johannesburg's Ellis Park Stadium last weekend and posed for a picture together. But while many shared their approval of the post, others slammed the musician and suggested



**BACK: Vusi Nova.**

he was using his fame to influence his fans about the wrong part, while chasing money. Vusi responded by telling a follower that he was free to express himself, however, he wanted 'and urged fans to go back to the drawing board'. "I think we live in a country where people are allowed to be free and express themselves and this is what you are doing, but for some reason you are not allowing me to exercise my rights!?" (Times Live)

## WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST



TODAY



**ARRIVES: Jabu.**

It's election day and the Zungus try to find some normality in the face of their crisis. Jabu arrives to offer Mkabayi his help and she makes a shocking request.



TODAY

Lalage asks tough questions, but is she ready to hear the answers? Lungi puts the ball in Lincoln's court and Sibiya and Makgorometsa's friendship hits a rocky patch.



**ASKS: Lalage.**



TODAY



**WARNED: Mpho.**

Mulimisi warns Mpho against making a wrong decision. KK makes Skhumbuzo an offer he can't refuse. Sundani puts Tenda on the spot when she makes an unlawful demand.



TODAY

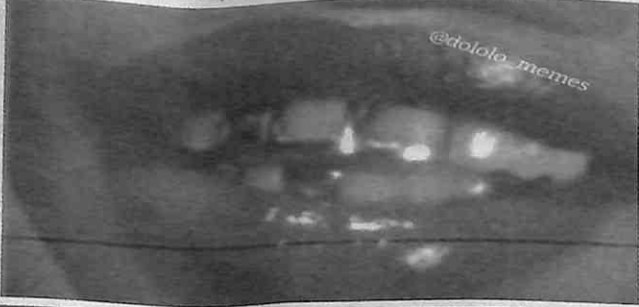
Keabetswe drops a bombshell. Fats tells Jafta he needs to go to Home Affairs to sort his ID situation out. David snoops on Gail, but she's one step ahead of him.



**DROPS A BOMBSHELL: Keabetswe.**

## PICTURE OF THE DAY

"Leave him chomi, what go surround, come surround"



## TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

## Capricorn December 22 – January 19

Money matters might seem disastrous today, Capricorn. You may have had a temporary setback, but you're probably being especially pessimistic and not seeing the whole picture. Sit down and try to juggle a few figures. You will probably find that you're better off than it seemed at first. Whatever expenses come up, you will be able to handle them.



## Aquarius January 20 – February 18

A temporary separation from a romantic partner might have you despairing today, Aquarius. Your imagination may conjure up all sorts of dreadful scenarios, like your beloved finding someone else. Don't do this to yourself. Your friend probably misses you, too. Keep busy so the days pass quickly until your friend comes back and you're together again. Be patient!



## Pisces February 19 – March 20

Have you been walking or exercising too much lately, Pisces? If so, you might experience aching feet and legs today. Wear comfortable shoes and stay off your feet as much as you can in order to allow the pains to heal. You might want to relax in a hot tub at some point, preferably with a romantic partner! This is one way to turn a misfortune into a great time.



## Aries March 21 – April 19

A close friend or romantic partner might be in a negative mood today, Aries. You may want to try to lift this person out of that mood. Take your friend to a sporting event, party, or funny movie. If you're refused at first, don't take no for an answer! It will do your friend good to get out of that funk, and it will do you good as well!



## Taurus April 20 – May 20

You might have trouble with your plumbing today, Taurus, particularly if you have a big kitchen. This is too complex a problem to handle yourself. Pay the money to have a professional take care of the problem. It will save you work and frustration. In the meantime, have a pizza delivered while you're waiting to get your kitchen back!



## Gemini May 21 – June 21

Are you having problems with your phone, Gemini? Is traffic out of control? Perhaps it might be best to stay home today and put conversations with your friends on hold for a while. You might miss a call from someone far away, but the person will try to reach you later. Relax, make yourself some tea, and enjoy the silence. A little quiet time now and then is good for you.



## Cancer June 22 – July 22

A treasured possession might be missing somewhere in the house today, Cancer. No matter where you look, you won't be able to find it. This could stimulate your determination, and you might end up searching for hours. The object is in the house, but it's probably under something, perhaps in a place you would never dream of looking. Check the biggest rooms in the house.



## Leo July 23 – August 22

A romantic partner might suggest a trip together, Leo, perhaps to a place you've been anxious to see. This is a possibility, but now your friend is merely kicking the idea around. If you like the idea, don't respond too enthusiastically right now or your friend might feel threatened and back off. In fact, don't talk much at all. Listen and nod agreeably!



## Virgo August 23 – September 22

Uncomfortable intuitive impressions from someone close might be troubling, Virgo. Is your friend ill or bothered by events out of his or her control? Your friend probably won't want to talk much about it, so you will just have to let them tell you what's going on when the time is right. This could be frustrating for you, but be patient. That's all you can do now.



## Libra September 23 – October 23

A goal you've been pursuing may be unworkable now, Libra. You may have to put it on hold for a while. This could be disappointing, but think about it carefully. What other dreams do you have? Figure out which ones are most important to you and then decide which are most promising right now. Sometimes little setbacks like this prove to be blessings in disguise.



## Scorpio October 24 – November 21

Confusion may reign today as you try to glean some information that seems to be totally elusive, Scorpio. Are you researching a project? Are some of the facts obscure? For now, it might be better to work on something else and go back to your research in a few days. To keep at it now might involve you in a lot of work for negligible results.



## Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

A sibling or neighbor might be compelled to move away, Sagittarius. This might be emotionally wrenching, and you could have a difficult conversation with this person. It isn't always easy to let go of someone you care about, but this could be a valuable lesson in detachment. It will probably take you a while to get used to the idea, though you still won't like it. Hang in there!



## BABY BLUES



## BUCKLES



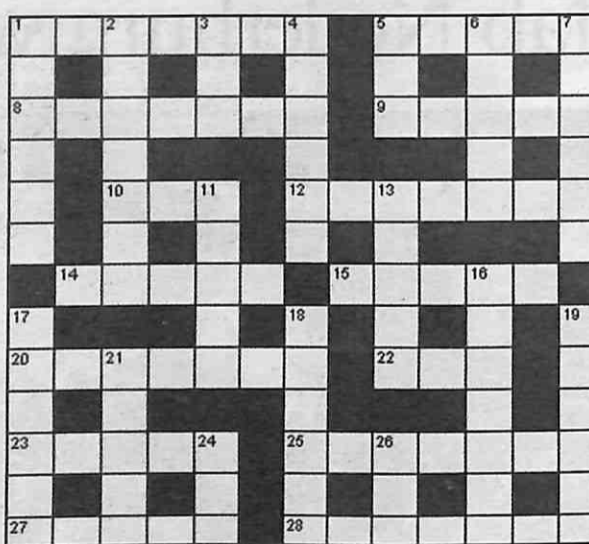
## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## PUZZLE CHOICE

## True-False Crossword

In this crossword there are two clues for each word. Can you work out which is true and which is false?



## ACROSS

1. SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS (7)
5. PIECES OF (5)
8. TRADE (7)
9. THE HOLY (5)
10. THE LION (3)
12. LEAD BY (7)
14. A LITTLE ROUGH AROUND THE (5)
15. LAST BUT NOT (5)
20. TIME IS OF THE (7)
22. TIC-TAC- (3)
23. A PLAYING FIELD (5)
25. SORELY (7)
27. YOUR BETS (5)
28. MANY HAPPY (7)

## DOWN

1. QUESTION AND (6)
2. PINK (7)
3. THE AND ONLY (3)
4. YOU CAN'T BEAT THE (6)
5. CHICKEN AND (3)
6. THE NETTLE (5)
7. FORTUNE (6)
11. A DROP IN THE (5)
13. SECRET (5)
16. HELTER (7)
17. HEALTH, AND HAPPINESS (6)
18. LATE THAN NEVER (6)
19. JACK OF ALL (6)
21. BY THE BELL (5)
24. LET SLEEPING DOGS (3)
26. HIS MATCH (3)

## LOL

Laughing Out Loud

## BALD MAN'S BIRTHDAY

Q: What did the bald guy say when he was given a comb for his birthday?

A: Thanks, I'll never part with it.

## DID YOU KNOW

1. The population is expected to rise to 10.8 billion by the year 2080.
2. You breathe on average about 8 409 600 times a year.
3. More than 60 000 people are flying over the United States in an airplane right now.
4. Hamsters run up to eight miles at night on a wheel.
5. A waterfall in Hawaii goes up sometimes instead of down.

## The MOVIE QUIZ

## MOVIE QUIZ

## YESTERDAY'S QUIZ

1. Who got tetchy when British critics ridiculed his English accent in Ridley Scott's 2010 Robin Hood?

Answer: A. Russell Crowe

## TODAY'S MOVIE QUIZ

1. A Bronx Tale (1993) was the directorial debut of which Hollywood star?

A. Robert De Niro  
B. Denzel



DStv  
Feel every moment

NEWS



# WILL NENE, CYNTHIA'S FRIENDSHIP MAKE IT?

**CRACKS in this long standing friendship continue haunting its troubled existence.**

Will the girls bury the hatchet or is this the end of another road?

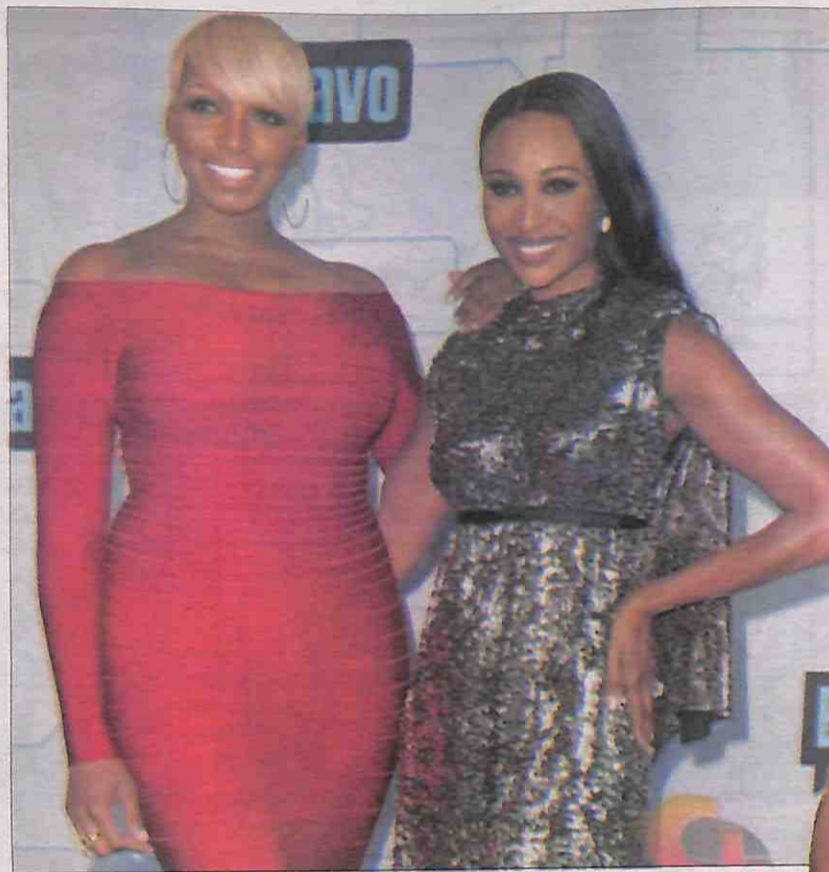
By now, viewers of the most popular Housewives franchise have come to understand that friendships on this show aren't necessarily tied by oaths. A friendship today devolves into a nasty war in the next episode – and that's just that. Mind you, we aren't just talking about those shallow staged for TV type link ups. We are taking old friends here.

