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Page 3

TUESDAY JULY 9, 2019

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AFRICA UNITE: His Majesty King Mswati III poses with fellow Heads of State and Government at the opening ceremony of the AU Summit in Niger on Sunday. (Pics: Len Mohale - State Photographer) **MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 5**

KING WILL RETURN HOME WITH SOME GOOD NEWS...

ESWATINI TO HOST AU e-TRADE OFFICES

● 4 000 Emaswati could be employed

STORY ON PAGE 2

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Govt bans witchcraft expo

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT has issued a strong warning against organisers of the voodoo and first of its kind witchcraft competition.

The Democratic Republic of Congo traditional healer Guensta Ikartachi, who is currently visiting the kingdom, has set social media abuzz by planning to stage witchcraft and voodoo competition for interested local traditional healers.

Ikartachi, who is organising the competition, has also invited members of the public to watch the contest for free.

The traditional healer has also invited those who need magical, herbal and spiritual assistance to change their current situations, ranging from rare illnesses to disabilities, to also attend the competition to be attended to for free. A statement released yesterday by Government Spokesperson Percy Simelane, said following persistent media reports about a planned witchcraft and magic spells competition, reported to have been designed by a foreign traditional healer, based in the kingdom, "government wishes to state that the proposed competition of witchcraft and magic spells was unheard of in Eswatini society and an anomaly in the sphere of the lives of the people of the country," said Simelane in the statement.

He added that the Witchcraft Act of 1889; Section 75-80 of Eswatini criminalised witchcraft, sorcery or the practice of voodoo as an offence punishable by law.

"As such government will not sanction any competition of that nature, and anyone who persists with any activity related to witchcraft will face the full might of the law," said Simelane. He said government warned the organisers of this mysterious competition to respect the laws of the country and desist from pursuing an agenda which has no place in the laws and norms of the Eswatini society. He added that government did not normally respond or entertain witchcraft or sorcery matters, but the persistency of reports about the competition have left government with no option but to call the organisers of this weird competition to order.

He mentioned that government could not sit back and watch while the lives of the citizens of the country were exposed to illegal and weird practices that had the potential to poison the minds of the citizens, especially children.

Simelane sternly added that government would not allow a competition of this bizarre nature to take place in the country.

ESWATINI TO HOST AU e-TRADE OFFICES

STORIES BY KING'S OFFICE CORRESPONDENT

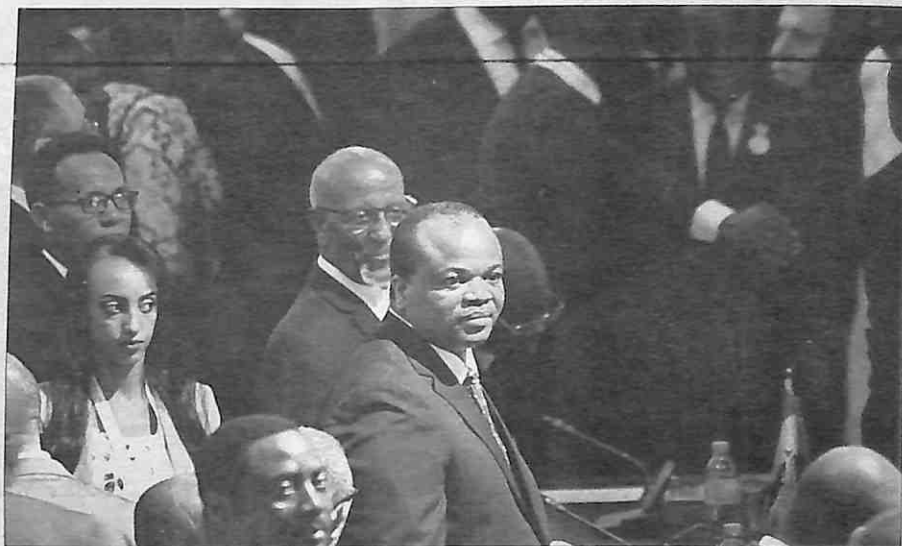
NIAMEY, NIGER - We won't be hosting the continental free trade area (AfCFTA) offices, but Eswatini has been given another important trade task by the African Union.

The kingdom has been selected to become an enabler of the AfCFTA by hosting the African Electronic Trade Regional offices for Southern Africa; an initiative valued in the region of US \$100 million (which is approximately E1.4 billion).

About 4 000 Emaswati stand to gain employment in the fields of ICT, finance, legal and marketing, in the next two to four years, in the roll out of this multi-billion Emalangeni initiative.

The AU signed a memorandum of agreement with a consortium of African professionals and business people, heavily supported by the Diaspora, known as The A-eTrade Group, who have been tasked to drive an e-empowerment programme to enhance intra and inter African trade, targeting small and medium enterprises using a social entrepreneurship approach.

Essentially, the country will be responsible



BAYETHE: The King enters the AU plenary hall to take part in the opening ceremony of the AU Summit in Niger on Sunday. (Pics: Len Mohale - State Photographer)

for ensuring that no one is left behind in accessing the new continental market and is able to compete for the opportunities that the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) brings.

It seeks to remove the barriers to trade for small entrepreneurs, especially access to train-

ing, finance and markets.

The country had put in a bid to host the electronic trade offices, alongside that of hosting the Secretariat of the AfCFTA.

This was disclosed during a press conference on the sidelines of the Africa Union

Strong winds, wild fires: Mkhulu escapes death

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

An elderly man is currently fighting for his life at Hlatikulu Government Hospital after a wall fell on him whilst inside his house, which was destroyed by strong winds that were experienced in some parts of the country on Sunday.

Three households in the Shiselweni region were affected by strong winds that occurred on Sunday morning.

The chiefdoms that were affected were Nkwene and Buseleni. This was confirmed by the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) Communications Officer Wandile Mavuso.

"We would like to inform the public that on Sunday morning, we received reports that there were strong winds in Nkwene, Shiselweni region that affected three house-

....this was after his house caved in following wind storm

holds, with one in Buseleni chiefdom having a house partially destroyed, which resulted in an elderly occupant of the house being injured by the wall, which fell on him. The occupant is currently admitted at Hlatikulu Government Hospital," he said. Meanwhile, Mavuso further stated that in Mahamba, a house was gutted down by fire. There were no injuries or loss of life.

"We would like to appeal to the public, as the windy season is in full swing, that they should avoid lighting fires and leaving them unattended.

We have since realised as NDMA that a lot of houses that catch fire are solely because of negligence," he said.

Adding to the fires that have been wreaking havoc in the country, communication lines have also been disturbed.

Eswatini Water Services Corporation customers were also having difficulties with their toll free line. This was caused by the wild fire that burnt EPTC optic fibre at Malagwane Mountain over the weekend.

An interruption of service in the link between Mbabane, Ezulwini and Matsapha was greatly experienced by customers across networks.

Adding to the list of people who were affected by the fires and winds, some Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) customers are still without electricity.

The company's communications department communicated that some of their lines were affected by the winds, as well as wild fires. Some of their poles were burnt by fires thus causing interruptions to their services.

Due to the escalating fire cases

observed by all stakeholders, the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) in collaboration with the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) stakeholders in the Hhohho Region have initiated a campaign.

The objective is to raise awareness and to sensitise communities exposed to the risks of fire-induced disasters. The aim is to build a risk and impact mitigation capacity of communities; in the Hhohho region, whose main source of income is the forestry industry.

The NDMA, in fulfilling its mandate to coordinate all disaster risk management initiatives at all levels in Eswatini, will host an event at Nginamadvolvo community in Pigg's Peak, starting at 09:00 hours tomorrow.

This is a campaign to sensitise members of the public about the dangers of fire, as well as fire prevention.

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King praises Ghana, offers full support

NIAMEY, NIGER - MAJESTIC in defeat!

This best sums up how His Majesty the King accepted the outcome of the AU member states' bid process to host the Secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

And the resounding applause from fellow Heads of State and Government spoke volumes about their reception to how the country accepted the results.

Speaking at the African Union Extra-Ordinary Summit held here on Sunday, His Majesty King Mswati III congratulated the ultimate winners, Ghana before pledging the country's full support to ensuring the success of this initiative.

tiative.

"We take this opportunity to congratulate the Republic of Ghana on her successful bid to host the Secretariat of the AfCFTA. The Kingdom of Eswatini would like to pledge her full support for its sustenance."

He further thanked his fellow Heads of State and Government, particularly the champion of the AfCFTA, the private sector and all those who contributed to the success of the launch.

The King said Eswatini was pleased with the progress made thus far and recognised the role played by the regional economic blocs for their valuable input in making the AfCFTA a reality.

ty.

Several instruments to facilitate the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area were also launched at the summit.

A number of member states that had not ratified the agreement, got to submit their ratifications.

His Majesty the King urged the member countries to use the period between now and until the agreement becomes fully operational in July 2020, to complete all outstanding work and to ensure that all implementation processes are put in place for the private sector to start trading.

ABOUT A-eTRADE GROUP

It provides e-commerce platforms and consulting services. These include;

- A-eTrade - training material, mindset material, AI personalised assistance to SMEs
- AeCompute - Cloud Computing infrastructure and services
- Multi-payment gateway - Online payment services for transactions in all African countries
- AeLogistics - Unified African logistics ecosystem
- AeBusiness media - Share success stories, raise awareness and provide learning
- AeCDI: Not-for-profit group - E-Commerce readiness, E-Trade policy, assistance in digital economy regulatory framework.

Extra-Ordinary Summit on Sunday. The AfCFTA Secretariat bid was won by Ghana with Eswatini coming third.

Eswatini was the best in the region though, to host the eTrade offices. Similar offices will be set up in the other three regions of the continent.

Announcement

This news has been well received by His Majesty the King, who met the A-eTrade group executive after the announcement on Sunday.

Commerce, Industry and Trade Minister Manqoba Khumalo described the news as due reward for the hard work put in by Eswatini to be counted among key players in the economic transformation of the continent.

conomic transformation of the continent.

Khumalo initiated the interest in the bid and Eswatini's request for an assessment. Eswatini was selected following a High-Level Review Panel constituted under the auspices of the Commissioner of Trade and Industry of the African Union Commission.

The panel made the decision in its meeting on June 17, 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia where a rigorous review of the details of the offer received from each of the competing member states took place.

The recommendation was subsequently approved by the Board of Directors of the A-eTrade Group.

In congratulating Eswatini, the A-eTrade Group and its Board said they were impressed with the efforts put into this process and presenting one of the best hosting offers.

Initiative

In an interview, the Chief Executive Officer of Africa eCommerce Development International, which is coordinating the initiative, Muluaem Syoum, said it was high time small entrepreneurs adopted a change of mindset to see the business beyond the boundaries of the landlocked country.

"Our forefathers gave us political independence. By launching the AfCFTA last year, our current leaders have given us economic

independence.

"So it's time to think globally, it's time to use tech for trade and you do not even need to manufacture a product to trade. This is what we are bringing to the people," he said.

The target is to create five million SMEs in 15 years, providing between 80 and 100 million jobs across the continent in line with the AU objectives of employment creation.

He explained that they would be working to get things off the ground soon, starting with getting agreements signed and offices set up over the next few months, after which the official launch date would be announced at or before the AU Summit in January 2020.

Phalala Fund in E66 million mess

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

DUE to the increasing number of cancer cases in the country, Phalala Fund is said to be owing South African hospitals medical bills estimated to be in the region of E66 million.

It is stated that some of the outstanding bills date back to the year 2013. It is no longer a secret that the country's economy is on life support, and many patients who were looking into being supported by the fund are currently having challenges accessing these hospitals because of the outstanding bills.

These millions owed by the fund combine all six referral hospitals and clinics, which accept local cancer patients to be treated in South Africa. This was revealed by Phalala Fund Administrator Thabsile Dlamini, when she was responding to some of the articles that have been published about the fund failure to assist cancer patients who are supposed to be referred to South African hospitals and the living conditions that these patients are supposedly subjected to.

Our sister publication, The Observer on Saturday published a story under the headline 'Principals not happy with Chris Hani Baragwanth Hospital'.