The latest of such enduring friendships to bite the dust is one between Nene Leakes and Cynthia Bailey, who've been close friends for most of the show's 11 years on air.

Granted, their friendships hasn't been without its bumps – some rougher than others – but the ladies have always seemed to find their way back to each other. And it makes sense; they share a lot of personal history and their families grew quite close over the years. We've seen them share triumphs and building beautiful sisterhood memories on the show, and we've seen them hold each other down in the trenches.

Even around the time when Cynthia started spending more time with Kenya Moore, driving Nene Leakes up the wall (it doesn't seem to be that difficult to send her flying), they somehow to bury their hatch and hatch new beginnings.

Or so we thought.



It appears that season 11 is all about the testing of limits. Nene Leakes is going through a difficult time. Her husband, Greg, is currently battling cancer. The authenticity of Cynthia's sisterhood is being questioned quite a lot, especially as she continues fraternising with people Nene doesn't vibe with (it's

a long list).

Will this friendship live to see another season, or will Cynthia Bailey finally, erm, bail on Nene? Watch it all unfold on the Real Housewives of Atlanta, Mondays to Thursdays at 18:00 on 1Magic, DStv channel 103.

## Siba's Adventures -JHB

**ONE of Africa's favourite foodies hits the streets of Jozi this month!**

The Beloved celebrity chef, Siba Mtogana is back on our screens with her new adventure series through Johannesburg, South Africa, also known as the City of Gold. Don't miss out on Siba's adventure Johannesburg on Thursdays at 19:00 CAT on Food Network (DStv channel 175).

The show sees Siba head to one of her favourite cities, to uncover the tastiest bits of South Africa's City of Gold. A place that's reinvented itself almost

overnight, with tons of trendy coffee shops, quirky restaurants, markets and food trucks serving the latest mouth-watering bites. Johannesburg is now on trend and the place to be seen and eat!

In each episode Siba treats us to some of her delicious simple recipes suitable for each foodie visit. From food on the go, to dishes for entertaining and family feasts as Joburg inspires Siba to create a menu from her trip.

"My new series is something a little different to what my avid viewers are used to. I am usually exploring the streets of Cape Town finding inspiration and bringing it back to my own kitchen. This series, I take to the streets of Joburg, to see what's hot and trendy in the food scene in my neighbouring city," says Siba Mtogana.

Siba has had a long-standing relationship with the Food Network channel and DStv, and this new show is an indication of how the platform continues to invest in African talent. The show also gives viewers an opportunity to view Jozi's 'HOTSPOTS' as well as the delicious cuisine they offer.

Don't miss Siba as she adventures to some of the trendiest spots on Siba's adventures Johannesburg from Thursday, 25 April at 19:00 CAT on Food Network (DStv 175).



**WE take a look at our favourite wines from season 1 of Celeb Feasts.**

If there's one thing Chef Zola always had on hand to welcome her guests, it was a good 'ol glass of wine! And much to their delight they were incredibly spoilt for choice. From the full bodied reds to wooded whites, nothing was in short supply in the Celeb Feasts kitchen. But just incase you missed any of her fine selections we've dug into the archives and pulled our personal favourites from the line up that will pair perfectly with your next hearty meal!

### Season

Here are five fabulous wines from the first season of Celeb Feasts.

#### ● The Young Airhawk

This refreshing sauvignon blanc pairs beautifully with rich fishes like salmon and tuna or can be the perfect addition to your pasta dishes.

#### ● Premiere Cuvee Sparkling Brut

Looking for a fruity and dry bubbly? Look no further! The Cuvee sparkling brut is not only crispy, it pairs well with a variety of dishes including meaty main courses and sweet desserts

#### ● The Anchorman

A careful balance of earthy tones and fruity notes makes this wine that's crafted with chenin blanc grapes the ideal accompaniment with mild cheeses and

## Five fab Nederburg wines! - Celeb Feasts



spicy dishes

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the Merlot works wonders when accompanying beef, lamb and veal dishes.

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nice long finish, the Baronne is a wonderful wine for those laid back evenings with your favourite beef or poultry dishes.

Stay tuned to #CelebFeasts every Tuesday at 21:30! Follow the conversation on Facebook, Twitter and at [mzansimagic.dstv.com](https://www.mzansimagic.dstv.com).

# THE CLASSIFIEDS OBSERVER

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Swazi OBSERVER

## 1. CHANGE OF SURNAME

**MOTSA WELCOME**, of Shiselweni Region wish to assume surname **NZIMA**. Reason being that **NZIMA** is my natural surname. Any objections should be sent to P.O. Box 4 Hlathikhulu Shiselweni Regional Secretary.

R/N 167434 - 17 apr, 24 apr, 01 may, 08 may

**MDLULI SYDWELL SIKHUMBUZO**, of Shiselweni Region wish to assume surname **DLAMINI**. Reason being that **DLAMINI** is my natural surname. Any objections should be sent to P.O. Box 34 Ezulwini Shiselweni Regional Secretary.

R/N 167432 - 10 apr, 17 apr, 24 apr, 08 may

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R/N 167489 Dlx 17/05/19

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R/N 167572 Dlx 06 JUNE 2019.

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R/n 202026 Dlx 14/05/19



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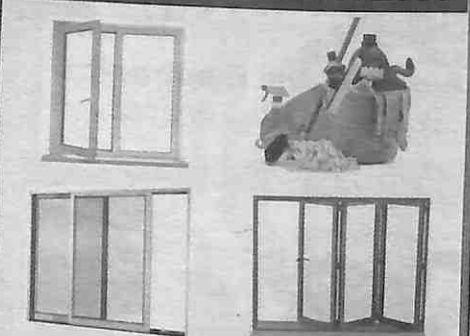
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KHABONINA MABUZA  
P. O. BOX 1821  
MANZINI

R/N 167567 Dlx 8 MAY 2019

## ESTATE LATE:

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SIHLONGONYANE  
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## DEATH

Mbhe Lawrence  
Mlotshwa



Funeral: 11/05/2019  
Vigil: 10/05/2019  
Place: Emakhosini

Relatives and friends of Mbhe Lawrence Mlotshwa are notified of his untimely death. Memorial service will be held on Friday at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Fairview Manzini starting at 11am. He will be laid to rest on Saturday morning after a night vigil at his parental home Emakhosini (Nhlango). Announcement by his wife on behalf of family.

Dx10/05/19



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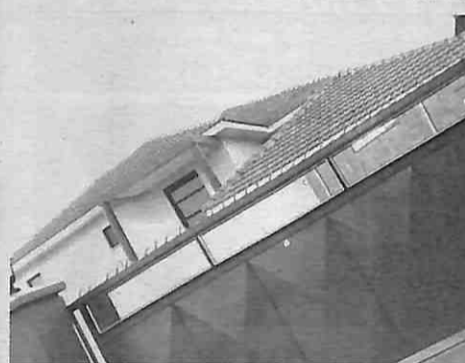
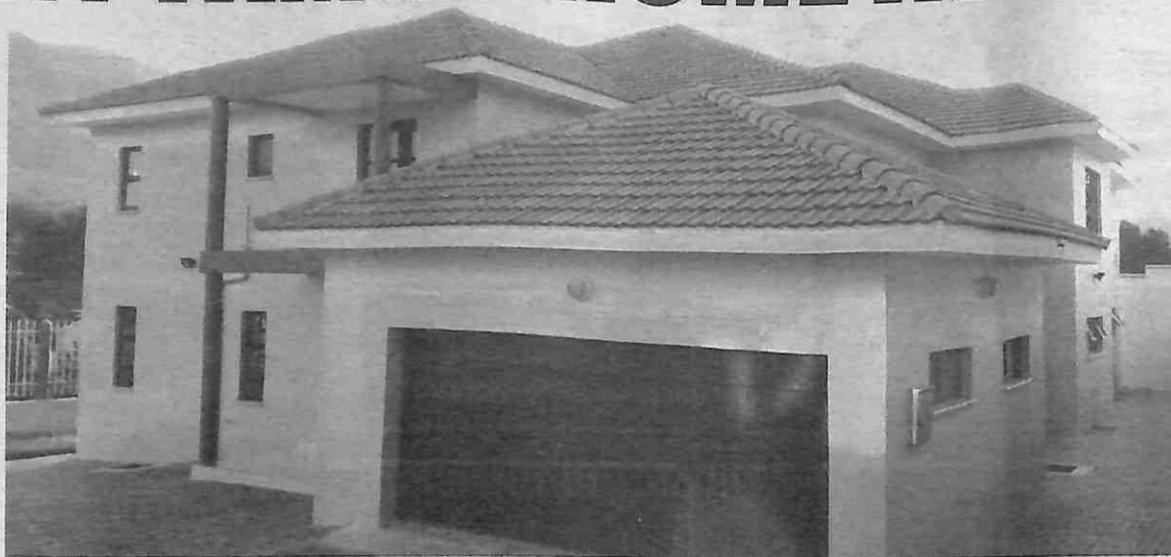
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# JAMES HARDEN SAVES ROCKETS

...scores 38 points as Houston Rockets scrap their way to series-levelling victory over Golden State Warriors

**NEW YORK** - James Harden and the Houston Rockets dug out of a 0-2 hole to even their Western Conference semi-finals series with the Golden State Warriors after another game where they fought, scrapped and held off a late rally to get a victory.

Harden scored 38 points and the Rockets got a 112-108 win on Monday night to even the best-of seven series at 2-2.

"When you're dealing with these guys, if you let Klay (Thompson) and Steph (Curry) run around and shoot 3s you don't have no chance," Harden said. "The only chance we have is to be in to their bodies and make every shot that they take contested."

The Rockets were up by nine before the Golden State scored the next seven points, capped by a three from Stephen Curry, to get within 110-108 with 19 seconds left. Harden made one of two free throws with 11.5 seconds left. Kevin Durant missed a three after that. But the Warriors got the rebound and Curry

also missed a three-point attempt before Golden State was forced to foul Chris Paul. "We got a couple of wide-open looks," Durant said. "They just didn't fall for us."

Paul made one of two free throws with 2.9 seconds left to secure the victory.

Golden State coach Steve Kerr was asked about the physical play of the Rockets, who have several players who are much stockier than his squad.

"They've got a lot of middle line-backers on that team," he said. "They're sturdy and we're like volleyball players, long and lean ... everybody tries to be physical with us because they should. That's the best way to try to beat us."

After losing the first two games of the series on the road, the Rockets head back to Golden State for Game 5 tonight with momentum on their side after their overtime win in Game 3 before Monday night's victory. The Warriors got 34 points from Kevin Durant, who had 46 in the Game 3 loss. Curry, who was

criticised after shooting 7 for 23 in Game 3, got off to a good start, scoring 11 points in the first quarter. He cooled off after that, but finished with 30 points on 12 of 25 shooting.

"I didn't think we got great shots for much of the night," Kerr said. "We've got to be more poised and that has to be a focus." Houston made 17 of its 50 three-point attempts, while the Warriors shot just 8 of 33 from downtown with Curry making just four of his 14 attempts.