In the article, the principals voiced out their concerns at the conditions they found their pupils in, who are currently undergoing various cancer treatments.

It is reported that government, through Phalala Fund, only pays hospital bills and not accommodation fees.

The fund administrator narrated several difficulties that the fund is currently facing due to the financial slump the country is facing.

ACCOMMODATION

In as much as the fund is doing badly financially, but the fund administrator said they are ensuring that Emaswati transferred to South Africa are accommodated and safe.

Thabsile Dlamini said cancer patients, as well as parents, mostly in patients less than 12 years, accommodation is provided for them together with transport to the hospital. The accommodation is provided up until one completes treatment. Transport to the country is provided. "There is no way possible that one can be referred to SA then remain untreated because they have not paid," she said.

For a patient to be travel to South Africa through Phalala Fund, certain required documents accompany the patient, which include patients travelling document, patients medical visa, quotations from receiving hospital, referral letter, guarantee letter for payment, appointment date and name of hospital and doctor to attend to patient. The matron said a patient that has undergone Phalala Fund process is unlikely to find difficulties when referred to these hospitals as the ambulance service provides a medical and technical basic life support, with all the necessary equipment and drugs and also a nurse on board to provide care from departure to receiving hospital.

"Our transport visits SA twice a week. On Sunday and Wednesday patients are taken to South Africa then on Monday and Thursday discharged patients return," she said.

WAITING LIST SITTING AT 327

There are 327 cancer patients awaiting referral to South Africa by

Phalala Fund.

This was revealed by Phalala Fund Matron Thabsile Dlamini in a press briefing yesterday.

She added that there are several other factors that have made the numbers this high.

Firstly, the matron stated that since last year April up until April this year, the fund was not sending any patient out of the country. Reason being the escalating debts that the country owes the SA hospitals.

"We had to beg and renegotiate with hospitals to accept local patients," she said.

Dlamini added that they are only capable to send patients twice a week to South Africa yet the Phalala Fund Board approves patients every Tuesday.

Further, she said because of the waiting list, some end up in stage four of cancer, which is the most critical stage. This is because they stay in the list for a long time, while the cancer is taking its toll on them.

"Mostly, we start with the urgent cases where a patient comes to the hospital in critical stage of which some of those who were included in the list prior end up reaching critical stage," she said.

Dlamini said another delay is that some of Emaswati still do not have identity documents. As a result, their transfers are delayed as they prepare for identity documents.

"Nationality documents are some of the crucial documents that are required for a patient to be transferred or referred to another hospital," she said.

patients and they are public hospitals.

These hospitals include Chris Hani Baragwanth Hospital, Arwyp Medical Centre, Busa Med and The Clinic Group, which has three hospitals under its wing.

"These hospitals and its doctors understand the situation that we are currently facing as a fund," she said.

Specialists

Moreover, Dlamini said in most cases they find it difficult to find specialists doctors within the six hospitals for every cancer case. This is because they cannot afford private or any other institutions besides the three.

Dlamini said in some cases, a specialist doctor may be willing to operate or attend to a patient's

She said it is unfortunate that some people do not disclose that the reason some were delayed to be transferred for treatment is because they did not have nationality documents instead they blame Phalala Fund.

The fund administrator said they have learnt in recent reports that local patients reach South Africa while they are in stage four of cancer. She stated that the above mentioned are mainly the cause of such.

BANNED

About 25 patients have been banned for overstaying in South Africa while some were still undergoing treatment.

The Observer on Saturday reported that some of the parents who have children receiving cancer treatment voiced out their concern about the immigration laws and them not being afforded visas which will allow them to stay longer than 30 days in South Africa.

Dlamini said because of the current financial situation, they are only able to make visa for the patients only.

This is because cancer treatment varies; treatment can take six months or longer than that. Travelling back and forth for patients could derail their recovery, yet the parent can use the transport provided by Phalala Fund that takes patients to South Africa and back.

However, she said if a parent can afford his/her own visa he/she is welcomed to obtain it.

"When it comes to obtaining visa we prioritise the patients," she said.

case, but if the hospital does not allow Emaswati patients then their efforts become in vain.

The matron shared that for every cancer or illness, the levels of treatment and admission vary. As a result of that as a fund, they are tasked to constantly conduct case management analysis which have different costs.

"There are four stages at which a patient is admitted under," she said.

Firstly, she said there is the ICU stage which costs E15 000 per day. The second stage, being high care, which costs E10 000 per day and the general ward which costs E6 000 per day. After a patients goes through all these four stages, he/she is then transferred to the recovery lodge, which costs E900 per day.

Fed up EPTC employees ditch old union for SCWU

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
MANZINI

...among a number of grievances, they claim old union is in bed with management



NO COMMENT: EPTC Corporate Communications Manager Nqobile Magagula.

ESWATINI Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC) employees have unanimously voted to deregister their ineffective union (SPTWU) in favour of SCWU, as they said the latter caters for all employees working under the communications industry.

SPTWU stands for Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Workers Union, while SCWU is the Swaziland Communications Workers Union.

Over 300 employees gathered at Salesian High School in Manzini on Sunday for a mass meeting, where amongst other things, they discussed their grievances and also to decide on which of the two unions they should affiliate to.

The employees have over the past years been at loggerheads with management and among themselves, as they were affiliated to two different unions, being SCWU and SPTWU. They alleged management did not want them to form the new union SCWU, as the old one was allegedly in favour of management.

They also alleged that management had informants within SPTWU, who informed them on matters discussed during meetings.

The employees and management have been battling to see eye to eye and the matter had even escalated into a court battle over the two unions, with management refusing to deregister SPTWU and engage the employees in negotiations for recognition agreement over SCWU.

The labour commissioner advised the employees to form an interim commission in an attempt to engage management in negotiations.

A member of the commission Innocent Ngcobo said they were informed by the labour commissioner to deregister SPTWU and enter into negotiations for a recognition agreement with their employer for SCAWU, which was proving difficult as management was reluctant to engage

them or their representatives on negotiations.

The meeting was, therefore, convened to discuss a way forward. The employees unanimously agreed to deregister SPTWU in favour of SCWU, as they said it included all employees working under the communications industry, such as MTN Eswatini.

Unfavourable

They said the new union would be in a better position to deal with their grievances, as the old one only involved EPTC employees, whereas

their grievances were of a similar nature with the other organisations. During the meeting, the employees raised a number of other issues they had with management, including unfavourable working conditions.

Ngcobo said as employees, they were tired of being overlooked by management as they made decisions affecting workers without engaging them.

The grievances outlined by the employees included not being provided with protective clothing and necessary working material as management said they had no money.

Another issue raised was that management had recently informed them that weekends would now be paid as normal working days, meaning they would not be paid overtime, which was normally the case.

"For over two and a half years, we have not been provided with protective clothing, yet we were expected to perform our duties without fail, also decisions affecting our working conditions are communicated to us as a directive from management without our input and agreement," he said.

Another employee said they

were puzzled by management's claims of being cash-strapped yet they were making commitments for charity events.

"Normally charity begins at home, yet that is not the case with us as employees of the company. Our issues and requests from management are constantly being swept under the carpet yet the company has recently committed over E2 million on a soccer competition," said the employee.

Ngcobo also said they were not against charity, but only wanted their employer to also put their needs first as employees. He also said, for instance, there were a number of vehicles that had been decommissioned as they were unroadworthy and management was claiming to not have funds to fix them. "This negatively affects our work as well as our customers, as it delayed our response period to reported faults," he said.

Another issue raised was that of being understaffed. An employee said their work suffered as employees who had left the company for various reasons were not replaced and this led to them being unable to fulfil their duties.

EPTC Corporate Communications Manager Nqobile Magagula declined to comment on the matter. "I am not aware of the meeting held by the employees nor the issues raised, thus I cannot comment on the matter," she said.

This negatively affects our work as well as our customers, as it delayed our response period to reported faults.

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAUNCH OF A 7-YEAR GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE BOND TO THE SUM OF SZL 100,000,000

Issued Under the SZL 2,000,000,000 Infrastructure Bond Programme, 2017

On behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini, the Central Bank of Eswatini is announcing the launch of a 7-year Government Infrastructure Bond. The coupon rate for this bond will be fixed at 9.75%. The Auction Date shall be 26 July 2019 for the sum SZL 100,000,000 (One Hundred Million Emalangeni).

The Bond will be issued by competitive multiple bid auction and is open to the public including individuals, corporate and institutional investors. All investors should apply through the Primary Dealers who are the four local Commercial Banks.

The purpose of the issuance is to raise finance capital for infrastructure projects which seek to stimulate economic, business and social development. The applicable Pricing Supplement and other relevant documents pertaining to the issuance is available for viewing at the Financial Markets Department of the Central Bank of Eswatini situated in the 3rd Floor, Umntsholi Building in Mbabane, as well on the Central Bank website www.centralbank.org.sz

The Central Bank of Eswatini invites interested parties to contact their commercial banks or collect application forms and further details at the Financial Markets Department, Central Bank of Eswatini, Mahlokohla Street, P.O. Box 546, Mbabane. Telephone: (+268) 2408 2144/2100/2294/2210/2212

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Website: www.centralbank.org.sz

Specific details for the 7-Year Government Infrastructure Bond are contained in the following "Call to Tender" table:-

CALL TO TENDER

LAUNCH OF A 7-YEAR 9.75% FIXED COUPON GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI INFRASTRUCTURE BOND SGIFB007 - AUCTION TO BE HELD ON JULY 26, 2019

The Central Bank of Eswatini as agent for the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini invites bids for the above Government Bonds whose terms and conditions are summarised as follows:

1. Issuer	Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini
2. Amount	SZL 100,000,000 (One Hundred Million Emalangeni)
3. Greenshoe / Over-allotment option	The Issuer reserves the right to allocate an additional amount of up to 50% of the amount on offer
4. Procedure for bidding	Investors to submit application forms for bids through their Primary Dealers. Investors should ensure that applications are submitted timely in order that all bids are captured on the Central Securities Depository System (CSD) before 10:00am on the auction date.
5. Auction date	July 26, 2019
6. Settlement date	July 31, 2019
7. Form of issuance	Paperless (Central Securities Depository)
8. Auction results	Auction results shall be made available on the Bank's Website immediately after the auction.
9. Yield	Yield to Maturity to be quoted in multiples of 0.005%
10. Minimum bid size	SZL 10,000 for individual (non-competitive) bidders SZL 1,000,000 for Institutional direct bidders
11. Interest payment date	31 January and 31 July in each year
12. Coupon	Fixed at 9.75% per annum
13. Day count convention	Actual/365
14. Tax	Interest income is not subject to any withholding tax
15. Currency	Swaziland Lilangeni (SZL)
16. Redemption date	31 July 2019
17. Listing	Issued under the E2,000,000,000 Infrastructure Bond Programme, 2017, listed on the Eswatini Stock Exchange
18. Trading	Secondary market trading in multiples of SZL 10,000 to commence on 08 August, 2019
19. Defaulters	Successful bidders who fail to honor their obligations on time will be disqualified from participating in one subsequent bond auction.

Separate Pricing Supplements will be available for each of these bonds. The Central Bank of Eswatini reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications.

www.centralbank.org.sz



CENTRAL BANK
OF ESWATINI

HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN NIGER



BAYETHE: His Majesty the King posing with executive members of the African eCommerce Development Initiative Muluaem Syoum (l) and Francois Ndengwe. (Courtesy pics)



SALUTE: His Majesty arrived to a Guard of Honour in Niger for the AU Summit.



MEET: Chief Executive Officer of the African eCommerce Development Initiative Muluaem Syoum and Commerce, Industry and Trade Minister Manqoba Khumalo shake to the deal.

OUR KING: Emaswati were there to welcome the King and Inkhosikati LaMatsebula to Niger. Business Eswatini's E. Nathi Dlamini and AU's Treasure Maphanga greet the King.



UNITED: Minister Manqoba Khumalo with officials from the African eCommerce Development Initiative after Eswatini was announced the host of the AU eTrade Hub for the Southern Africa region.



ENTERTAINMENT: The King and Inkhosikati LaMatsebula were also treated to cultural dances upon arrival in Niger.

SERVICE INTERRUPTION

MTN Eswatini would like to convey sincere apologies to our valued customers and the nation for the network outage experienced yesterday, 07 July 2019, that affected the entire country for about 10 hours. The outage was caused by Eswatini Post and Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC) optic fibre backbone link breakdown which resulted in the loss of both primary and secondary links. Services were restored just after midnight on Monday 8 July 2019.

The following services were impacted:

- Internet services
- International Calls
- Calls to EPTC and Eswatini Mobile
- MTN Mobile Money
- Roaming

Please note that MTN Eswatini is engaging EPTC and other key stakeholders to find a permanent solution to mitigate incidents of this nature in future.

By Management



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Ts & Cs apply.





Career Opportunities

Duty Station: Eswatini, Mbabane

Deadline for applications: 23 July 2019

ABOUT WFP

The United Nations World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide. The mission of WFP is to help the world achieve Zero Hunger in our lifetimes. Every day, WFP works worldwide to ensure that no child goes to bed hungry and that the poorest and most vulnerable, particularly women and children, can access the nutritious food they need.

For more on WFP and what we do, please go to <http://www.wfp.org/videos/zero-hunger>

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This is local positions for Swazi national only. Female applicants are encouraged to apply.

WFP does not charge any fees from applicants at any stage in the recruitment process. Interested candidates should complete their applications online at the WFP website: <http://www.wfp.org/careers>

Position : Programme Policy Officer
Post Grade : NOB

JOB PURPOSE

To provide support to policy and programme activities that effectively meet food assistance needs.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES (not all-inclusive)

Under the direct supervision of the Head of Office, the Programme Policy Officer will be responsible for the following:

- Contribute towards the development of projects and provide project management support, ensuring alignment with WFP programme policies, standards and procedures.
- Contribute to the preparation of accurate and timely reporting on programmes and activities that enable informed decision making, including proposals for improvement in operation and scope of programmes, and ensure consistency of information presented to stakeholders.
- Provide support in ensuring alignment of WFP's programme and initiatives with national strategies and priorities, and promote coherence of approaches, in coordination and collaboration with UN agencies and other key stakeholders.
- Provide advice and support the government on the pilot and implementation of the Home-Grown School Feeding programme and support the development of sustainable school feeding framework.
- Provide technical advice or mobilise technical expertise on programme and policy issues including assessment and analysis, the choice of objectives, activities, transfer modalities and appropriate food products, the deployment and testing of innovative approaches and the development of strategies to support government efforts to reduce hunger and malnutrition.
- Establish and maintain operational partnerships to identify opportunities for collaborative approaches and initiatives that improve assistance packages and support advocacy work.
- Enhance WFP's leadership status in forums relating to area of food security, nutrition, livelihoods, resilience or engagement in humanitarian, transition and development contexts through direct participation, briefings, information products and other materials.
- Manage operational research and evidence building on issues relevant to food, cash and capacity strengthening assistance.
- Manage the preparation and dissemination of timely analytical and critical reports, publications, and a variety of information products or proposals for internal or external use.
- Contribute to resources mobilisations efforts for WFP projects, including clearly articulating the need for food assistance and related programme opportunities, and follow up on the resource situation of projects including commodity and cash availability, seeking advice from senior colleagues where necessary.
- Advise and support the development of functional training in areas of expertise to enhance the capacity of WFP staff and partner to design and deliver effective food assistance programmes.
- Support the identification, development and management of collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders in the country, particularly within Government, leading to improved food and nutrition programmes.
- Assist in designing and implementing of a WFP strategy for Eswatini that is focused on capacity development of the Government in the areas of programming, supply chain and M&E, with the ultimate aim of handover of sustainable Government owned food and nutrition programmes.
- Contribute to the development of a capacity building strategy and operational plan in relation to food and nutrition security programmes, that include identification of opportunities based on WFP's comparative advantage, mechanisms for assessing progress, roles and responsibilities and a timeframe agreed upon by stakeholders.
- Follow up on and facilitate implementation of the strategy and plan, including reporting on progress, identification of challenges and proposed solutions.
- Design and manage the implementation and monitoring of cash and voucher projects, in line with the new Cash and Voucher corporate business model.
- Liaise with different units (Logistics, Procurement, IT, Finance, VAM), to ensure coordinated preparation and implementation of cash or voucher based projects.
- As required, identify opportunities to link the Cash and Voucher distribution modalities and create synergies with other programme initiatives.
- Support Government to develop coordination mechanisms for National Cash Based Transfer programme.
- Coordinate the implementation of SCOPE for the Country Office programmes.
- Lead and coordinate activities of the Programme unit.
- Perform other related duties as required.

MINIMUM ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

- Education: Advanced University degree in International Affairs, Economics, Nutrition/Health, Agriculture, Environmental Science, Social Sciences or other field relevant

to international development assistance. Alternatively, a First University degree in the same fields with additional years of related work experience and/or trainings/courses.

- Language: Fluency in English and Siswati

DESIRED EXPERIENCES FOR ENTRY INTO THE ROLE

- Minimum of 7 years post graduate, progressively responsible, job related experience in development assistance projects, public sector management.
- Experience in implementing and managing programmes, as well as providing inputs into programme design. Specific experience with Nutrition and food assistance programmes will be further valued.
- Experience in Government partnership implementation and in technical assistance areas will be considered as a strong asset.
- General knowledge of UN system policies, rules, regulations and procedures governing administration is an added advantage.

OTHER SPECIFIC JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to interpret and analyze a wide variety needs, partners' requirements etc.
- Demonstrated ability to develop and maintain effective working relations with internally and externally counterparts, partners and stakeholders with persons of different national and cultural backgrounds.
- Ability to participate and promote open dialogue with the team, valuing the diverse opinion of others to achieve common goals.
- Result oriented attitude.
- Ability to work under pressure and tight deadlines.
- Resourcefulness, initiative, maturity of judgment, excellent communication skills both orally and in writing.
- Self-starter and able to work with minimum supervision.
- Good analytical skills and experience in report writing.
- Sound negotiation skills and ability to accept responsibility.
- Experience in use of computer software (particularly MS Word, Excel, Power Point and SPSS and STATA and GIS) and understanding of data collection and analysis methods.
- Supervisory skills required.

Position : Procurement Assistant
Post Grade : SC5

JOB PURPOSE

The overall objective will be to further enhance the procurement of food and of non-food items/services for WFP-Eswatini adhering to applicable WFP guidelines and procedures.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES (not all-inclusive)

Under the overall guidance of the Head of Office and direct supervision of the Supply Chain Officer, the Procurement Assistant will be responsible for the following:

- Perform administrative procurement activities in a timely and efficient manner, to support Professional staff in the acquisition of food and services for efficient field operations.
- Compile data, prepare and distribute documents, to support successful procurement programs and operational activities, (e.g. issue tenders, evaluate offers and negotiate/award contracts), ensuring standard processes are followed.
- Oversee the maintenance of databases and records, to ensure information is accurate, organized, and available for others to access, and support reporting requirements.
- Review, record and prioritize purchasing requests, ensuring all supporting documentation is received, and funding is available, in order to enable the procurement of food and services.
- Coordinate and monitor the delivery of procurement requisitions, verifying receipt and inspection of deliverables, and performing follow up actions to ensure supplies reach HQ and field operations.
- Act as an escalation point, liaising with suppliers and providing solutions to complex issues related to delivered food, using initiative and following process, to ensure timely resolution of problems.
- Research collate and present information in standard formats, to enable informed decision making and consistency of information presented to the stakeholders.
- Update, manage and maintain relevant databases and records, to ensure the information is accurate, organized, and available for others to access, and supports reporting requirements.
- Liaise with internal counterparts to support the alignment of procurement activities with wider programmes and ensure a coherent approach to meeting food assistance needs.
- Provide technical support and/or allocate work to other support staff, in order to assist them in completing standard tasks to agreed standards and deadlines.
- Follow standard emergency preparedness practices to support WFP to quickly respond and deploy food and needed resources to affected areas at the onset of the crisis.
- Work in collaboration with internal counterparts, in order to align procurement activities with wider programme and ensure a coherent approach to meeting food assistance needs.

MINIMUM ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

Education: Completion of secondary school education plus a College or University Diploma in Procurement or Economics or Supply Chain. A degree in the related functional area will be an added advantage.

Language: Fluency in both oral and written Siswati and English languages

DESIRED EXPERIENCES FOR ENTRY INTO THE ROLE

- At least 3 years job related experience with procurement activities.

OTHER SPECIFIC JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Experience conducting analyses and developing reports.
- Experience working with suppliers or other third party on day to day basis.
- Computer skills (MS Word & Excel)
- Ability to work under pressure and tight deadlines

GOVT DRIVERS

STORIES BY MBONO MDLULI
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT drivers are now under surveillance as the ministry of public works and transport has introduced a vehicle fleet management system.

The system aims at keeping track of all government vehicles as they move from one place to another. The system is installed within the roads department at the ministry.

Ministry of Public Works and Transport Principal Secretary (PS) Makhosini Mndawe said the system was still at its pilot stage. He said this when the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) toured the ministry's headquarters in Mbabane yesterday. The aim of the sessional committee was to know how the system was operated.

During its pilot stage, the PAC was told that already, some drivers within the roads depart-

ment were called in for questioning as they were suspected of abusing the government vehicles.

The PS informed the PAC that the matter of the abusive drivers was with the human resources department within the works ministry.

The PS further told the committee that the system was very good and it was able to track the vehicles under the roads department.

System

He said the system had been on pilot for the past 18 months.

He did not give a specific date on when they would be able to roll out the system to the whole ministry and subsequently to all the government ministries and departments. PAC Chairperson Phila Buthelezi said it was wrong for the ministry to go the long route when disciplining their drivers. The fact that there were drivers who were abusing government vehicles meant they had to be fired as soon as they were found out.

He made an example of a certain local com-

ACC bars media during PAC tour

THE Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) barred the media from attending the PAC's tour of the ACC offices.

The ACC was among the departments that were supposed to be toured by the PAC yesterday. The PAC toured the offices of the commission in Mbabane after they visited Fonteyn High. It could not be ascertained what the PAC wanted to inspect at the ACC offices.

One of the complex issue at the ACC is the Mercedes Benz, which was taken by former ACC Commissioner Advocate Thanda Mngwengwe. The vehicle has still not been recovered.

How the system operates (information given by Technician Njabulo Nkambule):

- The system is operated using a computer system.
- The screen of the computer system shows a map of the country (Eswatini) in which the roads department's vehicles are moving.
- In the key of the map, there are three different dots. There is a blue dot, which signifies that a vehicle is in motion. An orange dot means a vehicle is stationary, with its engine still on. A grey dot means the vehicle is stationary and its engine is off.
- The system gives information such as registration numbers of a vehicle, as well as the type of vehicle.
- It also gives information on the name of the driver of each vehicle and the way they behave while driving.
- The system shows exact position, as well as historical position, which is up to eight years.
- About 202 vehicles are currently managed under the system.

5 KOMBI DRIVERS ARRESTED FOR KNOCKING DOWN PEDESTRIANS

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

THE bustling city of Manzini seems to be fast becoming a danger zone for pedestrians as almost every day a pedestrian is hit by public service vehicles.

Yesterday alone, the Manzini Magistrate's Court dealt with five cases of pedestrians who were hit by public service vehicles at Manzini bus rank.

The alarming number of pedestrians hit by cars led

to the presiding Magistrate Phathaphatha Mdluli stating that in some cases such incidents were a result of pedestrians not respecting cars on the road.

Mdluli said the young generation no longer cares about cars on the roads, adding that they just cross anyhow. He said when crossing the roads sometimes they even touch the cars.

He said the way he respects cars he sometimes runs when crossing the road to avoid accidents. When giving advice to some of the drivers who appeared in court for the hit and run accidents which happened in town, Mdluli said it is wrong for the drivers not to report such cases to the police after an accident.