The Rockets were up by nine after three and used an 8-2 run, with four points from Harden, to open the fourth and extend the lead to 101-86. Golden State used an 8-3 run, with six points from Draymond Green, to cut it to 104-94 midway through the quarter.

Houston had a 10-point lead with about four minutes left before a 5-2 run, with a three from Curry, got them within 108-101.

*Daily Mail*

## Milan back in Champions League race after fiery Bologna win

**MILAN** - AC Milan revived their Champions League hopes with a 2-1 win over Bologna on Monday as tempers flared with three players sent off and a bust-up between French midfielder Tiemoue Bakayoko and coach Gennaro Gattuso on the sidelines.

Gattuso's side move back into fifth place - three points behind Atalanta who occupy the final Champions League berth - with three games left to play this season.

Milan had dropped out of the European places after a draw against Parma and loss to Torino but now move level on points with Roma who are sixth.

Champions Juventus and second-placed Napoli are already assured of Champions League football next season but the battle for the final two berths remains tight with Inter Milan on 63 points, followed by Atalanta (62), AC Milan (59), Roma (59) and Torino (57).

Spanish winger Suso opened for Milan on 37 minutes with the game springing to life in the second half with Fabio Borini tapping in the second on 67 minutes.

Bologna's Mattia Destro pulled one back on 72 minutes, with Milan playing the final quarter of an hour a man down after midfielder Lucas Paqueta was sent off for arguing with the referee. In a nervy finale, Bologna finished the game with nine men with Nicola Sansone and Mitchell Dijks both sent off late.

There was also pitch-side drama early when Argentine midfielder Lucas Biglia

picked up an injury 25 minutes into the game at the San Siro with the Milan coach asking on-loan Chelsea player Bakayoko to start warming up.

Bakayoko - on the bench after arriving late for training - started to warm up without enthusiasm to the fury of Gattuso who instead asked another substitute José Mauri to come on.

Gattuso and Bakayoko were caught on camera exchanging insults with the French player saying twice "Fxxx off, man" and the coach replying "I'll see you later".

Bakayoko joined the club on loan from Chelsea last summer with an option to buy but has been the subject of racist chanting this season several times, notably from Lazio supporters.

*AFP*

## Schumacher had no respect - Villeneuve

**LONDON** - Jacques Villeneuve says F1 drivers have "no respect" for their on track rivals.

And the 1997 world champion says that trend was started by his great nemesis.

"He had a total lack of respect for other drivers and what racing is all about," Villeneuve told the Swedish newspaper Expressen.

"It started an era where everyone does the same. I look at Formula 2 and Formula 3 and it's strange that we don't have a couple of deaths every year.

"In F1 it's almost everyone too. They change lines and move when braking -- things you should not see," Villeneuve said.

Villeneuve said there is a notable exception on the F1 grid -- five time world champion Lewis Hamilton.

"Lewis is great because so far he has done nothing that is beyond the boundaries," said the French Canadian.

"That's the big difference -- he's more of a gentleman on the track. A quick driver but clean."

*Sport24*



## Bayern target Werner could leave Leipzig in 2020

**MUNICH** - RB Leipzig coach Ralf Rangnick has hinted that star striker Timo Werner may yet stay at the club for another year before joining Bayern Munich on a free transfer.

Werner, 23, has scored 19 goals this season as Leipzig have secured a top four spot and reached the German Cup final.

His excellent form has seen him linked with a move to Bayern, whom Leipzig face both in the Bundesliga this weekend and in the cup final later this month.

With Werner's current contract set to expire in 2020, Rangnick and Leipzig had previously ruled out allowing the striker to leave on a free transfer at the end of next season.

Yet at an event organised by LVZ newspaper on Monday, Rangnick admitted that

the wantaway striker may yet stay on for another season under new boss Julian Nagelsmann.

"I can't rule out Timo staying until 2020," said the Leipzig coach.

"We will see in the summer whether he moves away or if he stays to fire us into the Champions League again."

Rangnick said he would like Werner to stay, but also felt Leipzig deserved not to lose the player on a free transfer.

He also confirmed that he was already looking for a new No. 9 in case Werner were to join Bayern at the end of this season.

"If he does leave, then we need a replacement who can guarantee us 15 to 20 goals a season," he said.

*AFP*



**YOU DESERVE IT:** President Donald Trump awarded Masters champion and golfing buddy Tiger Woods the Medal of Freedom on Monday evening.

## Tiger Woods weeps as Trump gives him Medal of Freedom

**WASHINGTON** - President Donald Trump awarded Masters champion and golfing buddy Tiger Woods the Medal of Freedom on Monday evening in a Rose Garden ceremony the athlete's new girlfriend also attended.

The president said that Woods, 43, is "one of the greatest athletes in the history of sports" and has inspired people worldwide with his barrier-breaking victories, capped by a comeback at this year's tournament.

"He's also a great person. He's a great guy," Trump declared. "He inspired millions of young Americans with his thrilling wire-to-wire victories. Tiger Woods is a global symbol of American excellence, devotion, and drive." The first African-American to win the Masters and the youngest golfer to take the title, Woods won his first major tournament in 11 years in April after suffering severe injuries that threatened to end his career forever.

Woods cried at the White House as he talked about his late father and spoke about his 'amazing' comeback this year and the 'unbelievable experience' of winning the award in front his mother, children,

caddy, girlfriend Erica Herman, the president and first lady Melania Trump.

"You've seen the good and the bad, the highs and the lows, and I would not be in this position without all your help," he told his family. "I've battled, I try to hang in there, and I've tried to come back and play the great game of golf again."

The citation for the award said that Woods was being honoured for the five Masters tournaments he's won, beginning in 1997 when he became the first black man and the youngest golfer ever to clinch the title. He won again in 2019, becoming the second-oldest champ.

President Trump also noted that Woods has 81 PGA tour victories under his belt - one victory behind the all-time record.

Trump also had another statistic he wanted to point out: he said that Woods' victory in April was "record-setting ratings" for a Masters tournament.

"We are in the presence of a true legend, an extraordinary athlete who has transformed golf and achieved new levels of dominance," he said.

*Daily Mail*



# Hazard **scoops** Premier League Goal of the Month

LONDON - Chelsea star Eden Hazard has collected the Premier League's Goal of the Month award for April, following his sublime solo effort against London rivals West Ham at Stamford Bridge.

Hazard wowed the football world by picking up the ball just inside the opposition half and embarking on a mazy run, which saw defenders falling at his feet, before slotting the ball into the bottom corner. Caressing the ball from one foot to the other, Hazard took on five men before finishing off the fine effort. He would later go on to score again in the game to wrap up a 2-0 victory for his side. In winning, Hazard fought off competition from the likes of Liverpool's Mohamed Salah - who was in the running for his long-range effort against Chelsea at Anfield.

Hazard said the strike was among his best for the club, when speaking following the announcement of his success. "It's in the top for sure," Hazard told the Premier League. "Especially because it was a derby as well, in front of the fans at Stamford Bridge."



WINNER: Eden Hazard.

Hazard's goal was chosen as the winner by a panel of experts combined with a public vote through the Carling website or App. He beat seven other contenders. The award may well be one of the final ones Hazard wins as a Chelsea player, with the Belgian continually linked with a summer move to Real Madrid. Hazard is believed to be among the top priorities of Madrid boss Zinedine

Zidane, who is looking to rebuild the squad at the Bernabeu.

Recently footage circulated involving Hazard, showing the forward in his car beside supporters who were asking him to stay at Stamford Bridge.

In the short clip, Hazard could be seen offering a little grin before appearing to shake his head and then driving away.

AFP

## Martial faces fight to convince Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

MANCHESTER - Anthony Martial faces a battle to convince Ole Gunnar Solskjaer that he has a long-term future at Manchester United.

Sportsmail revealed that Solskjaer tore into Martial after United's draw with Chelsea nine days ago after the Frenchman barely joined in the pre-match warm-up when he was named as a substitute.

It's understood the United boss was particularly upset because he had

granted permission for Martial to return to France after the game for several days due to family reasons.

Solskjaer sent on Alexis Sanchez ahead of Martial against Chelsea, and the 23-year-old winger was then missing from the squad altogether for Sunday's draw at Huddersfield.

The official reason for his absence at the John Smith's Stadium was given as an injury, and Martial has been complaining of a bad back.

However Solskjaer and his No 2 Mike Phelan are believed to have grown increasingly exasperated over Martial's attitude since he signed a new long-term contract at the end of January.

Jose Mourinho wanted to sell Martial last summer against the wishes of United chief Ed Woodward, and Solskjaer has similar misgivings about the player's temperament.

AFP

## Man City's Kompany praised

LONDON - Manchester City Manager Pep Guardiola hailed the influence of captain Vincent Kompany after the Belgian kept the destination of the Premier League title in their own hands with a stunning goal in his side's 1-0 win over Leicester on Monday.

Kompany fired in an unstoppable shot from around 25 yards to leave City one point clear of Liverpool going into the final day of the season.

"Kompany has been here more than 10 years and he has helped with an incredible generation of players," Guardiola said.

"With other players like (Joe) Hart and (Pablo)

Zabaleta, they created this club. Vincent when he stepped forward in the big moments. When he is fit is an incredible player."

Guardiola said he had been thinking Kompany should not shoot when he strolled forward with 20 minutes to go.

But the defender rifled the ball into the top corner to win it

for champions City and keep them in charge.

"An extra-ordinary goal, definitely," he said.

The defending champions City play at Brighton on Sunday while Liverpool host Wolves and Guardiola said there was still work to do.

"One game left it will be so tough like today, we are away and we saw Brighton had a good game at Arsenal," he said.

"But it is in our hands, don't forget but we could have been 10 points behind if we lost to Liverpool here," he added in reference to a crucial 2-1 victory in January.

"We were seven points behind, but we are in the last game and it is in our hands. We are going to prepare well."

dpa



CAPTAIN FATASTIC: Vincent Kompany.

## GUARDIOLA GETS HIS HANDS ON ANOTHER TROPHY

MANCHESTER - Pep Guardiola has been named Premier League manager of the month for April as his Manchester City side hone in on back-to-back Premier League titles.

The Spaniard guided his side to victory in all five of their fixtures during the month, including vital victories over Tottenham and local rivals Manchester United.

It is the second time he has been awarded the accolade this season, and his seventh since taking the reigns at Manchester City in 2016.

Posing with the award yesterday morning, Guardiola chose to accept his award with all his backroom staff present.

On his official Twitter page, Guardiola tweeted: "An all-inclusive award for the staff. Thank you!"

City need just one more win to lift the Premier League title after squeez-

ing past Leicester City on Monday night.

Captain Vincent Kompany scored the only goal - a howitzer from 30 yards out - to give them the upper hand over Liverpool going into the final weekend.

Guardiola, though, took aim at the media following the victory, saying he felt his side have been portrayed as the unpopular choice to lift the title again.

### Pressure

"People in the media desire Liverpool to win the title.

"So I am sorry for the people that it's in our hands," Guardiola told talkSPORT.

"Liverpool are playing without pressure because it's not in their hands," Guardiola added.

"We have the pressure because it's in our hands.

"One game left and we'll try. It is



POSE: Pep Guardiola poses with the award and his backroom staff: (l-r) Richard Wright, Lorenzo Buenaventura, Mikel Arteta, Pep Guardiola, Rodolfo Borrell, Xabier Mancisidor, Brian Kidd.

now 95 points and we need one more victory. We'll go to Brighton trying. I don't have to say anything to the players because they are mature.