Most of those who were arrested were for minor accidents whereby they bumped into pedestrians at the bus rank were cautioned and discharged. However, for those who bumped on the pedestrians while reversing, they were fined accordingly. Some of the public service vehicle drivers who appeared in court for hit and run accidents were Sishosonke Zwane who was charged with negligent driving in that he bumped onto a pedestrian while reversing at Manzini bus rank.

The accused pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to three months imprisonment with a fine option of E800. Another driver Matsenjwa Lungelo was also charged with negligent driving for running over Regina Sikhondze and failing to report the accident to the police and he was also sentenced accordingly. The third driver Bhutana Dlamini is alleged to have knocked down a pedestrian identified as Mahlelela Zodwa while at Manzini bus rank. The accused pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to three months imprisonment with a fine option of E800. Another kombi driver Dumisani Maphalala ran over an eight-year-old child. The court, after hearing Maphalala's side of the story, cautioned and discharged him.

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 19 June 2019 starting at 10.00 am.

Region Manzini

1. Mthembu Sibongile P. O. Box 106
Manzini GRANT of a Bottle Store Liquor Licence situated at Ngculwini known as Emavelase Bottle Store.

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

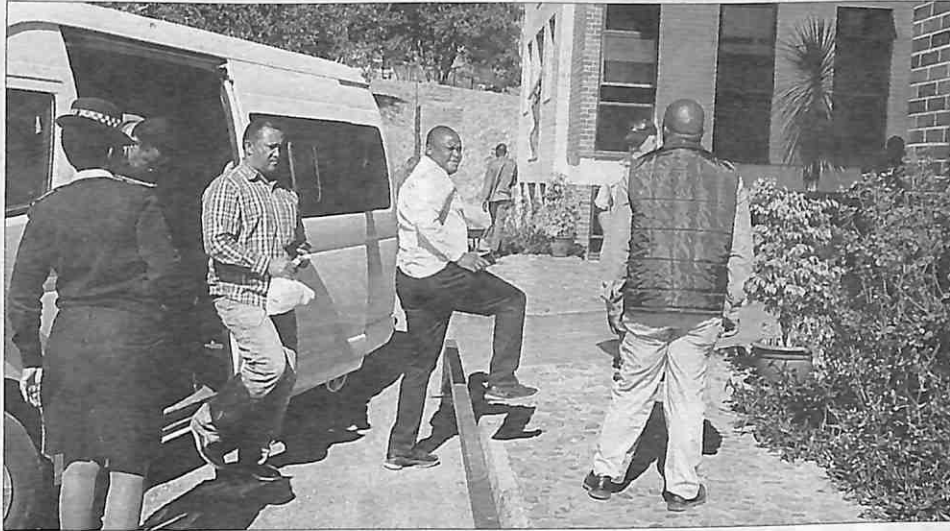
UNDER SURVEILLANCE

pany that fired its drivers for receiving phone calls while driving. Vehicles for this company, according to Buthelezi, had cameras that record drivers inside the vehicles, hence they were seen picking up the phones. According to the policies of the company, it was a dismissible offence to pick up a phone while driving. It was for this reason why they had to be fired.

Response

The PS, in response, said the ministry would look into what the chairman was saying. Lobamba MP Alan Stewart, who is also a PAC member, said it was a pity that the results of the system were yet to be determined, despite that the system had been operated for 18 months.

He said if that would be the case, then the system was as non-existing as nothing. Mtfongwaneni MP Roy Fanourakis, another PAC member, said the system was as good as its operator. If the operator was not working, the system will not work too.



HERE: Some of the MPs alight from the kombi upon arrival at the ministry of Work and Transport.

PS refuses to mention cost of system

MINISTRY of Public Works and Transport Makhosini Mndawe flatly refused to give information in relation to costs of running the vehicle fleet management system.

The PS refused even when the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) explained that it was imper-

ative for him to share the information because the public had to know about the costs of the system. PAC Chairperson Phila Buthelezi told Mndawe that the system was run using taxpayers' money so he had nothing to hide in divulging the costs of the system.

Mndawe told the PAC members that he was not in a position to divulge the information.

He preferred sharing such information in private, saying his ministry had to protect the company that helped the ministry in running the system.

The PS did not mention the name of the company.

CTA GTM nowhere to be found

CTA General Transport Manager Makhosonkhe Khumalo could not be reached on his phone when sought by the PAC.

Khumalo was called yesterday by the PAC when

the committee was still inspecting the vehicle management system at the ministry of public works and transport.

The aim of contacting him was to prepare him

so he gives the information needed by the PAC.

The PAC wanted to see the status of the vehicles he was ordered to confiscate from the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs and one vehicle from Parliament.

Khumalo reported before the PAC last month that he was able to get the vehicles. The PAC wanted to see the conditions they were in.

DPP ready to action DPM's officer's case

BY NOKUZOLA THWALA
Mbabane

SENIOR Crown Counsel Futhi Lushaba says the DPM's office is ready to action a case of a senior official at the Deputy prime minister's office (DPMO).

She said they were just awaiting an instruction from the police. She said they were hoping to act on the case by the end of the week.

"We can only action the case once we receive instructions from the police. I cannot help with

more information at the moment as my boss is off duty as he is bereaved. We are hoping that later in the week we will have something," she said.

Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said they would give instructions to the DPM's office once they are done with their investigations.

"We are still conducting our investigations on the case you referred to. As soon as we are done we will inform the DPP's office and the media," she said.

A complaint was lodged against the senior officials for sexual harassment and victimisation but no action was taken on the case until recently.

Suffering

An official at the DPM's office was reportedly suffering from major depression and showing signs of being suicidal due to the harassment. This followed a case of alleged sexual harassment by the woman's supervisor (senior official) which had dragged for more than two years that no one wanted to resolve.

Strangely, the DPM's office is responsible for dealing with issues such as this, under the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act.

ECOT lecturer guilty of DD, pleads to pay in instalments

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A lecturer of the Eswatini College of Technology (ECOT) arrested for drink-driving pleaded with the court to allow him to pay his fine in instalments, claiming he had already spent all his earnings for the month.

Mathokoza Dlamini (56) was arrested and charged with contravening the Road Traffic Act, after he was found to have been driving his BMW sedan while under the influence of alcohol.

According to the charge sheet, Dlamini was arrested at ECOT on Sunday where he was found to have exceeded the blood alcohol limit.

Dlamini had a blood alcohol content reading of 2.00mg/l.

During his mitigation for a lenient sentence before Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati yesterday, Dlamini claimed that he had only gone to drop off some friends at the ECOT gates when he was arrested.



RULING: Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati

"Your Worship, I live within the ECOT campus and I had spent the day drinking and catching up with my friends. I had no intention to drive outside the gates, however, when I drove my friends to

the gate I was arrested on the spot," Dlamini claimed. Dlamini further pleaded with the court to allow him to make a deferred payment, as he no longer had any money on him to pay the fine.

"I always say that when people are arrested for these offences, most of them do not have the E1 500 or E2 000 to pay fines.

Order

They end up pestering their relatives in order to pay the fines. On the other hand, a few weeks ago I granted someone a similar arrangement and until today, that person has not returned to pay off his fine," Magistrate Vilakati said.

However, he granted Dlamini his application for a deferred payment. Dlamini was sentenced to pay a fine of E1 500 and in default of payment, 15 months in prison. However, the court ordered Dlamini to pay E500 on Monday, and the balance before July 31.

Dlamini was further cautioned that if he did not pay the balance of the fine before the end of July, a warrant of arrest will be issued against him.

Mob justice 4 slapped with murder charges

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI
Manzini

FOUR Maliyaduma residents have been arrested and charged with murder after they allegedly assaulted and killed a house-breaking and theft suspect.

Information gathered is that the deceased was part of a gang which has been terrorising the area; breaking into houses and stealing people's valuables.

The community, which had become fed up with the alleged criminal activity, is alleged to have caught one of the suspects in the act and beat him to a pulp. The mob that beat up the deceased is alleged to have comprised community police, residents and family members from the homestead where the suspect was caught stealing.

Maliyaduma Bucopho Vusumuzi Mtsetfwa said previously they had a lot of sleepless nights as a result of the people who were breaking into houses and stealing property. Ngwenya said it was unfortunate that one of the suspects who were assaulted ended up losing his life.

Regards

Mtsetfwa said the gang did not value people's property which is what might have led to the residents resorting to mob justice.

He said the deceased was a known person in the community and he was very troublesome.

He added that one of the suspects arrested is a victim of the gang's reign of terror.

Information gathered is that the deceased was feared by community members as suspicions were that he was also fond of using muti.

It is said around April he broke into a homestead at Maliyaduma but he was caught and beaten to a pulp by members of the family.

Following the mob justice meted on him, Manzini police have been able to round up four suspects, two females and two males. Ncamiso Dlamini (30), Nkululeko Masilela (32), Nothando Dlamini (35) and Nomlindo Dlamini (25) all from Maliyaduma, were rounded up by the police over the weekend. They made their first court appearance before Manzini Magistrate Phathaphatha Mdluli yesterday. They were slapped with a charge of murder.

According to the charge, it is alleged that on April 20 the accused persons while at Maliyaduma assaulted Mduduzi Ngwenyama with an intention to kill him. It is said the accused assaulted the deceased using a knobkerrie and an axe handle all over the body, causing him serious injuries which led to his death.

They were remanded back into police custody and told to appear next Wednesday before court pending committal to the High Court.

GLOBAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

VACANCY

Wanted is a computer Science and ICT Teaching Methods lecturer.

Requirements

- Honors Degree in computer Science
- At least 2 years work experience

Send detailed curriculum vitae to
info@globaluniversity.co
Deadline: 11 July 2019



TECHNICAL: The systems technician Njabulo Nkambule explaining to the MPs how it operates as they track the vehicles.

BY MBONO MDLULI
Mbabane

THE ministry of natural resources and energy has failed to account for a project said to be worth E1.5 million.

This happened yesterday during a site visit carried out by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) at Fonteyn High School in Mbabane.

This project was funded through a donation from the Republic of China (Taiwan). It involved installing boreholes and solar water pump at the school.

Auditor General (AG) Timothy Matsebula, in his 2018 report, noted that there was under-expenditure by the ministry of natural resources and energy.

According to those at the scene, it transpired that the Taiwanese government had

donated the E1.5 million towards the project.

When the MPs who are members of the PAC conducted a site visit, they did not get the impression that the project was worth E1.5 million. They were convinced that the project was worth nothing more than E300 000.

On site, the PAC reportedly met with an officer of Taiwanese origin and he was identified as David.

● This reportedly disturbed the PAC, and the members of the committee felt they could no longer continue with the probe.

Unfortunately, David seemed to know nothing about the prices of the materials used on the project.

This reportedly disturbed the PAC, and the members of the committee felt they could no longer continue with the probe.

They felt they wasted time and

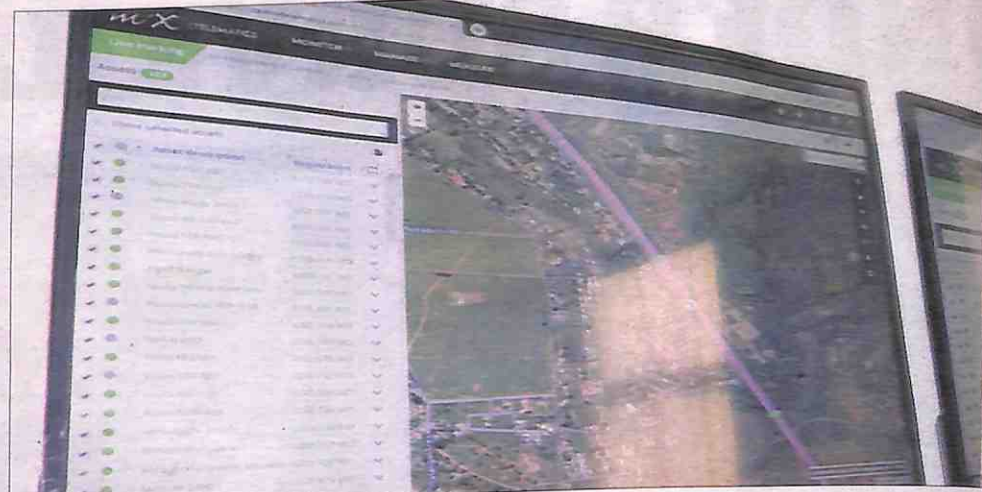
resources travelling all the way from Parliament to Fonteyn High School. They could not get any meaningful information from the official on the ground.

The PAC is said to have stated that there was a need for government to be vigilant when it came

to money received from donors.

The PAC appreciated that the country continued to be helped by certain countries, which extend a helping hand to the country to realise its development goals and objectives.

However, the PAC felt that the donors could in future be unwilling to donate to the country if government would fail to keep track of every cent utilised in projects.



DATA: The newly installed monitoring system is fully operational at the ministry of public works and transport.

MINISTRY FAILS TO ACCOUNT FOR E1.5M PROJECT

TENDER NOTICE



INVITATION TO TENDER FOR

TENDER NO.	SRA 2019/013
NAME	SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF LAPTOPS
CLOSING DATE	09 AUGUST 2019

The Eswatini Revenue Authority is seeking services from experienced companies for the above mentioned services. Only companies that can demonstrate that they are suitably qualified and have previous experience and capacity to implement similar projects will be considered.

Tenderers should submit the following:

- Company profile
- Technical & Financial proposals
- Original Copy of Valid Tax Compliance Certificate
- Certified Copy of Valid Trading License/Permit
- Certified Copy of Valid Labour Compliance Certificate
- Eligibility Form & Financial Proposal Tender Form
- Company Form J & Form C
- Police clearance for company Directors
- Company audited annual financial statements for the past 3 years
- Proof Of HP Support (1)
- Names and contact details of at least three (3) reference customers

Interested companies should access the tender documents from the SRA website at www.sra.org.sz and from the Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency website at www.sppra.co.sz. Tenders must be placed in the tender box in a sealed envelope showing the Tender name and Tender number not later than 12h00 Noon, on the above closing date at:
Eswatini Revenue Authority Building, Ground Floor Reception, Portion 419 of Farm 50 Ezulwini, Along MR 103 (Mvutshini-Gables Road)

****SRA does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender!
** SRA does not bind itself to award the tenders!**



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AIDS SPENDING ASSESSMENT (NASA) 2019

The National Emergency Response Council on HIV and AIDS (NERCHA) with the support of UNAIDS is conducting the fourth round of the National AIDS Spending Assessment (NASA) for the financial years 2016/2017, 2017/2018 and 2018/2019.

The NASA will contribute to strengthening resources tracking mechanisms of the multisectoral HIV response in Eswatini. The NASA 2019 will track the flow of resources from funders (both internal and external) to beneficiaries of HIV services. It will review resources expended during three financial years namely, 2016/2017, 2017/18 and 2018/19 covering funding commitments, disbursements and expenditures from source of funds, service provider and beneficiary levels. Results from the study will show HIV and AIDS funding levels in the country and inform resource mobilization and allocation plans.

It should be noted that this assessment is not an audit but seeks to determine the level of expenditure in the national response to HIV as well as identify gaps for future planning as the country aims to End AIDS by 2022.

A team of researchers will be visiting organizations during the period 15 July to 16 August 2019 to access relevant data. Organizations are urged to make available their financial records for the period and cooperate with the researchers in making this important exercise successful.

All NASA Researchers will present to organisations a letter of accreditation from NERCHA.

For further information please contact: Ms Nokwazi Mathabela at 2406 5131 or Mr. Bongani Dube at 2406 5000/5149

By NERCHA

Scammer wants out of jail

...says he reimbursed victim his E20 000

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

A scammer who was convicted to 18 years imprisonment for theft by false pretences now wants out of jail, saying he even reimbursed the victim his E20 000.

Employed as driver under the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, Ncamiso Lusasa Madonsela has filed an urgent application for bail pending an appeal he has noted at the High Court. He was convicted by the Manzini Magistrate's Court and sentenced to the 18 years for the offence in which he stole by false pretences an amount of E20 000 from the victim.

Represented by Mbabane-based lawyer Noncedo Ndlangamandla of Mabila Attorneys in Association with N. Ndlangamandla, Madonsela submitted in his application that he was arrested by the Manzini police in November 2018 and was arraigned before the Magistrate's Court in May 2019, where his trial was heard and was convicted without an option of paying a fine.

He submitted that he has since noted an appeal against the sentence meted out against him and that he is currently serving the sentence at the Matsapha Correctional facility.

He informed the court that he is desirous of being released on bail pending the appeal he has noted at the High Court.

He stated that there are prospects of success in his appeal, considering that another court may find and hold differently from what was found and held by the trial court, especially when one takes into account that he even reimbursed the complainant a sum of E20 000.

"Another court may hold that the court aquo (Magistrate's) erred by failing to state reasons why I should not be afforded an option of paying a fine for the offence I was convicted for since I was a first time offender and the said offence is not a scheduled one," he submitted.

He pleaded with the court that if admitted to bail pending his appeal, he will not interfere with witnesses and will not abscond but will abide by all bail conditions the court may deem fit.

He further stated that upon being admitted to bail, he will not endanger public safety or jeopardise the objectives or proper functioning of the criminal justice system.

FINGERPRINTS CASE STALLS AGAIN

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

THE trial of three police officers implicated in the sale of fingerprint clearances has been stalled at the High Court.

The matter was last heard last year and more than eight witnesses had given evidence before Judge Cyril Maphanga.

One of the lawyers Leo Gama, who was representing one of the police officers Lucky Obama Matsenjwa, passed away late last year.

The matter has not been heard in the first session of the High Court and is now expected to be heard in the next session.

The three police officers, including a support staffer, are alleged to have acted in furtherance of a common purpose and deleted or cleared 44 criminal records of ex-convicts. The police officers, Sergeant Lucky 'Obama' Matsenjwa, Sergeant Sensor Matsenjwa, Apollo Mabila and the support staffer Elizabeth Matsebula, are alleged to have received a total of over E35 000 from ex-convicts to have their

criminal records cleared.

This is the total amount of money reflected on the charge sheets, as in some of the charges the amount allegedly received by the officers is not stipulated.

The ex-convicts, who, some of them are now in gainful employment after being cleared, were reportedly made to pay different amounts by the two law enforcers. They were made to pay money ranging from E2 000 upwards.

Some of the ex-convicts are reported to have managed to get jobs in the security forces and the army after their criminal records

FINGERPRINTS CASE PROFILE:

Judge - Cyril Maphanga
Crown Counsel - Elsie Matsebula
Defence Counsel- Ben J Simelane for officer Senzo Matsenjwa second accused
- Bongani Mamba for officer Apollo Mabila third accused, Elizabeth Matsebula fourth accused
Charge - Contravening the Prevention of Corruption Act 3 of 2006
Plea - Not guilty
Counts - 41
Witnesses - 80

were allegedly cleared or deleted by the two officers. They are alleged to have committed the offences from 2009.

6 FOR E65

6 CHICKEN PIECES

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No FPE, OVC grants after seven months

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT'S financial crisis is having a negative effect on the education sector.

The on-going financial constraints have posed as a challenge for principals as a number of schools have not received the free primary education as well as OVC grants.

It has been seven months since the turn of the academic year and some schools have not received their FPE and OVC grants from government and the principals are finding it hard to perform their duties. A principal from one of the schools around Mbabane said they could not effectively perform their duties as they have been waiting for the grants to no avail.

She said the last time her school received the grants was in January and till this day they were still waiting for the FPE grants for Grade One pupils from government.

She said the situation was worsening each day as they prepared for the upcoming mid-term examinations. She mentioned she has been forced to reallocate funds provided for the other grades to cover the expenses for Grade One.

She said they were finding it difficult to provide stationery and other necessary learning equipment without the funds.

"I have been forced to redirect funds budgeted for other grades in order to cater for the grade one pupils and this has left me in a precarious situation as I may be liable for mismanagement of funds when our accounts are audited," said the principal.

She also said as much as the initiative was a good one, the constant failure by government to avail the funds on time was making their lives as principals a living nightmare as they failed to provide pupils with the necessary equipment for their education.

Promises

She added that she had been in contact with principals from other schools around the country and they were all facing the same challenges as government was unable to deliver on its promises. Parents were also growing more and more frustrated as some pupils were denied grants due to their lack of national identity documents (IDs).

A number of parents over the past few months have been complaining that their children who had difficulty in accessing IDs due to various reasons, were left behind in their school work as they were denied access to grants unless they had IDs.

High school principals are also affected as they have not yet received the OVC grants.

Eswatini Principals Association (EPA) President Welcome Mhlanga said the association has conducted a survey and discovered that there were a number of schools who were still waiting on their grants from government.

"The situation has a negative effect on the schools, especially now that they are preparing for second term examinations," he said.

Mhlanga also mentioned that they had engaged the ministry of education on the matter and were currently working on resolving it. He added that they were also in the process of engaging the DPM's office on the issue of OVC grants. He said they had a good relationship with the the office and were confident of coming up with a solution to the issue.



Parents were also growing more and more frustrated as some pupils were denied grants due to their lack of national identity documents, yet they faced difficulties in accessing IDs due to various reasons

CLOSED SKILLS CENTRES: MARCH TO KING

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI
Manzini

PARENTS are deeply saddened by the continuous closure of the Swaziland Skills Centres (SSC) around the country.

Over 500 trainees from skills centres including the Manzini Industrial Training Centre (MITC), Siteki Industrial Training Centre (SITC) and Nhlangu Agricultural Skills Training Centre (NASTC) were sent home after the institutions halted operations last year.

This was after government refused to release subventions for the SSC. The frustrated students met at Manzini Industrial Training Centre (MITC) on Friday where they deliberated on a way forward on the issue.

During the meeting some parents who had attended said they were deeply saddened on what was happening at the institutions.

"Cha sibuhlungu sibatali labanye betfu

bacolela kutsi balale bangakadli babhadala timali lana," one parent stated in vernacular, which can be loosely interpreted to mean that some parents paid good money to have students enrolled at Swaziland Skills Centre institutions.

They said it seemed the money was washed down the drain.

Hoped

During the meeting, it surfaced that the institutions will not be opening anytime soon. Students said they had hoped that the SSC would be open by next month.

However, the students were also quick to point out that they were not convinced that the institutions will open in August as per the information they received.

They said there had been nothing official communicated to them about when the institutions will open.

The students said by now they would have received formal communication on what will



EXTINGUISHER: An MITC student captured carrying a fire extinguisher during their previous toyi-toying.

happen.

During the meeting, it also surfaced that some teachers had confirmed that nothing had been communicated to them regarding the opening of the school.

Students also agreed that they must once

CRAVEN DIVORCE:

Court upholds objection in favour of wife

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

THE High Court has upheld an objecting in favour of Thuli Ruth Craven, wife to Canadian John Barry Craven in their pending divorce proceedings.

During the divorce proceedings, senior attorney Zweli Jele, who is representing Craven's Liswati wife Thuli, objected to the use of an answering affidavit and the objection was premised on four grounds which the court had to consider.

The first ground was failure by the plaintiff (John Craven) to meet the prerequisites of an affidavit, integrity of the affidavit, non-compliance with the provisions of the Authentication of Documents Act of 1965 and the Commissioner's Oaths Act of 1942 and further, the non-compliance with the required manner of executing affidavits in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

Married

John Craven married his Liswati wife in the Kingdom of Eswatini and has since filed an application for a final decree of divorce.

Craven had opposed the objection raised by



his wife's defence counsel and had submitted that the objection is ill-founded and premised this on the argument that he is not seeking to introduce the affidavit but only questioning his wife on her own document she signed and filed before court.

The matter is before Judge Ticheme Dlamini who held that on the basis of principles of interpretation of statutes, he is bound to give effect to the provisions of the Authentication of Documents Act no matter how undesirable the outcome may be.

"Common sense and fairness require the court to allow and accept the affidavits to be used.