"Brighton will be tough. They went

to Arsenal and got a result. We played them in the FA Cup and that was tough because they are strong, have the set pieces, and I know they're playing for pride.

"But it's in our hands. We were seven points behind and never gave up. We won 13 games in a row and that's why we are in that position."

Daily Mail



**AIMS:** Stellenbosch FC coach Steve Barker.

## Stellenbosch to sign players ahead of PSL campaign

**JOHANNESBURG** - Stellenbosch FC coach Steve Barker says the club will keep the majority of their promotion-winning side while adding some PSL quality to their squad for next season.

The side from Cape Town gained promotion to the Premiership by winning the National First Division last Sunday, and already thoughts have turned to their first season in South Africa's top flight.

Speaking of the achievement and about plans for 2019/20, Barker said: "I thought I'd party harder than I did last night but I hit a brick wall and went off early to sleep."

"We've had some preliminary plans on the table for several weeks now. One for if we won the NFD, one for the play-offs and one if we didn't get anywhere. Two of them are off the table now!"

"We are looking now at the squad, the players for next season plus trying to build an MDC squad. We hear there will be some 30 MDC games next year so we need to build that up."

"We'll be keeping most of our current squad, if not all, and then we need to get in-between nine and 12 players, of which there will be key players for the first team and youngsters for the squad and MDC side."

*Sport24*

# Maritzburg United just focusing on themselves

**MARITZBURG** - Maritzburg United have every reason to believe that they will avoid the drop.

They have done the difficult part, which is taking the relegation dog fight down to the wire. They now have to finish the job in Polokwane.

Maritzburg face Baroka FC in a much-anticipated encounter at Peter Mokaba Stadium in Polokwane on Saturday. Maritzburg are still at the basement of the league standings with 26 points after 29 games. A win on the weekend may be good enough for the Team of Choice to avoid relegation if other results go their way, but coach Eric Tinkler only wants his team to focus on their game.

"They will be highly motivated going into that game. They will

be up for the challenge.

We know, it is not going to be easy. Anyone is beatable. You can't be looking at names in the piece of paper anymore. You will expect Kaizer Chiefs to be a little bit better (than Chippa United). They've been shockingly poor in my opinion. I expect them to lose if you look at the way they have performed in the last six games. That's the disappointment that you've got to rely on others in order to come out of

the predicaments that we find ourselves in. All we can do is do our job and that is to collect three points," Tinkler said.

Maritzburg have avoided relegation on the last day of the season before. Three seasons ago they came from behind to beat Jomo Cosmos under Ernst Middendorp. They will be looking to put up a similar fight like that one this weekend.

"We are going in there to work and win. We've got to have that unity within the group which is we have guys on the bench supporting the guys that are starting. Guys come off the bench and add value."

That's what we have to do when we go there. We need to go out there and do what we good at which is our offensive play that to take the game into the opposition half and looking to play without fear," Tinkler said.

Maritzburg are buzzing with confidence after winning back-to-back games for the first time this season and will be aiming to make it three out of three on Saturday.

*The Mercury*

## 'Tignyemb released over abusive rant'

**JOHANNESBURG** - Bloemfontein Celtic Chief Executive Khumbulani Konco has said that long-time goalkeeper Patrick Tignyemb has been released from his contract because of an abusive rant he had at club officials.

Reports have been that Tignyemb has been given his marching orders because he represented players in talks with Chairman Max Tshabalala regarding an outstanding bonus and potential strike at the troubled, cash-strapped club.

Konco denied this, saying while Cameroonian-born Tignyemb, who has played more than 300 games for Celtic in 10 seasons at the club, had been in talks on behalf of players, he was released

because he later returned in his own capacity and verbally abused club officials.

"Early yesterday morning Patrick and [midfielder] Lantshene Phalane came to the office and met the chairman and discussed the issues regarding outstanding bonuses," Konco said.

"At the end of the meeting they said they would come back to the chairman, via the team manager, on the decision the players had taken."

"They [later] told the team manager the players were not going to train."

"The team manager informed us. We then wrote to all the players informing them that

tomorrow, which is today (yesterday) they should be at training at 9am, and failing that the club would take action."

"Those actions were stated in the letter, and that we had a right to fine them."

Konco said later Tignyemb returned to the club offices.

"Then Patrick came to the office, alone, around 3pm or 4pm. And then whatever altercation he had at the office, that was what resulted in his services being terminated," Celtic's chief executive said.

"He cannot say it was because he came to represent the players [on the later occasion]. He came alone."

"And the things that he was saying, he was talking about himself. That the club could not do anything to him. He was swearing, abusive, obstructive."

"Definitely all of those things were against what is written in his contract." *Times Live*



## JAYIYA'S HEAD ROLLS OFF CHOPPING BLOCK AT CHIEFS

**Johannesburg** - Kaizer Chiefs have confirmed the club have axed the ineffective Bhongolethu Jayiya after a failed two season spell at Naturena.

Jayiya was signed from Cape Town City in 2017 on a three-year deal and big things were expected from the explosive winger.

However, he proved to be a complete bust and managed just 15 Premiership outings over the previous two campaigns while not managing a goal.

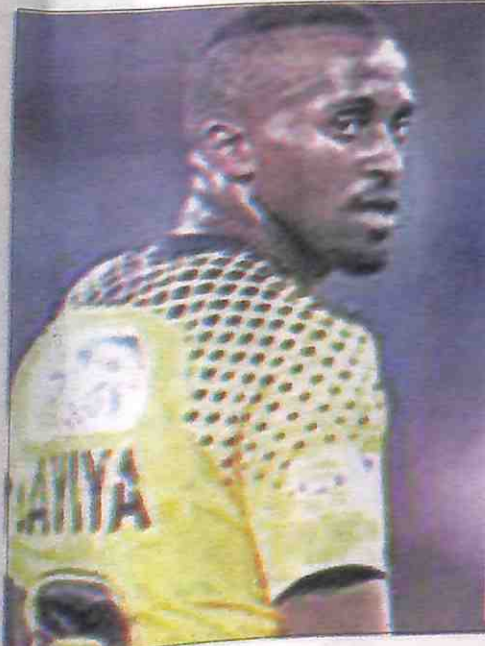
In addition, the 29-year-old was not favoured by previous coach Giovanni

Solinas or current incumbent Ernst Middendorp in 2018/19.

The forward follows the likes of Hendrick Ekstein, Gustavo Paez, Virgil Vries and Kgotsi Malope through the exit door at Naturena.

The Soweto-born star, who started his career at Bidvest Wits, will no doubt be seeking a new club when the transfer window re-opens.

Since his debut in 2010 for the Clever Boys, he has scored 28 goals in all competitions. *Sport24*



## Orlando Pirates targeting 57 points in title race

**JOHANNESBURG** - Orlando Pirates coach Milutin Sredojevic says the club want to reach 57 points and then let fate plays its own hand in the ABSA Premiership title race.

Pirates suffered a major blow to their chances of winning the title when they were held to a 2-2 draw by Cape Town City last weekend.

The Sea Robbers lost their advantage over rivals Mamelodi Sundowns, who could go clear by two points if they beat Golden Arrows yesterday.

Following yesterday's game, both sides will have one match remaining as Bucs face Polokwane City whereas the Brazilians take on Free State Stars.

Micho told reporters: "I have no right to speak. Mathematics is a very simple science. We have 54 points, we can have a maximum of 57 points."

"Our only concern at present is to look to get 57 points. Whether that will be enough to make us mathematically champions, we can speak after that."

"Before that, let us be sincere and honest, it is something that is at present with two matches to go [for Sundowns], unfortunately mathematics is not on our side."

Our only concern at present is to look to get 57 points. Whether that will be enough to make us mathematically champions, we can speak after that

# 13 PLAYERS, 11 MONTHS - THE AMAKHOSI EXODUS

**JOHANNESBURG** - In less than a year, 13 players have left Kaizer Chiefs for various reasons - with 10 of them having had their contracts terminated early by the club.

Who is next?

Check out 13 Amakhosi exits in less than 12 months in the gallery above!

There has been a large turnover of players coming and going at Naturena in recent years, with the club regularly terminating player contracts after deciding for - for whatever reason - that they weren't

right for the club.

Less than a year ago, in June 2018, Bobby Motaung was quoted on the club's official website as saying, "We are terminating the contracts of Tswa, Buchanan, Chirambadare and Khumalo... These players are immensely talented, but couldn't find their form with us. We do not want to keep a good player inactive and that's why we will allow them to express

their talents elsewhere."

Now, around 11 months later, Chiefs have once again swung the guillotine with the termination of Hendrick Ekstein, Khotso Malope, Gustavo Paez, Virgil Vries and Bhongolethu Jayiya's contracts at the club - and there could

be more to come.



In total, not including the youngsters that were sent out on loan, Chiefs have had 13 players leave the club since just before the 2018/19 season got underway - and only one of them, Siphiwe Tshabalala, were they able to make on money on as he made a switch to Erzurumspor in Turkey.

With Jayiya seeing his deal terminated today, there is talk that the exits from Naturena may not be over, but is it a sustainable transfer policy for a club of Amakhosi's size?

*SoccerLaduma*

## Whatever happens, I am going to feel proud, says Pochettino

**LONDON** - Mauricio Pochettino has challenged Tottenham to seize their unexpected chance to make history as they try to overturn a 1-0 deficit against Ajax in the Champions League semi-final second leg tonight

Pochettino is convinced Tottenham can still reach the club's maiden Champions League final, despite losing the first leg in north London last week.

Many pundits and fans claim Tottenham have blown their opportunity after Donny van de Beek's strike gave Ajax a priceless lead to defend in Amsterdam.

Tottenham go into their biggest game for decades on a low note after losing 1-0 at Bournemouth on Saturday, a defeat that stopped them wrapping up a place in next season's Champions League via a top-four finish in the Premier League.

It was a third successive loss in all competitions for Tottenham, who finished with nine men after red cards for Son Heung-min and Juan Foyth. Fortunately for Tottenham, they are still all but certain to finish at least fourth after Arsenal and Manchester United were both held



**BRING IT ON:** Ajax will play Tottenham tonight in the second leg of Champions League.

to draws on Sunday.

Tottenham are three points clear of fifth-placed Arsenal heading into their last league game of the season against Everton on Sunday, and a draw will be enough to ensure their return to Europe's elite club competition. But before that Tottenham, trying to reach their first European final since the 1984 UEFA Cup, have to focus on the challenge presented by Ajax's vibrant young side.

Having already eliminated Real

Madrid and Juventus this season, Ajax showed their vast potential against Tottenham in the first leg and should have been further ahead after Van de Beek's opener.

Tottenham improved slightly in the second half, but largely looked toothless without the suspended Son and injured top scorer Harry Kane.

Crucially, Pochettino will have Son back from his ban for the second leg, and the South Korea forward should give his team a far

more dynamic look.

Pochettino remained upbeat despite the frustration of losing to Nathan Ake's last-minute goal at Bournemouth, and the Tottenham manager hopes his confident attitude transfers to his players against Ajax.

"We have ahead two 'finals' against Ajax and Everton, and it's in our hands to be in a good position at the end of the season," Pochettino said. *Daily Mail*

## Keet gets last game for Wits, and last chance to impress Baxter

**JOHANNESBURG** - Darren Keet is supposed to be playing his last game for Bidvest Wits on Saturday as his contract comes to an end but the future of the international goalkeeper remains cloudy.