"I am, however, duty bound to give effect to the statute; the defendant's answering affidavit was signed in the United Kingdom. For that reason, it requires authentication by a notary public or other officers specified in Section 13 of the act, thus the objection is accordingly upheld," Judge Dlamini ruled.

Accepted

Judge Dlamini observed that the Authentication of Documents Act makes provision for instances where affidavits signed and sworn to before commissioners of oaths of foreign countries are to be accepted for use before courts in Eswatini.

Craven instituted divorce proceedings against his wife Thuli. In her papers, she pleaded that the High Court of Eswatini does not have jurisdiction to hear the matter as both parties are domiciled in the United Kingdom (UK) and that their matrimonial home is at 44 Mandalay Court London Road Patcham Brighton.

However, the plaintiff denied that he and his wife are domiciled in the UK and submitted that they are domiciled in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

The case is still pending before court.

'My sister uses dagga to heal asthma'

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

AS the country continues to conduct research towards legalising dagga, a man arrested for being in possession of the illegal substance has come out to claim that his sister uses the substance for her asthma.

Nkosinathi Simelane of Nkhungu was arrested and charged with contravening the Pharmacy Act on two counts whilst in the same area.

On the first count, Simelane is said to have been in possession of 0.80 kilograms of dagga, without a valid permit or licence.

Raid

On count two, Simelane is said to have been in possession of 0.925 kilograms of dagga seeds (shevu). Simelane was arrested at his parental homestead yesterday during a police raid.

During his appearance before Magistrate Sifiso



Vilakati, Simelane claimed that the consignment found belonged to his sister, who uses the dagga seeds to treat her asthmatic condition.

"You Worship, my sister, who is present in court, admitted to the arresting officer that the consignment found with me belonged to her.

My sister is asthmatic and she uses the seeds to treat her condition," Simelane explained, much to laughter from the court gallery.

Simelane further informed the court that according to his sister, she crushed the dagga seeds into powder, mixed the powder into a cup of boiling water and drank the mixture to treat her condition.

Cultivating

However, Magistrate Vilakati informed Simelane that his story was difficult to believe as the consignment of dagga seeds was enough to cultivate fields.

"This is the first time I have ever heard that dagga cures asthma, thus making your story difficult to believe. It seems that you and your sister are in the business of cultivating dagga judging by the weight of the dagga seeds," the magistrate said.

After hearing his mitigation, Magistrate Vilakati sentenced Simelane to pay a fine of E500 or five months for being found in possession of dagga. Subsequently, Simelane was sentenced to pay a fine of E1 000 and in default of payment, one year in a correctional facility for being in possession of dagga seeds.

STUDENTS TO



NIYAPHI: Students running helter-skelter after another opened a fire extinguisher during a skirmish at the MITC.

again seek audience with His Majesty King Mswati III to report their plight.

The plan to see the King is not new as they had initially planned to do so earlier this year but were advised against doing so.

They said since their matter is not being treated with urgency by those involved, they will appeal to the King.

Worth noting is that the SSC Director Brian Magongo had indicated earlier that parents pay E3 500 the whole year for a single student while the rest of the money comes from government, including salaries of the tutors.

Magongo said without government subvention, the institution cannot operate.

TALK TO ME



SOYEVAKALA: The cheaper rates on mobile phones has made customers to enjoy conversations like this lady who ended sitting on the pavements next to the Freedom Square Park yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Agric minister happy with 96 000MT maize production

STORIES BY BAHLE GAMA
Mbabane

THE ministry of agriculture is happy with the 96 000 metric tonnes (MT) maize production recorded in the 2018/2019 season.

Addressing the media during a press briefing held at the ministry yesterday, the minister said he had been advised by the Vulnerability Assessment Committee on this matter.

He said they were grateful with this achievement despite that the area planted was very low due to the drought predictions which resulted in a number of farmers opting not to plant, especially after missing the early rains.

He said in the last farming season, there was an increase in the participation of the private sector in maize production. This contributed positively to the reasonable harvest realised despite reduced land area under cultivation.

Investors

"For the coming season we will be working with other private sector investors in maize production. We hope to realise further improvements in the country's maize production figures," he said.

The minister also highlighted that the 2018/19 season was the first year where the input subsidy and tractor hire programme was managed by the National Maize Corporation

ication and enhancement of comme



UPON US: Minister of Agriculture Jabulani Mabuza making his remarks during the launch of the new ploughing season at the ministry's conference room yesterday. (Pic: Bahle Gama)

(NMC).

"I am very proud of the delivery achieved by NMC on these programmes despite some few challenges at the commencement of the takeover.

Predictions

"Today we are announcing the commencement of a second farming season under the same arrangement. I would also like to assure the people of Eswatini that as we begin yet another farming season, the ministry and NMC are indeed ready.

We are not yet in a position to give information on rainfall predictions.

However, we want our farmers to prepare themselves as rains will always be there. It is a matter of how we manage its distribution by adopting appropriate farming systems," he added.

He mentioned that the input subsidy would continue even in the coming season 2019/20.

"As a ministry, we are very grateful to His Majesty's Government for continuing to provide funding for this important programme.

"This is one of the strategies for achieving food security in the country," he said.



...Urges farmers to start making payments

FARMERS under the subsidy programme can begin making payments in preparation for the new ploughing season.

The payments can be made at EswatiniBank and Eswatini Posts and Telecommunications centres closer to the farmers.

Minister Jabulani Mabuza reminded the farmers that there was a deadline set for payment.

"Payments can be made starting July 20 to October. The deadline for the payment of subsidies has been set in order to allow for effective planning for the delivery of same," he said.

The minister, however, stated that there was no deadline for tractor hire services.

"The tractor hire service does not have a payment deadline. However, I would like to encourage farmers to make early payments to allow

SUBSIDY RATES:

Maize Production	E3 000
Bean Production	E4 000
Sorghum Production	E2 050
Tractor Hire Services	E250 per hour

NMC to properly plan for timely delivery of requested hours. NMC will soon release all the payment details and contracted agro-dealers and other logistics," he said.

Unchanged

The minister then announced the amount to be paid for the tractor hire and input subsidies this season.

"This season the tractor hire rate remains at E250 per hour as has been the case. There will be no change.

"The inputs subsidy rates also remain unchanged with maize pro-

duction at E3 000, bean production at E4 000 and sorghum production E2 050," he said.

Platform

He added that the NMC had already engaged private tractor owners and agro-dealers on an interactive platform to discuss and iron out issues and challenges experienced in the previous season that may have hindered efficient service delivery.

"As we head into the next season, may I encourage all Emaswati to work hand-in-hand with the NMC and all key stakeholders to ensure efficient service delivery.

"I would like to appreciate all Emaswati, farmers, partners and local media for supporting the ministry and NMC as we offer a valuable service to the nation. Finally, let me wish all our farmers and service providers a successful 2019/20 farming season," he said.

2 convicted on dagga related charges

BY VUYILE DLAMINI
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

THE month of July started on a miserable note for some after two men were convicted for being in possession of dagga at Ngwenya Border Gate.

Titus Vilakati (38) of Dvokolwako and Sandile Vilakati were arrested and charged with contravening the Pharmacy Act on Sunday on two separate incidents.

When Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati questioned Titus why he would resort to selling dagga instead of farming vegetables, Titus informed the court that he was hungry, and he needed to make quick money to provide for his family.

"Farming vegetables is tedious. Your Worship as these end up rotting in the fields," Titus stated.

Titus, who was arrested alongside Celumusa Masilela, was allegedly driving a silver-grey Honda Fit when he was arrested.

Titus was found to have stashed 2.31 kilograms of dagga within his vehicle and when he was questioned whether he had a valid licence or permit to possess dagga, he was unable to produce such documents.

Stashed

During his appearance before Magistrate Vilakati, Sandile, who was arrested alongside Menzi Ngcampalala and Thobile Maphalala (who were acquitted and discharged), was said to have been driving a Mazda sedan when he was arrested.

When law enforcement officers searched his vehicle, Sandile was found to have stashed 2.085 kilograms worth of dagga in the vehicle's compartments.

After hearing their mitigation, Magistrate Vilakati sentenced both men to serve two years in a correctional facility, with the option to pay a fine of E2 000 each.



Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise LTD
LOWER USUTHU SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION PROJECT

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE REHABILITATION OF GREENHOUSE TUNNELS

TENDER No. ESWADE/0420

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified contractors, registered with the Construction Industry Council of Swaziland (CIC) in Category C3, for the Rehabilitation of Greenhouse Tunnels in the LUSIP 1 project.

Preference will be given to local contractors, with 60% Swazi shareholding, and registered with the Construction Industry Council of Swaziland. Tender documents may be obtained after payment of a non-refundable tender fee of E350.00 to the Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE).

Tender Documents will be available from 8:00am to 4:00pm from Monday, 15th July 2019 up to the day of the compulsory clarification meeting and site visit and may be collected from ESWADE Siphofaneni Site Office up to the day of a compulsory clarification meeting and site visit with representatives of the Employer which will be held at ESWADE Siphofaneni Offices, LUSIP 1 boardroom.

Tenderers attention is drawn to the table below which indicates the Contract No, Contract Title, Tender Bond, CIC category, Site Inspection date and the closing date for submission of tenders. Late, incomplete, telephoned or telegraphic tenders will not be considered.

Contract No.	Contract Title	Tender Bond	CIC Category	Site Inspection Date/Time	Closing of Tender
ESWADE/0420	Rehabilitation of Greenhouse Tunnels	E5,000.00	C3	26 th July 2019 10:00 am	16 th August 2019 at 14:00 pm

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

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

Any actions or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Enquiries, administrative and technical, relating to the Tender listed in the table above may be addressed to Mr Bongani Magagula. Tel No. 23441873 or 23441671/2/3 Fax No. 23441665 E-mail: bonganimagagula@swade.co.sz.

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

DOC:19100



ESWATINI WATER & AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE LTD

TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified contractors, registered with the Construction Industry Council of Eswatini (CIC) in Category B3 only, for the Construction of LUSIP II Office in Ndzevane. Preference will be given to local contractors, with at least 60% Swazi shareholding, and registered with the Construction Industry Council of Eswatini. Tender documents may be obtained after payment of a non-refundable tender fee of E350.00 to the Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE). Documents will be on sale from the 08th July 2019, starting at 08:30am to 15:00 pm at the ESWADE Big Bend Office up to the day of a compulsory clarification meeting and site visit with representatives of the Employer which will be held at ESWADE Big Bend Offices, LUSIP II boardroom.

Tenderers attention is drawn to the table below which indicates the Contract No, Contract Title, Tender Bond, CIC category, Site Inspection date and the closing date for submission of tenders. Late, incomplete, telephoned or telegraphic tenders will not be considered.

Contract No.	Contract Title	Tender Bond	CIC Category	Site Inspection Date/Time	Closing of Tender
SWADE/0422	Construction of LUSIP II Office in Ndzevane	E10,000.00	B3	12th July 2019 10:00 AM	07th August 2019 12:00 noon

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

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

Any actions or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Enquiries, administrative and technical, relating to the Tender listed in the table above may be addressed to Mr Bongani Magagula. Tel No. 23441873 or 23441671/2/3 Fax No. 23441665 E-mail: bonganimagagula@swade.co.sz.

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

DOC:19097

BHEKINKHOSI CULTURE DAY



MOTHERHOOD: Members of Bhekinkhosi Lutsango dancing past the chief and his council to bring colour to the cultural activities on Saturday at Chief Sibonginkhosi Dlamini's umphakatsi. (Pics: Ackel Zwane)



NKHOSI: Chief Sibonginkhosi Dlamini (4th R) leading the regiment in honour of the culture day on Saturday.



UMLIBA: Local youths and young ones looking ahead into the future with pledges of never letting down their loving chief.



TOGETHERNESS: Some of the residents shape for the lenses.



UMBUTFO: A young warrior considers himself a hero already.



UMTUKULU WE NDZATJA: Care Mnakekeli Dlamini grabbed full attention from residents, especially for his belly up to a point where he earned himself the nickname 'Cedzumselo'.



AWESOME PAIR: The couple sampling the goodies that go along with culture.



MONEY MATTERS: For some vendors it was cash time.



WINNERS: Ingwenyama Cup winners in the Lutsango category were none other than Bhokinkhosi Lutsango.



IMBALI: This maiden stole the hearts of many.



MAKHELWANE: Mkhweni Inkhundla Member of Parliament Michael Masuku, who runs Indlelayekuphila Restaurant in Luve, came along to celebrate the culture day.



YES SIR! Police officers came to ensure there was peace while supporting one of their own, Bhokinkhosi Chief Sibonginkhosi Dlamini.

Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise
Smallholder Market-Led Project/Climate Smart Agriculture for Resilient Livelihoods (SMLP/CSARL)

INVITATION TO TENDER
CONSTRUCTION OF SMLP OFFICES AT KAKHOLWANE
TENDER No. ESWADE 0423

The Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE) is a government company established by the Government of Eswatini in 1999 to empower communities to improve their quality of life through projects in commercial agriculture and other enterprises; providing innovative services in infrastructure development and management as well as expertise to public and private entities. ESWADE has been mandated by the Government of Eswatini to implement the Smallholder Market-Led Project/Climate Smart Agriculture for Resilient Livelihoods (SMLP/CSARL).

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified B1 & B2 ONLY Contractors wishing to tender for **CONSTRUCTION OF SMLP OFFICES AT KAKHOLWANE**. A complete set of Tender document in English may be purchased by interested Contractors at the address below and upon the payment of a non-refundable fee of **Three Hundred and Fifty Emalangeni (E350.00)**. The document can also be downloaded from ESWADE website, www.swade.co.sz or the ESPRA's website at www.sppra.co.sz

A compulsory clarification meeting and site inspection with representatives of the Employer will be held at Kakhohwane, turn-off to KaPhunga from MR9 opposite WEM school on **Tuesday, 16th July 2019, starting at 10:00hrs**. The following documents must be submitted on/by the closing date together with the tender document at ESWADE Head Office located at the Sincephetelo MVA Building, Mhlabi Street, 3rd Floor, Mbabane. All tenders shall be opened at ESWADE Head Office.

1. A Tender Bond of E50,000.00
2. An Original & Valid Tax Compliance Certificate
3. Original/Copy of ESWADE Receipt of Tender Purchase
4. A Valid Copy of Trading License
5. A Copy of Form C endorsed by the Registrar of Companies, stamped 2019
6. A Copy of Form J endorsed by the Registrar of Companies, stamped 2019
7. A Current Copy of Labour Compliance Certificate
8. A Copy of Current Workmen's Compensation Policy
9. A Document Providing a Power of Attorney
10. A Current Copy of Construction Industry Certificate (CIC)
11. Certified Copies of National Identity Documents for the Directors listed in Form C
12. Police Clearance Certificates for Directors listed in Form C
13. A fully signed Certificate of Attendance at Clarification Meeting

The closing date for submission of tenders is **Tuesday, 30th July 2019 at 10:00 hrs**. A tender must remain open for a period of 120 days from closing date for the submission of tenders, during which period the tender may not be amended or withdrawn and may be accepted at any time by ESWADE. Tenders must be in a sealed envelope and clearly marked **TENDER No. ESWADE/0410** and addressed to:

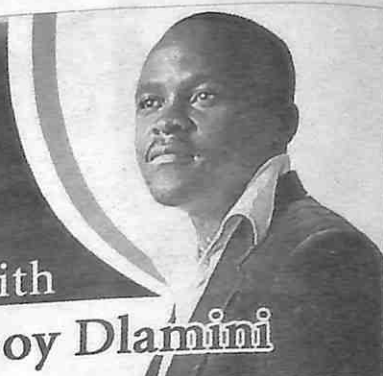
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TENDER BOARD
Eswatini Water & Agricultural Development Enterprise
P.O. Box 5836, Mbabane, Eswatini
Tender No.: ESWADE/0423
Construction of SMLP Offices at Kakhohwane

Telegraphic, telephonic, telex, facsimile, e-mail and late tenders will not be accepted. ESWADE will accept no responsibility for the late delivery of tenders by courier services or any other means.

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

LUBOMBO NEWS

Siteki Office

Siteki Market Offices, 2343 5779
Office No: 15Cell: 7643 6549
Email: observersiteki@realnet.co.sz...With
Wonderboy Dlamini

WATER SHORTAGES THREATENING LIVES AT SITHOBELWENI

SITHOBELWENI constituency is in serious need for water aid.

The situation, which has been persistent for the past few years, is said to be now threatening lives.

This has been disclosed by constituency Headman Fanyana Mamba when speaking during an interview with this publication.

The constituency has realised two consecutive dry farming seasons, leaving thousands of residents in need of water aid.

Mamba said even though the constituency has not yet been on the ground to implement tangible projects for this year, his council has pointed out the need for an urgent project to bring water closer to the people. "We have water sources which have completely dried up over the past two years, leaving many communities without water," said Mamba.

Mamba said the constituency will prioritise water projects as soon as funds are available. At present, residents walk long distances to fetch water from the few sources which are also shared with livestock and wild animals. Mamba



said there was currently one running project, which has been supported by World Vision. The project will supply Makhwekhwetini community with clean water.

"The water shortages in the communities are so serious such that we view it as a crisis, and we appeal for assistance from organisations which may help us construct boreholes, or any other form of assistance," said the constituency headman. Mamba said at the moment, the constituency would also appreciate being assisted with water tanks. He then urged residents to also

harvest water whenever there is some rain.

Meanwhile, Mamba said his council was in the process of making further assessments in the communities to determine other priority projects. Mamba said the assessment exercise was being carried out by *bucopho* from their respective communities. They are also assisted by traditional authorities in pointing out areas of need. "The assessment will ensure that we hit the ground running as soon as we get funding from the Regional Development Fund (RDF) and other sources of funding," he said.

Poor road systems another challenge for Sithobelweni

AMONGST the challenges which are facing residents of Sithobelweni are the poor gravel roads, which have seen public transport vehicles shunning some roads.

Sithobelweni constituency is a predominantly rural area, with most of its roads made of gravel. One of the main roads which connect many communities to vital facilities is the Siphofaneni-Hlatsi road. Residents have over the years raised their concern about the condition of this road, as it is characterised by protruding stones. This is the condition which is said to have kicked many public transport operators out of business.

When speaking during an interview, constituency Headman Fanyana Mamba acknowledged that many roads under the constituency were currently in bad condition. In fact, Mamba said this had been a challenge which the constituency has faced for the past few years. "The condition of the road has seen residents abandoning their vehicles and opting for the few available public transport vehicles," said Mamba. Mamba said the road was bad in a way that for a regular motorist who uses the road on a daily basis, he or she would experience at least

two tyre punctures per week.

Civil servants who are deployed in facilities such as clinics and schools always find it difficult to get to their workplaces. Mamba said the constituency was currently running from pillar to post, as they seek for funding to repair the roads. "Considering the fact that government is reportedly facing financial challenges, it is most likely that our plight is still to last much longer," said Mamba. He said, however, they were hoping that government would prioritise the constituency as soon as the financial woes are over.

Meanwhile, other constituencies which have been reported to be facing similar challenges in terms of bad gravel roads include Lubuli and Matsanjeni North. These constituencies are also predominantly rural, with thousands of the populace coming from remote communities.

The condition of the road has seen residents abandoning their vehicles and opting for the few available public transport vehicles



Man fined E1 000 for slapping lover

A man of Siteki found himself having to fork out a sum of E1 000 after slapping his lover across the face.

Wandile Mngometulu appeared before the Magistrate's Court after he was charged with contravening the SODV Act. According to the charge sheet, Mngometulu was said to have wrongfully and unlawfully assaulted Sithembile Maziya, by hitting her with open hands several times on the face.

At the time of committing the offence, the two are said to have been in a domestic relationship as they were lovers. When the charge sheet was read to her,

the accused person pleaded guilty to the charge. He further asked the court to be lenient when passing sentence, saying that he committed the offence out of anger and frustration.

The accused further told the court that he had also apologised to the complainant. "I feel embarrassed to have committed the offence, and ask the court to be lenient and give me an opportunity to correct my wrongdoing," he said. He was accordingly found guilty by the court. The court sentenced him to 10 months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E1 000 fine.

Sithobelweni hits 85 per cent in electricity supply

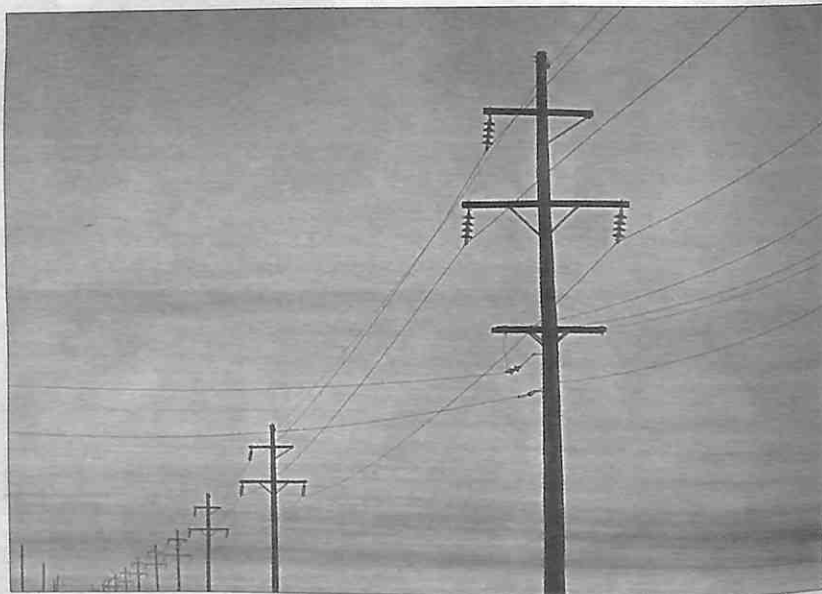
DESPITE the numerous challenges faced by Sithobelweni, the constituency prides itself in having managed to cover a greater part of the constituency in terms of electricity supply.

Constituency Headman Fanyana Mamba said about 85 per cent of the constituency is covered with electricity supply. This was done through community schemes, which were assisted through the Regional Development Fund (RDF) and other donors. Mamba attributed this achievement to the previous council, which had its term ended in 2018. "When talking of electricity, this is one sector which we are proud to point out as one which has been successful as almost all communities now have electricity," he said.

Mamba said, however, there were still a few other schemes which have submitted their proposals for funding to connect electricity in their various communities. He said the constituency was hoping to assist these schemes as soon as the RDF is available.

On another sector, Mamba said there have been three communities which have filed applications for new schools.

These include Mamisa, Luhlangeni and Mbambatha. Luhlangeni is said to



be in need of three high schools, while Mamisa has applied for two primary schools.

Mamba said they were currently consulting with the relevant *imiphakatsi* for the allocation of land to establish the said schools. Once allocated the land, the ministry of education and training will then make an assessment before approving same.

When talking of electricity, this is one sector which we are proud to point out as one which has been successful as almost all communities now have electricity

PRINCIPALS DESERVE THE BEST-EPA

STORIES BY STARSKY MKHONTA
Nhlanguano

AMIDST challenges faced by the country's education sector, principals say they deserve the best as they shape the future of Eswatini.

Eswatini Principals Association (EPA) Deputy President Petros Horton, speaking during EPA's Wellness Day held at King Sobhuza II Stadium in Nhlanguano on Saturday, said principals were not just administrators of schools, but had a responsibility of shaping communities, which qualify them to be more like leaders.

"We are not just administrators of schools, but administrators of communities.

"We shape societies as we produce the future of the whole world. Community leaders are our products. Our work sees people qualify to be in any profession or to wield influence," said Horton at the Wellness Day, which was the second edition, with the first having been hosted last year in the Manzini region.