At the same time, the 29-year-old keeper will need to put in a strong showing against Lamontville Golden Arrows in Durban on Saturday to impress Bafana Bafana coach Stuart Baxter if he is to be the country's first choice at the Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt next month.

The last months have been something of a crossroads for Keet, who was the star performer in goal for the national team in their last game against Libya with key saves to help the country qualify.

He was given the nod for that decisive qualifier in March ahead of Ronwen Williams after injury ruled out Itumeleng Khune.

Khune will not be going to the Cup of Nations either, which means Keet

is in pole position to play.

But Wits coach Gavin Hunt dropped him for the last five games of the league season because of his intention to leave the club, preferring instead to give Ricardo Goss the chance to play as he will likely be the number one for the coming season.

During the time Keet was warming the bench, Bafana rival Williams continued to keep goal for SuperSport United.

Goss got sent off against Baroka FC last Saturday, allowing Keet a final swansong in Wits' colours when they finish the season away in Durban. Wits still have an outside chance of winning the title.

Keet, who spent five seasons in Belgium at KV Kortrijk between 2011 and 2016, has made no secret of his hopes to move overseas, notably to the USA where he has family.

But previous efforts to get a look

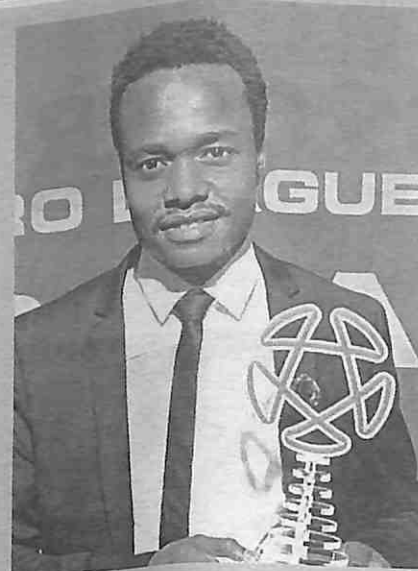


**IMPRESS ME:** Bafana Bafana coach Stuart Baxter.

in at a Major League Soccer club have not produced any positive dividends. Two months ago, Keet was on the radar of Azerbaijan club FK Qarabag, who Dino Ndlovu previously played for in the Uefa Champions League. There was also a suggestion that if no overseas move came

for Keet, that Kaizer Chiefs might offer him a deal, as there would be no transfer fee at the end of his contract. But it has also emerged that Keet had talks with Wits management this week, offering the possibility he stays after a change of heart.

*Timeslive*



**THE BEST:** Percy Tau carrying his Player of the Season award.

## Percy Tau hailed by SAFA

**JOHANNESBURG** - SA Football Association (SAFA) President Danny Jordaan yesterday congratulated Bafana Bafana striker Percy Tau for winning the 2018/2019 Proximus League Player of the Season award following his dazzling first season with Belgium Second Division side Union Saint Gilloise.

The honour is the most prized award in the Belgium Second Division and Jordaan said he hoped this recognition would galvanise Tau to bigger things.

"Percy's career has been growing in leaps and bounds in recent times and his two goals against Libya has set tongues wagging within the football fraternity," said Jordaan.

"He has had an outstanding season with St Gilloise and is definitely headed for greater things. Without putting much pressure on the player, he will be one of the players to watch at the upcoming Afcon in Egypt."

It has been a roller-coaster career for the striker who left Mamelodi Sundowns last year having won the South African Player of the Year Award before he was snapped up by Brighton and Hove Albion, the English Premiership side who in turn loaned him to the Belgium Second Division team. "I am happy at the way Percy's career is penning out and if he keeps his feet on the ground, will soon be one of the biggest names, not only on the continent but the world," added Jordaan.

*African News Agency*

## Pirates striker attracts European interest

**JOHANNESBURG** - A source said clubs have monitored Shonga over the past few months and were impressed with his work-rate.

They believe he can be more lethal with proper coaching.

"He is still young and has lots of potential. What makes him special is his spirit and he always gives his best. The Pirates fans have been unhappy with his contribution but he has kept a cool head which is what impressed the scouts. They believe he could make it in Europe," said a source.

*Kick Off*



## REGIONAL LEAGUES STANDINGS

## JONGILE KUBA

## MTN Premier League log:

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1 Leopard	24	17	3	4	40	14	26	54
2 Green Mamba	24	16	4	4	40	12	32	52
3 Buffaloes	23	13	8	2	37	13	24	47
4 Highlanders	24	12	8	4	30	18	12	44
5 Swallows	24	13	5	6	29	18	11	42
6 Sea Birds	24	8	4	12	26	33	-7	28
7 Malanti	23	6	9	8	22	26	-4	27
8 Matsapha	24	7	5	12	25	30	-5	26
9 Pirates	24	6	7	11	24	34	-10	25
10 Sundowns	24	6	7	11	17	34	-17	25
11 Tambuti	24	6	7	11	20	29	-9	25
12 Wanderers	24	6	7	12	20	30	-10	24
13 Vovovo	24	4	8	12	15	30	-15	20
14 Citizens	24	2	10	12	14	40	-26	16

## National First Division log

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1 Black Swallows	21	14	3	4	42	18	24	45
2 Milling	21	12	5	4	34	19	15	41
3 Madlenya	21	10	5	6	27	19	8	35
4 Tinyosi	21	11	2	8	25	18	7	35
5 Tycoons	21	9	6	6	29	21	8	33
6 Seven Dreams	21	9	6	6	25	20	5	33
7 Rangers	21	8	6	7	28	30	-2	30
8 T. Callies	21	7	3	11	19	31	-12	24
9 Hub Sundowns	21	7	3	11	13	26	-13	24
10 Red Lions	21	6	4	11	27	30	-3	21
11 Mbabane City	21	6	3	12	17	24	-7	21
12 City Warriors	21	2	4	15	11	37	-26	10

## Swazi Trac Hhohho Super League E77 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Umbelebele	21	13	2	6	29	20	9	41
2 Imbumba	21	11	6	4	37	19	18	39
3 H. Shooting Stars	21	9	9	3	34	17	17	36
4 Billy Ocean	21	9	8	4	25	16	9	35
5 Swazi Sun	21	8	7	6	32	20	12	31
6 Burning Spear	22	6	10	6	23	23	0	28
7 Community	21	8	4	9	21	21	0	28
8 eMajukujuku	21	6	8	7	23	30	-7	26
9 PMT	22	7	4	11	29	35	-6	25
10 Kupheleni	21	5	4	12	26	36	-10	19
11 Sibovini	21	3	10	8	23	39	-16	19
12 Wizards	21	2	8	11	16	42	-26	14

## Northern Zone

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Manchester	22	16	4	2	49	18	31	52
2 Horo Spinners	22	15	6	1	41	21	20	51
3 Vultures	22	14	5	3	38	13	25	47
4 Mvuma Hotspurs	21	10	5	6	40	25	15	35
5 Machibini Rovers	21	8	4	9	25	32	-7	28
6 Sigodlo	22	6	9	7	26	34	-8	27
7 Khanjama Rovers	22	6	6	10	26	40	-14	24
8 Kappa Kappa	20	5	8	7	26	24	2	23
9 Msahweni	22	6	4	12	29	32	-3	22
10 Pachanga	21	5	3	13	31	40	-9	18
11 N. Swallows	22	3	7	12	17	39	-22	16
12 Mshinande Arsenal	21	2	5	14	14	44	-30	11

## Mandla Mahewu Mbabane League E70 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Corporation	29	22	3	4	64	27	37	69
2 Inter Stars	29	19	5	5	60	29	31	62
3 Sandla	29	17	7	5	56	36	20	58
4 Amaweale	29	17	5	7	58	36	22	56
5 Real Tec	29	16	6	7	59	35	24	54
6 Mbabane Celtics	29	14	7	8	55	37	18	49
7 Mvawelotje	29	11	9	9	53	40	13	42
8 White City	28	10	7	11	57	50	7	37
9 Classic	29	10	6	13	46	52	-6	36
10 Sidwashini United	29	9	8	12	42	54	-12	35
11 Pot' O Gold	29	9	7	13	50	70	-20	34
12 Pine Valley	29	5	13	11	31	42	-11	28
13 Super Sport	29	7	5	17	47	59	-12	26
14 Double Action	29	6	7	16	45	67	-22	25
15 Veni Cosmos	29	7	4	18	33	56	-23	25
16 Mbabane Arsenal	28	2	1	25	25	91	-66	7

## B. Division

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Mpolonjeni	29	23	3	3	90	33	57	72
2 Free Style	29	21	7	1	93	30	63	70
3 FC Vaal	29	22	2	5	100	35	65	68
4 Royal Dynamos	28	19	3	6	82	41	41	60
5 Mphalati	28	16	5	7	64	44	20	53
6 Hurricane	29	14	4	11	73	44	29	46
7 Dangerous Darkies	28	12	5	11	66	61	5	41
8 Lusoti	28	10	4	14	58	64	-6	34
9 Mbabane United	28	8	9	11	42	51	-9	33
10 The Wallers	28	9	4	15	58	51	7	31
11 Mangwaneni FC	29	8	7	14	41	71	-30	28
12 Mantsholo Utd	29	8	3	18	48	65	-17	27
13 Junction Stars	28	6	4	18	34	79	-45	22
14 Mantsholo F.C	28	5	2	21	41	116	-75	17
15 Mbabane Movers	28	5	3	22	22	83	-61	12
16 National Rangers	28	3	3	22	22	83	-61	12

## Futis Nkhaba Regional League E30 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Ngwenya Utd	27	22	4	1	76	23	53	70
2 Majotini	27	20	5	2	78	31	47	65
3 Atletico	26	18	5	3	85	25	60	59

4 Nkoyoyo	27	13	7	7	58	40	18	46
5 Barcelona F.C.	27	13	6	8	57	34	23	45
6 Dribbling Stars	28	13	3	12	36	42	-6	42
7 Nkhamba Fast Movers	28	12	5	11	44	44	0	41
8 Crocodiles	28	12	3	13	51	50	1	39
9 Super Stars	28	10	5	13	51	52	-1	35
11 Mhlosheni	28	8	7	13	45	56	-11	31
12 Kasie XI	26	8	5	13	44	73	-29	29
13 Bafana	28	7	5	16	32	53	-21	26
14 Lubhedze	28	6	5	17	40	70	-30	23
15 Nkoyoyo Jnr	27	3	8	16	31	60	-29	17
16 Motshane R. Rovers	27	4	1	22	31	97	-66	13

## Pots Construction Sigangeni League E30 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 R. United	20	19	0	1	56	8	48	57
2 Ntsetse	21	17	3	1	58	13	45	54
3 M. Celtics	21	12	4	5	31	13	18	40
4 Kangaroo	21	11	1	9	43	28	15	34
5 Real Touch	21	10	4	7	36	29	7	34
6 Sigangeni	20	9	6	5	31	25	6	33
7 Y. Fighters	21	6	4	11	32	37	-5	22
8 Total XI	21	6	3	12	32	49	-17	21
9 L. Nationals	21	5	2	14	24	48	-24	17
10 Villa Sport	20	4	4	12	19	47	-28	16
11 U. Eagles	21	4	3	14	20	48	-28	15
12 M. Chiefs	20	2	4	14	17	54	-37	10

## Bakhanyisele &amp; Gongz Maphalaleni League E50 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Juniors Stars	30	25	2	0	80	22	58	80
2 Young Lovers	29	25	2	2	96	22	74	77
3 XI Experience	30	20	4	6	85	29	56	64
4 Professionals	30	18	3	9	66	32	34	57
5 Rangers	30	17	6	7	62	39	23	57
6 Manchester	30	16	5	9	65	32	33	53
7 Blue Birds	30	14	8	8	64	39	25	50
8 Hotspurs	30	13	5	12	45	48	-3	44
9 Young Stars	30	11	9	10	45	42	3	42
10 Thuluzobona	29	12	5	12	37	47	-10	41
11 Umkhokha	30	12	4	14	60	66	-6	40
12 Luvinjelo	30	5	2	23	42	87	-45	17
13 Khulagwane	30	4	5	21	37	88	-51	17
14 Killers	30	3	5	22	30	87	-57	14
15 Barcelona F.C.	30	4	2	24	22	112	-90	14
16 Liselesele	30	3	4	23	31	75	-44	13

## Western Stream

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Hill Stars	22	17	4	1	37	14	23	55
2 Jubukweni United	22	14	6	2	46	15	31	48
3 Love & Peace	22	13	4	5	37	20	17	43
4 Lunkanka	21	12	6	3	50	27	23	42
5 Happy Tigers	22	9	6	7	31	28	3	33
6 Happy Fighters	21	8	7	6	39	30	9	31
7 Mighty Birds	22	7	4	11	33	44	-11	25
8 Siphambanweni	20	6	5	9	27	33	-6	23
9 Top Classic	22	5	4	13	27	45	-18	19
10 Academy	22	3	6	13	29	46	-17	15
11 Rollers	22	4	3	15	24	47	-23	15
12 Sunrise	22	4	2	16	31	56	-25	14

## South Star Mzimba Regional League E65 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Green Sea	28	16	8	4	50	26	24	56
2 Timbungulu	28	16	5	7	47	35	12	53
3 Sibuyeni	29	14	10	5	52	27	25	52
4 Monaco	29	13	10	6	48	33	15	49
5 Nhlakomeni Cosmos	29	13	6	10	52	40	12	45
6 Rangers	29	11	9	9	47	40	7	42
7 Mzimba Arsenal	28	10	11	7	45	41	4	41
8 Amacabane	27	10	7	10	42	43	-1	37
9 Swallows	28	10	7	11	35	40	-5	37
10 Nsintsa Rebels	29	10	6	13	40	51	-11	36
11 Kasiko	28	8	8	12	40	42	-2	32
12 Vusweni Killers	29	8	8	13	37	50	-13	32
13 Chiefs	29	7	8	14	30	51	-21	29
14 Black Mashuba	28	7	7	14	32	43	-11	28
15 Sundowns	29	5	12	12	40	48	-8	27
16 Bush Bucks	29	7	4	18	34	60	-26	25

## B. Division

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Rhinos	21	16	2	3	69	17	52	50
2 Rhumba Stars	21	15	3	3	64	30	34	48
3 Highlanders	21	13	4	4	50	33	17	43
4 Driekeppies	22	8	5	9	46	44	2	29
5 Lijte Barcelona	22	8	5	9	33	43	-10	29
6 Top Centre	21	5	8	8	35	52	-17	23
7 Africa Stars	22	4	6	12	27	45	-18	18
8 All Stars	21	4	6	11	31	53	-22	18
9 United Bombers	21	1	5	15	20	57	-37	8

# MY GAME

AN IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF SPORTS ISSUES

WITH COMFORT@GMAIL.COM



## ESWATINIBANK CUP 'SOLO INJE' WITH THE RAZZMATAZZ!

As I watched the 16th edition of the EswatiniBank Cup finals at the Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday, I could not cease to reminisce about the razzmatazz that has been brought by this lucrative tournament to the football lovers of the Kingdom of Eswatini.

In a day that was dubbed 'family day', the country's football lovers witnessed yet milestone in their calendar as His Majesty King Mswati III graced the event and joined the thousands of football followers watching the finals. *Bayethe Wena Waphakathi!*

Never mind that Young Buffaloes, Tambuti FC Under-20 and Manzini Wanderers Ladies were the eventual champions after beating their opponents on the day, it was razzmatazz and great atmosphere that was witnessed at the stadium that surely gave me reason to pen this piece.

Under the slogan 'Solo Inje', the finals gave a fair share of the entertainment, thanks to the enthusiasm demonstrated by all the teams as they battled it out for honours inside the field of play. The fact that all the winners defeated their opponents with low goal margins is a testimony that it was tightly-contested affairs. Buffaloes, who claimed their third consecutive



EswatiniBank Cup title at the expense of their fellow armed forces rivals, Royal Leopard, are surely announcing their arrival to the football higher echelons.

### Heart-breaking

Fresh from winning the Ingwenyama Cup, the army ensemble ensured that they never set their foot wrong to put the formidable Leopard to the sword with a heart-breaking header from the enterprising Sandile Gamedze.

Interestingly, both sides are also contending for the MTN Premier League title, which will come to an end in three weeks' time, and their meeting in the final on Sunday was 'Part One'

as they will also meet in the last game of the intriguing league race.

For Leopard and their supporters, the defeat was a bitter pill to swallow when considering the host of scoring opportunities they missed, only to lose concentration in the dying minutes of the game and allow their opponents to score.

After that goal, time was already against the police ensemble, as they could not regroup in time for any chances of coming back to the game. The experienced Buffaloes side, who have played many finals than any other team in the past two seasons, ensured that they hold on to their lead, for they

were smelling another glory within a space of two months.

Congratulations are in order for 'Amathole Ezinyathi'. The Under-20 finals also produced a thriller as Lubombo side, Tambuti FC and Manzini Sundowns cross sword in a curtain raiser for the main final, and of course, they didn't disappoint. After Tambuti were reduced to 10 men following a red card, and consequently conceding a goal in the opening 10 minutes, one would have thought that their dreams of laying a hand on the trophy could be over, but lo and behold, they produced one of the greatest determination to win.

The fact that they overturned the 1-

0 deficit to beat their opponents is a sign that they were prepared mentally, physically and otherwise, hence accolades must be given to the team's technical bench, which showed great tactical acumen. Winning a game of this magnitude with one man down requires extra-ordinary determination and Tambuti did just that to ensure that they are the ones who climb to the podium to lift the much converted trophy.

### Expose

Sundowns were the team that felt the pressure for the entire 90 minutes as they had to endure the attacks from Tambuti while at the same time trying to expose their opponents in the belly of the park. It was so near yet so far, and one can say congratulations Tambuti, hard luck Sundowns.

Manzini Wanderers ladies team, who beat Young Buffaloes 1-0 in the women football final, also deserve special mentioning in this column for their much deserved triumph.

The Manzini side produced one of the great performances to claim the title at the expense of their much fancied opponents who also give it their best to ensure that game remain a tightly contested one. In essence it was gratifying to note an improved display by the players, as you could see transitional play by both teams. Surely we are getting there in as far as women football is concerned.

Halala Manzini Wanderers, hard luck Buffaloes, there is always next time! We are looking forward to a bigger and better next edition. *Solo Inje!*

## SPORTS MEDICINE SOLUTIONS

### Papy's death mourned

The whole football fraternity the world over is still engulfed with a dark cloud of a player collapsing and a life was lost in the field of play.

Condolences go to Burundians family, Malanti Chiefs director, technical team, management and players, team medics, and all sports people in the country. We are greatly touched and pledge to work hard in eradicating such in future. Today, I will be discussing medical preparedness before a game can start.

Stadium doctor has a role to inspect medical facilities on match day to ensure that all planned medical service elements are available and in position, adequately staffed and equipped. He must ensure that the environment is safe.

He must measure heat stress using a globe thermometer. Extra breaks at the 30th and 75th minute stages are suggested when the BGT is above 32°C. Collaborate with the match official to suspend the game when there is lightning. The 30-30 lightning prevention rule states that there is a danger of someone being

struck by lightning when the interval between seeing a lightning flash and hearing the subsequent thunder is less than 30 seconds.

The second 30 in the 30-30 lightning prevention rule states that resumption of outdoor activities should not resume until 30 minutes have elapsed after the last lightning flash or thunder.

**SIDELINE CARE** - The field of play medical team is designated to provide immediate treatment or transfer of the ill or injured player or referee on the field of play. Eight advanced life support paramedics sit in two groups of four - on either side of the halfway line. Their key role is to provide assistance as required to the team doctors and ensure the swift, efficient and smooth transfer of injured players to the touchline during a match.

The field of play medical team should comprise medical, nursing or paramedic professionals who are trained in basic life support measures as a minimum level of care and should have at least one member who is qualified and experienced in out-of-hospital advanced life support. The more



experienced clinician should lead and guide other members of the team in the event of a life-threatening injury or illness in a player or referee.

All the members of the field of play medical team should be trained and experienced at least in basic life support, in order to effectively undertake:

- ✓ Basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
- ✓ Automated External Defibrillator (AED) use
- ✓ Rescue manual resuscitator breathing use
- ✓ Spinal injury alignment and

immobilisation

- ✓ Fracture and/or dislocation splintage
- ✓ External bleeding management
- ✓ Management of the player having a seizure
- ✓ Management of the unconscious player
- ✓ Transfer of the ill or injured player off the field of play

This medical room must be fully equipped for all emergency diagnosis and treatment; it must have the following items:

- ✓ 1 examination and treatment tables
- ✓ 1 portable stretcher
- ✓ Defibrillator with rhythm and patient data recording
- ✓ Cardiac monitor
- ✓ External cardiac pacing
- ✓ Infusion mounting and system with all equipment for injections and infusions, incl. venous indwelling cannula
- ✓ Pericardial puncture set
- ✓ Drug administration equipment
- ✓ Intubation equipment
- ✓ Automatic ventilator, stationary oxygen min. 2000 l or portable oxygen min. 400 l, stationary non-manual suction device with minimum negative pressure of 500 mm of mercury with a minimum capacity of 1, capnometer, PEEP-valve
- ✓ Thorax drainage kit
- ✓ Immobilisation equipment like vacuum mattress, spinal board, cervical collar-set.

Two ambulances with AEDs each have to be stationed at every stadium for the care of players, team officials, and VIPs. There should be one ambulance as a backup as replacement in case an ambulance is needed and leaves the stadium. I wish you a productive week, God bless you all.



# VUSI TSABEDZE WINS E15 000 IN **PREDICT U-20** COMPETITION



**THE WINNER IS:** Swazi Observer Marketing representative Bonsile Langa, EswatiniBank PRO Phesheya Vilakati and Swazi Observer Business journalist Bahle Gama display the winner of the EswatiniBank/Swazi Observer predict U-20 competition Vusi Tsabedze who won E15 000 during the draw yesterday at the newspaper's boardroom. (Pic: Jongile Xuba)

BY JONGILE XUBA

**SOCCKER – VUSI Tsabedze** was the biggest winner in the EswatiniBank/Swazi Observer Predict and Win U-20 competition.

This was after his name was picked during the lucky draw conducted at the Swazi Observer boardroom (Lilunga House) yesterday.

There were 10 000 entries from all parts of the kingdom and Tsabedze was the biggest winner. He correctly predicted that Tambuti FC will be the U-20 champions and he won himself E15 000, being the first prize.

## Overwhelming

Sandile Simo Khumalo received the second prize which carries E 9 000 with Nobantu Nhlengetfwa getting E6 000 for third place.

There were also 10 lucky readers, who each received consolation prizes worth E500.

EswatiniBank Public Relations Officer (PRO) Phesheya Vilakati thanked the overwhelming response they received during the competition and promised that it would be back again next

## WINNERS:

1. Vusi Tsabedze – E15 000
2. Sandile Simo Khumalo – E9 000
3. Nobantu Nhlengetfwa – E6 000

## CONSOLATION PRIZES: E500 EACH

1. Smile Shabangu
2. Nonhlanhla Simelane
3. Mbongeni Dlamini
4. Sibusiso Dlamini
5. Mandisa Kamanga
6. Nomcebo Nhleko
7. Fikile Shongwe
8. Sifiso Thwala
9. Bhukumusa Dlamini
10. Bonsile Ndlangamandla

year.

"The number of entries is really pleasing as it shows that the public really supports the competition. I would like to thank all those who entered and the Swazi Observer for partnering with us in this initiative which will be back again next year," he said.

## SB GIVES **E140 000 SPONSORSHIP** TO TENNIS ASSOCIATION



**ATTENTIVE:** SBS's Manager Distribution Channels Mbongeni Dlodlu, General Manager Mbali Sibanyoni and ENSRC's CEO Darius Dloomo listen to speeches.



**GIFT TIME:** Swaziland Building Society's Managing Director Tim Nhleko presents Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga with a gift after the launch. (Pics: Mthunzi Maziya)



**GENEROUS:** SBS's MD Nhleko delivers his speech at the launch.



**THE FIRST TABLE:** Eswatini National Tennis Association President Maxwell Jele, SBS' MD Tim Nhleko and Minister of Sports, Culture, and Youth Affairs, Harries 'Madze' Bulunga follow proceedings.



**THANKS:** Eswatini National Tennis Association President Maxwell Jele says a few words.



● Manchester City are closing in on a deal to sign Sporting Lisbon midfielder Bruno Fernandes, with the clubs discussing a fee of between £50m and £60m for the 24-year-old Portugal international.  
(Sky Sports)

● Ajax's Dutch centre-back Matthijs de Ligt, 19, has rejected a move to Manchester United worth £60m.  
(Star)

● French midfielder Paul Pogba, 26, is keen on a summer transfer to Real Madrid - but his hopes of a move are likely to hinge on Manchester United dramatically lowering their £160m valuation.  
(Telegraph)

● Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp has joined the £35m race for Ajax's Brazilian forward David Neres, 22.  
(Sun)

● Polish goalkeeper Marcin Bulka, 19, is set to leave Chelsea this summer and will sign a pre-contract agreement with Paris St-Germain.  
(Goal.com)

● Wales forward Gareth Bale, 29, was told he is not wanted at Real Madrid in a face-to-face meeting with coach Zinedine Zidane, but remains adamant he wants to stay at the club.  
(Mail)

● Napoli's former Chelsea Manager Carlo Ancelotti has hinted at a move for Mexico international winger Hirving Lozano, 23, who has been linked with Manchester United.  
(Calciomercato)

● French winger Anthony Martial, 23, faces a battle to convince Ole Gunnar Solskjaer he has a long-term future at Manchester United.  
(Mail)

● Former Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger, 69, has rejected a second offer to take over at Fulham, having first turned down an approach from the Cottagers in November before they appointed Claudio Ranieri.  
(Mail)

● Leicester want Austria defender Christian Fuchs, 33, to sign a new one-year deal at the club. Fuchs' current contract expires in the summer.  
(Leicester Mercury)

● Bournemouth and Scotland winger Ryan Fraser is open to offers from other clubs with Arsenal, Tottenham, Chelsea and Newcastle reportedly keen on the 25-year-old.  
(Mail)

● Brighton want to sign Chelsea's teenage full-back Reece James, 19, who has been on loan at Wigan this season.  
(Argus)

● Newcastle United have been monitoring Coventry City's English midfielder Tom Bayliss, 20, ahead of a possible summer move.  
(Chronicle)

## FOCUS ON SBS-ENTA E140 000 SPONSORSHIP LAUNCH

# SBS' SPONSORSHIP A CLEAR SIGN OF COMMITMENT - 'MADZE'

STORIES BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

**TENNIS - MINISTER of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs, Harries 'Madze' Bulunga has lauded the Swaziland Building Society for its continued support to local tennis.**

Speaking during the launch of a new sponsorship of E140 000 towards the activities of the Eswatini National Tennis Association (ENTA) at Mountain Inn yesterday, Bulunga said such support mirrored a clear sign of commitment from the society in the development of the sport in the country.

"I know that the relationship between the Society and the ENTA has been going on well over 10 years now and within the last three years, SBS has almost doubled the sponsorship package.

Therefore, I take this moment to thank SBS on behalf of His Majesty's Government for committing such



**THANK YOU: SBS's MD Tim Nhleko presents Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga with a gift after the launch. (Pics: Mthunzi Maziya)**

huge amounts of money to develop tennis in Eswatini," he said.

He added that SBS, through its sponsorship, had created a platform for tennis to stand tall and be noticed.

### Support

The minister added that he hopes the partnership between SBS and tennis will serve as an inspiration to many other companies and organ-



**REMARKS: Eswatini National Tennis Association (ENTA) President Maxwell Jele delivers his speech.**

isations to partner with sports.

He said he has been encouraged to see local tennis able to participate in a number of international events, which was a direct consequence of SBS' support.

## ENTA president lauded for sports awards win

**TENNIS - ESWATINI National Tennis Association's President, Maxwell Jele was the 'toast of town' during the launch of the E140 000 sponsorship for tennis by SBS.**

Jele was being congratulated for winning the gong of 'Outstanding Sports Leader' at this year's National

Sports Awards last month. First to congratulate him was the SBS' Managing Director, Tim Nhleko, who said the Society commends the president for his worthy recognition. The MD mentioned these accolades just before he pronounced the new package for the upcoming season. Minister of Sports, Culture, and

Youth Affairs, Harries 'Madze' Bulunga joked that Jele will not have won the award had it not been for SBS' sponsorship. "We have no doubt that this is a richly deserved award, and we urge you to continue working extremely hard in developing tennis and sport as a whole in Eswatini," he said.



**ATTENTIVE: SBS's Manager Distribution Channels Mbongeni Dlodlu, General Manager Mbali Sibanyoni and ENSRC's CEO Darius Dlomo listen to speeches.**

## Tennis centre a few weeks away

**TENNIS - PRESIDENT of the ENTA, Maxwell Jele has revealed that the tennis centre in Lobamba is only a few weeks away from being officially opened.**

Jele mentioned this during the launch of SBS' new sponsorship of E140 000 at Mountain Inn yesterday. "It is with great pride and joy to say that we are now just a few weeks away from launching the newly built National Tennis Centre at Lobamba," he said.

He pointed out that all these strides will not have been possible without the partnership with SBS.

"The SBS sponsorship towards the tennis programme has been at the centre of all other developments we have realised," he said.

### INQUOTES

**Tim Nhleko (SBS MD)**

"Our pay off line reads as follows:

'Creating wealth for customers'. We also believe that health is one form

of wealth as you can develop to your full potential with good health."

**Maxwell Jele (ENTA's President)**

"I would like to assure the MD that as the tennis family we will continue to work hard in taking the sport to greater heights, and we will also ensure that this sponsorship is put to good use and that there is value for money."

## Manzini Pool Club maintain top spot in Dixie's League

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**POOL - DESPITE losing 12-13 to Way Inn over the weekend, Manzini Pool Club are still occupying the top spot in the Dixie's International E40 000 League.**

The hub based team is sitting at the summit of the log standings with 24 points in nine games.

They are followed by Way Inn, who also have 24 points.

Other matches saw Correctional beat Figa 13-2 while Police Academy thrashed Garrison 13-9.

Mankayane beat Stairs 13-10 while Bhunya won 13-9 against France.

### LOG:

TEAM	P	W	L	FF	FA	FD	POINTS
Mzi Pool Club	9	6	3	112	77	35	24
Way inn	9	6	3	110	81	29	24
Correctional	9	6	3	109	80	29	24
Garrison	9	7	2	103	93	10	23
Bhunya	9	6	2	92	86	17	22
Police Academy	8	6	2	92	65	27	22
France	9	5	4	98	92	6	20
Figaredo	9	4	2	81	91	-10	16
Nicks	9	3	6	61	95	-34	13
Stairs	9	2	7	80	101	-21	11
Mankayane	8	2	6	67	96	-29	9
Figaredo 5	9	0	9	52	117	-65	3

### RESULTS:

Correctional 13-2	Figa	Bhunya 13-9	France
Garrison 9-13	Police Academy	Mankayane 13-10	Stairs
		Manzini 12-13	Way Inn
		Figa 13-7	Nicks

# HUB SUNDOWNS, CALLIES IN DO-OR-DIE BATTLES

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER – FORMER Premier League sides Hub Sundowns and Tambankulu Callies are in do-or-die battles in the National First Division League.**

The MTN National First Division

League games return this weekend, with both Callies and Hub Sundowns having the same number of points (24).

One of the two sides has to join already relegated teams in City Warriors, Red Lions and Mbabane City to play in the Super League. This is the full fixture below.

## THE FULL FIXTURE BELOW

Prince of Wales Ground (Saturday)	vs	Seven Dreams	3pm
Mbabane City	vs	Seven Dreams	3pm
King Sobhuza Memorial Stadium	vs	Rangers	3pm
Hlathikhulu Tycoons	vs	City Warriors	3pm
Mavuso Sports Ground	vs	Milling Hotspurs	3pm
Hub Sundowns	vs	Tinyosi	3pm
Tambankulu Callies	vs		
Somhlolo National Stadium	vs		
Red Lions	vs		
Killarney Stadium (Sunday)	vs		
P/P Black Swallows	vs		

## NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION LOG:

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Black Swallows	21	14	3	4	42	18	24	45
Milling	21	12	5	4	34	19	15	41
Madlenya	21	10	5	6	27	19	8	35
Tinyosi	21	11	2	8	25	18	7	35
Tycoons	21	9	6	6	29	21	8	33
Seven Dreams	21	9	6	6	25	20	5	33
Rangers	21	8	6	7	28	30	-2	30
T. Callies	21	7	3	11	19	31	-12	24
Hub Sundowns	21	7	3	11	13	26	-13	24
Red Lions	21	6	4	11	27	30	-3	21
Mbabane City	21	6	3	12	17	24	-7	21
City Warriors	21	2	4	15	11	37	-26	10

## PM wishes Sihlangu all the best

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**SOCCER – PRIME Minister Ambrose Dlamini has implored Sihlangu to make the country proud during the upcoming CHAN return leg against Malawi slated for Saturday in Blantyre.**

Dlamini said the team should go and represent the nation well during the return leg of the continent's second premier national competition.

"We wish the team the best of luck during their game against Malawi. We are confident they will play well and advance to the next round of the competition," he said.

The Kostadin Papic men will at least need to secure a 1-0 win away victory in order to advance to the next round of the national team competition.

Sihlangu settled for a goalless draw during the first leg encounter, which was played about three weeks ago at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

Sihlangu is currently in camp at the Eswatini Football Association (EFA) Technical Centre, and they are expected to leave the country tomorrow to take on the 'Flames' of Malawi.

The winner of the three rounds qualifying format will book a place in the 2020 CHAN finals to be hosted by Cameroon.



## 'We wont be carried away by Sunday's victory'

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER – YOUNG Buffaloes skipper Nhlhla Gwebu says they will not be carried away by Sunday's victory when they take on Malanti Chiefs today.**

Speaking to this publication, the former Malanti Chiefs goalkeeper said the win on Sunday against Royal Leopard in the EswatiniBank Cup was now a thing of the past.

"We have put Sunday's victory

behind us and this is a new ball game altogether. We are ready to face our opponents today. We need these vital points as we are also contesting for the league title," he said.

The army side is currently sitting at position three in the MTN League standings with 47 points.

When asked about the past game on Sunday, Gwebu attributed the team success to team work from the player, technical bench and supporters. He said Young Buffaloes players should be proud of themselves for

winning the EswatiniBank Cup three times in a row.

"That's a great achievement for the team. We deserve it as we always work hard. I couldn't have done justice not to thank our supporters, for being with us through thick and thin," he said. The Young Buffaloes skipper also mentioned that he was ready to honour a national team call up in future. "Playing for the national team is every player's dream, and I am ready to play of Sihlangu again if given that opportunity," he said.



**BROTHERHOOD: Sifiso and Allie Matse.**

## No love lost between Matse brothers

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**SOCCER – THERE was no love lost for the Matse brothers, Sifiso and Allie Matse, during the recent EswatiniBank Cup final between Young Buffaloes and Royal Leopard.**

It was a sweet victory for Allie, whose club triumphed over his brother's team with a solitary strike, courtesy of a Sandile Gamedze-second half header.

When interviewed after the security forces affair, Allie said he was very excited to have played against his brother. "I am happy my team won against Leopard after we talked about the match, with my brother and the match, with my brother and wished each other the best of luck. 'There is no love lost with my brother after this result but instead we will continue working at our respective teams,'" he said. The former National Under-20 player, Allie, further said he was confident his team would

do well in the 2020 Total CAF Confederation Cup.

"We have been failing to go past the preliminary round stage in our past two appearances and I believe we have now gained enough experience to do well in the competition," he said.

Meanwhile, Allie's elder brother Sifiso said they were still good brothers despite that his team lost in the prestigious knockout competition.

### Winner

"In the game of football, there is only one winner. 'We did try our best of luck to win the match but luck was not on our side. 'I had earlier on wished my brother the best before the match and the result has not broken our bond. 'We are still great brothers,'" he said. Another recent brotherly affair was between Buffaloes star Sandile 'Saviola' Gamedze, who outfoxed his brother Sabelo 'Sawa' Gamedze of Mbabane Highlanders during the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup final.

## 'We could have easily lost the game'

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

**SOCCER – GREEN Mamba FC's coach Caleb Ngwenya has said his team could have easily lost their match against Malanti Chiefs due to the confusion caused by the change of venue in the last minute.**

The game had initially been scheduled for Mavuso Sports Centre on Monday at 3pm, but was later moved to the Somhlolo National Stadium on the same day as the Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) were told at the last minute that Sihlangu had booked the Mavuso Trade Centre for training in preparation for their CHAN match against Malawi.

"It could have been very costly for us in the end as players' concentration can easily be affected by such things.

However, I am glad that we were able to score the goal and get the three points that we needed," said the coach.

Had Green Mamba failed to win, it would have handed Royal Leopard a

big advantage at the top of the log as they would have opened a five point gap with two games remaining.

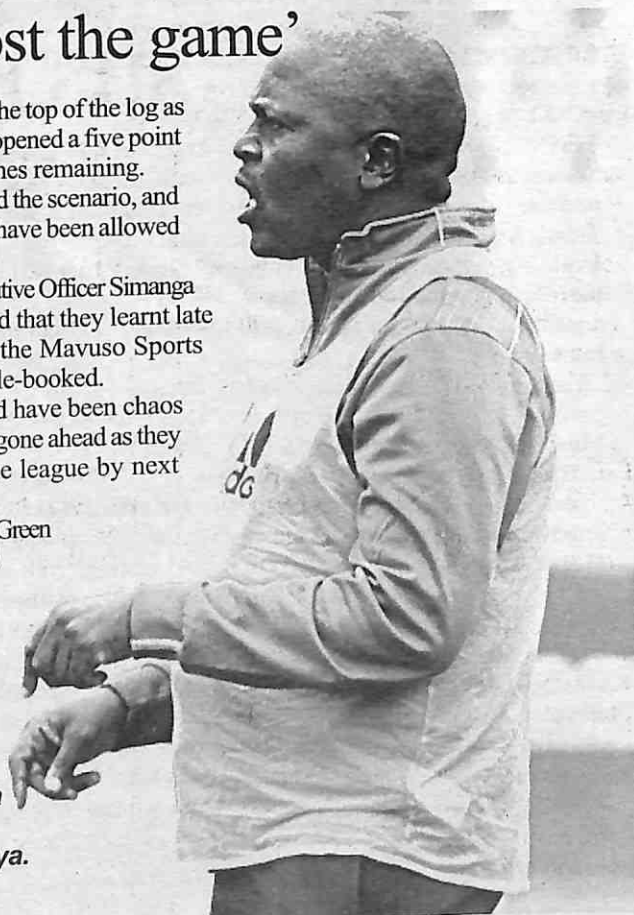
Gwebu lamented the scenario, and said it should not have been allowed to happen.

PLE Chief Executive Officer Simanga Nhleko confirmed that they learnt late on Monday that the Mavuso Sports Centre was double-booked.

He said it would have been chaos had the game not gone ahead as they want to finish the league by next weekend.

The 1-0 win sent Green Mamba to 52 points, only two behind the leaders, Leopard.

**REVEALED: Green Mamba FC's coach Caleb Ngwenya.**



## RESULTS

**ABSA PREMIERSHIP**  
Mamelodi Sundowns 2-0 Golden Arrows

**UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE**  
Liverpool 4-0 Barcelona

## FIXTURES

**UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE**  
21:00 Ajax vs Tottenham Hotspur



## Liverpool complete stunning comeback to reach UCL final

**LIVERPOOL** - Liverpool produced one of the greatest comebacks in Champions League history to beat Barcelona 4-0 last night, overturning a three-goal first-leg deficit and advancing to the final with a 4-3 aggregate victory.

Liverpool, without injured strikers Mohamed Salah and Roberto Firmino, took a seventh-minute lead when a poor headed clearance from Jordi Alba fell at the feet of Jordan Henderson, who burst goalwards, and though his effort was saved, Divock Origi was on hand to slot home.

The game took a remarkable turn following the introduction of Liverpool midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum at the break.

The Dutchman drove home a low cross from Trent Alexander-Arnold, which Barca keeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen should have saved, to make it 2-0.

Minutes later Wijnaldum rose to meet a Xherdan Shaqiri cross with a powerful header to make it 3-3 on aggregate.

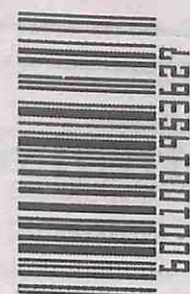
Liverpool then grabbed an extraordinary fourth goal with a quickly-taken corner from Trent Alexander-Arnold, catching the Barca defence asleep with a low ball that was turned in at the near post by Origi.

*Daily Mirror*

# SPORTS

**BSERVER**  
IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE ARE YOUR CHURCH

Wednesday May 8, 2019



# INSENSITIVE

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

**SOCCER** - MALANTI Chiefs captain Thembumenzi 'Djemba' Mayisela says playing their league game against Young Buffaloes FC today at Killarney Sports Ground will open wounds for the whole team because it is the same pitch where they lost their teammate Papy Faty.

The team is still recovering from losing their Burundian striker Faty, who will be laid to rest on Friday.

Malanti Chiefs will today lock horns with Young Buffaloes at 3pm. Worth nothing is that Killarney Sports Ground is where the Burundian striker suffered a cardiac arrest and was later confirmed dead upon arrival at the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital.

Speaking to this publication, 'Djemba' said his team is still in mourning. Playing at the same ground, will open fresh wounds in their hearts because it is where they lost one of their soldiers.

"Anyways, there is nothing we can do as the custodians of the game saw it fit that they can fixture us at this venue," said the obviously disappointed player.

### Complained

Mayisela also complained about his team being fixtured to play games within a short space of time.

He wondered what was the motive behind having the team play against Green Mamba on Monday and Young Buffaloes today.

He also pointed out that they felt the PLE erred by featuring them while Faty was yet to be laid to rest.

"Actually we are not happy at all about the fixture. In terms of football, yesterday was supposed to be a day of recovery then today, start light training but we are made to play

- Malanti to play two crucial games in 3 days
- Team feels PLE is treating them unfairly
- Papy Faty will be laid to rest on Friday



a very crucial game. However, we will soldier on and fight to the last atom of our strengths to honour our dearly departed Papy," he said.

Malanti Chiefs occupy position seven of the Premier League log standings with 27 points.

Another official, who preferred anonymity, said all this was beyond their control.

"It is really hard to cope but what can we do because we were told that the league must come to an end on May 19? We just have to soldier on despite the challenges."

Meanwhile, the team had to hire a psy-

chologist to help the players cope after a tragic week in which they lost one of their players during a match.

### Problem

"We cannot complain about the fixtures coming thick and fast. We will honour the fixture and play no problem," he said.

PLE CEO Simanga Nhleko said there was no time left as they were told by the sponsor to finish the games by May 19.

"There is nothing we can do as we have no time left. We have to finish the league on May 19," he said, during EBIS' Sports Show on Monday.

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

## SBS PUMPS IN E140 000 TOWARDS TENNIS

**TENNIS** - SWAZILAND Building Society (SBS)'s ever blossoming marriage with the Eswatini National Tennis Association (ENTA) took a fresh leap yesterday as the company forked out E140 000 to sponsor the association for the upcoming season.

The launch of the new package took place at Mountain Inn Hotel in Mbabane, and it saw an increase of E20 000 from last year's E120 000.

The launch was attended by the society's senior management, Minister of Sports, Culture, and Youth Affairs, Harries 'Madze' Bulunga, SBS' Managing Director Tim Nhleko, and Eswatini National Sport and Recreation Council's CEO Darius Domo, among others.

ENTA President Maxwell Jele defined the relationship his association has with SBS as 'the longest last-

ing marriage in history'.

He said they were excited with the continuation of the fruitful partnership between the two institutions.

"It is my privilege on behalf of the ENTA to take this opportunity to extend our utmost thanks and appreciation to the Swaziland Building Society for this wonderful sponsorship towards our development programme," he said.

### Reshape

He added that ENTA's executive committee, and the tennis fraternity had worked tirelessly over the past few years to reshape the future of the sport, and that all would not have been possible without SBS's input.

SBS MD Nhleko said his organisation's relationship with the ENTA goes a long way, and started from very humble beginnings. He said they had witnessed the growth of tennis

in the country over the years, and were encouraged to see it moving towards fulfilling its full potential.

"Together with the ENTA, we share a number of values that bind us. We believe that there is adequate talent in Eswatini. It just needs to be nurtured appropriately and professionally," he said.

### Unearthing

He added that government's support and commitment remains crucial in unearthing and supporting young talent.

"We have a strong vision and mission to grow tennis so that it becomes a force to reckon with even beyond the country's borders," he said.

Minister of Sports, Culture, and Youth Affairs, Harries 'Madze' Bulunga thanked SBS for its continued support to tennis, and urged the ENTA to use the sponsorship wisely.



**GOOD JOB:** Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga seems to be saying to SBS' MD Tim Nhleko after he announced the E140 000 sponsorship towards the tennis association. (Pic: Mthundzi Maziya)