During the event, principals and deputy principals embarked on sports activities and also a number of games, including fun activities of competition. This year's event was graced by Minister of Education Lady Howard-Mabuza. Others who were part of the event include Shiselweni Regional Education



PRESENT: Shiselweni REO Siboniso Gumbi seen with Minister Lady Howard Mabuza following the proceedings.

Officer (REO) Siboniso Gumbi. The office of the regional administrator was represented by Sibongile Mamba, who is the senior regional officer in charge of the Hlatikulu sub-region. Chiefs were also represented and speaking on their behalf was Chief Mbiko of Engwanyameni. Member of Parliament of Ku-Methula Derrick Masuku also attended the event.

He is a former teacher and held the position of principal before joining politics.

Horton said principals were doing



WE DESERVE MORE: EPA Deputy President who is also Principal at Salesian High School Petros Horton making his remarks.

everything they could to contribute to the country's education so that it is at par with that of the world.

It's now unworkable in schools-minister told

PRINCIPALS have asked the Minister of Education and Training Lady Howard-Mabuza to intervene in correcting the state of the country's education.

They told the minister that the quality of education would deteriorate because of the way things were in schools.

The principals said it was now unworkable in schools and further urged the ministry of education or government to spring into action or else the country would be a laughing stock.

EPA Deputy President Petros Horton said schools are now in disaster and if the situation is not addressed, then the future of the country would be affected.

"Tikolwa tiyafa ndvuna ye-Nkhosi," said Horton.

Horton said running schools these days is difficult, as there are a number of challenges, some of which have led to some of the operations completely grounded.

"Lack of resources has made our work difficult. It's not just lack of material or working tools but even human resources in our schools has been affecting operations.

"We are finding it hard to run schools madam minister because of these challenges which are a threat to the country's education,"

said Horton.

Horton said things were just bad, from primary level to high school level.

"Primary schools are the foundation. Imagine what happens if a foundation is disturbed. This is the situation we have found ourselves in as schools. The primary level is an important stage of education, and it should be in shape for the high level to also tick," said Horton.

Horton then explained to the minister why EPA came up with the idea of the Wellness Day and stated that this was an important programme, whose aim was to see the principals also understanding the importance of being physically fit and active. This year's theme was 'Quality Leadership for Quality Education'.

"To stage this event, we rely on sponsorship and also money from our own purses.

We wish that our employer will also contribute something towards this initiative.

"Let me also thank my colleagues for showing up in today's event. Your presence means a lot as you have travelled long distances to be part of this event and this is highly appreciated. Let me also thank the organising committee for this splendid work," said Horton.



NO: Minister of Education Lady Howard Mabuza addressing members of Eswatini Principals Association (EPA) during their Wellness Day at King Sobhuza II Stadium hall on Saturday.

Corporal punishment a big no in schools - Minister

BY STARSKY MKHONTA
Nhlanguano

THE teachers who have relationships with pupils will not only face the wrath of their employer, but will also be charged for contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act.

Principals have been urged to consider discussing with their teachers of the seriousness of having affairs with pupils, as it is now likely to lead to them being charged

● It's important that you make teachers aware of the consequences in the event one is found to have contravened the law

under the SODV Act other than being charged by the employer for misconduct.

Issuing the warning was Minister for Education and Training Lady Howard-Mabuza during the Eswatini Principals Association (EPA) Wellness Day at King Sobhuza II Stadium.

"It's important that you make teachers aware of the consequences

in the event one is found to have contravened the law. Children should not be sex objects, but they are supposed to be like our own children and not be abused. Any form of abuse is discouraged in schools or anywhere in society," said the minister.

Minister Mabuza further reminded principals that corporal punishment was long banned in schools.

She said teachers should know the consequences of failure to respect what was already considered and endorsed.

She said there were cases being investigated, touching on teachers accused of bashing pupils to the extent that one had to be taken to hospital.

"It's a big no to corporal punishment in schools. Advise your teachers not to apply such punishment to avoid trouble, as this has the potential of causing problems," said Minister Mabuza.

BY SICELI MAZIYA
Mbabane

ESWATINI farmers are willing and ready to embrace genetically modified organism (GMO) farming technologies but the lack of relevant legislation remains their challenge to start farming using seeds approved through relevant laws.

The country is still failing to approve the farming of GMOs without the relevant laws to give directives on their use.

Farmers are hoping the proposed bill on GMOs will be approved

and passed into law before the ploughing season to take advantage of good yields that come with the products.

According to Jochonia Msibi at the cotton ginnery at Matata in Big Bend, "Farmers are now troubling us as officials as they demand the go ahead on the use of GMOs. Farmers were previously trained on Bt cotton and they noted that it produces a good harvest.

"The ginnery in Big Bend shows a huge leap on the records compared to last year."

Msibi shared that last year at the end of June they received 369 metric tonnes of cotton and this year

Farmers want legislators to amend GMOs Bill



AMEND: Cotton packed at the Big Bend Ginnery.

their records in the same period is at 700 metric tonnes.

Msibi said cotton also contributed to employment opportunities for many

Emaswati.

He shared that neighbouring farms like Nisela, which has the technology to harvest cotton, decided to engage manual picking of cotton to assist in the fight against unemployment. He said cotton was one of the products that complete value chain to a full product in the country. Msibi said the demand for the genetically modified seeds is very high amongst cotton farmers but without the relevant legislation they could not sell it to farmers.

Bt cotton is a kind of GMO and has several advantages over conventional cotton.



FOCUSED: Ntandozi women in business management and financial literacy training for Moya Munye and Simunye group members operating under Ntandozi Constituency. (Courtesy pics)

WOMEN TRAINED ON BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL LITERACY

BY OBSERVER REPORTER
Mbabane

LULOTE BMEP has facilitated a business management and financial literacy training for Moya Munye and Simunye group members operating under Ntandozi Constituency.

Most of the participants were women. Lulote Director Patrick Masariramba said Lulote focused on every entrepreneur; they could be matured or immature, literate or not.

He said Lulote worked with existing or aspiring entrepreneurs in all business industries but the clientele she has shifted her focus mainly on

agribusiness, otherwise every industry is a priority when it comes to Lulote's business.

"Lulote has been very instrumental in helping organisations that are interested in running their own businesses instead of seeking employment in other organisations or companies as job opportunities are becoming very slim. It is one of Lulote's mandates to capacitate rural communities on entrepreneurship to improve the livelihoods of people in communities through involving them in income generating activities. So Lulote BMEP facilitated a business management and financial literacy training for Moya Munye and Simunye group members operating around Ntandozi Constituency," he said.

Masariramba added that from the training, it was expected that participants acquire requisite skills and knowledge on successful businesses. They would also acquire skills to manage and operate small businesses.

He added that the training ensured that participants attained entrepreneurial skills and knowledge for translating innovative ideas into commercialised products.

Training

Masariramba added that the training enhanced the participants' ability to establish and run successful enterprises capable of generating employment out of innovative ideas to fill youth employment gaps in the long run.

"During the first day of the training, we made sure that they also understand record keeping. Participants were made to understand what a business is. The personal characteristics of an entrepreneur were listed and explained. Participants were also taught on how to generate a business idea, business startup ingredients, and types of businesses, basics of marketing, marketing plan, competitive analysis, marketing strategy, management/administration, operational/production plan and suppliers," he said.

He said on the second day, the facilitators started the training by a recap on the concepts which were taught on the previous day for the benefit of those who did not grasp some of the components taught. The trainers continued to facilitate on pricing and costing of goods. The last topic covered was record keeping, whereby the participants were taught using an example on record keeping in their business.

Masariramba added that the training methods used were very suitable for the group since even Siswati language was used to accommodate everyone.

The director said facilitators made a few observations and recommendations. For instance, they said there was a difference on the level of education of participants such that others were able to grasp concepts faster whilst others felt like they were left behind. "The trainers had to move at a very slow pace to accommodate all participants. The learners seemed very eager to know more with regards to business. The participants also wanted a discussion on the business plan section. The participants were encouraging and full of energy with positive thinking concerning the knowledge they gained during the workshop, the participants were free to ask questions and some even mentioned they are eager to know more on business."



LISTENING: The first day of the training.



PRESS STATEMENT

CLARIFICATION ON THE STRATEGIC OIL RESERVE PROJECT.

Reference is made to the Article titled "Government Violates E900M Fuel Reserve Contract" published by the Times of Swaziland Sunday on the 30th June, 2019.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy would like to correct the context of the Article which unfortunately misrepresented certain facts about the Strategic Oil Reserve contract that the Government, through the Ministry, entered into with Kantey and Templer.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy entered into a turnkey written agreement with K&T on the 22nd November 2014 (2014 Agreement), in terms of which K & T undertook to design, finance and construct the Strategic Oil Reserve Facility at Phuzumoya area within a period of two (2) years. This meant that K & T, was obliged and expected to complete the project by October 2016. Four (4) months after the signing of the contract, K & T requested Government to provide a Government Guarantee for the project in order to enable K & T to unlock the funding. In May 2015 Government duly prepared and signed the requested Government Guarantee and accordingly furnished K & T with same. It is worthwhile to point out that the Guarantee was an assurance to pay K & T for the construction of the facility upon completion of the facility.

Three years after signing of the 2014 agreement passed without construction of the facility as undertaken by K & T in the signed agreement. K & T cited failure to unlock funding as the cause of its failure to perform. K & T thereafter alleged that what would enable it to unlock funds was for government to grant it further rights to operate the facility upon completion in the form of an additional agreement commonly known as a Build Own Operate and Transfer (BOOT). Therefore, at the request of K & T, in addition to the Government Guarantee as well as the 2014 turnkey agreement, a Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) agreement was signed with K & T as well as a subsidiary supply agreement with Vitol (VTI) in April, 2017 all in a bid to assist the company unlock funding. Upon signing of the BOOT agreement a detailed project work plan with timelines was submitted by the company to the Ministry in April, 2017 stipulating when construction works and related activities would be undertaken. According to the detailed project work plan, K & T undertook to commence construction of the facility on the 9th August, 2017. It must be mentioned that the BOOT Agreement had certain condition precedents. One of the conditions was that the company had an obligation to commence construction of the facility within 6 months from the date of the signature failing which all the agreements i.e. the turnkey, supply agreement, Guarantee agreement and the BOOT would lapse.

From the signing of the BOOT contract on the 5th April, 2017, the Ministry continuously monitored closely progress on site, and regrettably there was no commencement of construction of the facility despite the undertaking in the detailed project plan submitted by the company. By the end of six (6) months (which fell on the 5th October, 2017) the construction works had not begun as stipulated in the work plan thereby causing the contracts to lapse. The company was duly informed of the lapse of the agreements on the 9th October, 2017 in a meeting and also in writing.

It is worth mentioning that several attempts were made by the Ministry through letters and meetings to follow up on progress as there was no physical activity on site as per the work plan.

The Ministry is not aware of any dispute between it and K & T particularly since no notice of such dispute has ever been received by it. Furthermore, the Ministry is not aware of any funding letters from prospective funders and in any case such letters are said by the article to be dated May, 2019, way after the lapse of the contracts. Also, it was never an obligation on the part of government to source funds. This was supposed to be done by K & T. Government's concern in the circumstances was to determine if construction commenced within the 6 months as agreed upon.

The Ministry is currently proceeding with the project using other avenues.

DUMISANI MNGOMEZULU.
ACTING PRINCIPAL SECRETARY.

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What's in Your Mind

Features & Opinions

Refresh What You Think

MANAGING DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE LEADERSHIP CYCLE

TIVE
LEADERSHIP
CENTER

... With

Kholwaphi
Mdziniso

Guest Writer

STEERING an organisation on its unique journey towards its chosen destination is one of the biggest personal challenges facing all leaders.

And that is because internal and external issues will constantly change the landscape in which the organisation operates.

Navigating the leadership terrain is widely recognised as the new core requirement of the 21st century leader.

The benefits of applying navigational skills are immense, including the creation of a more agile, successful and sustainable organisation.

Stein J. (2014) cites six stages of leadership which are: research, strategy, engagement, motivation, development and ownership. On each of the stages, a leader needs to identify the best possible way to influence at that stage through identifying what needs to be achieved.

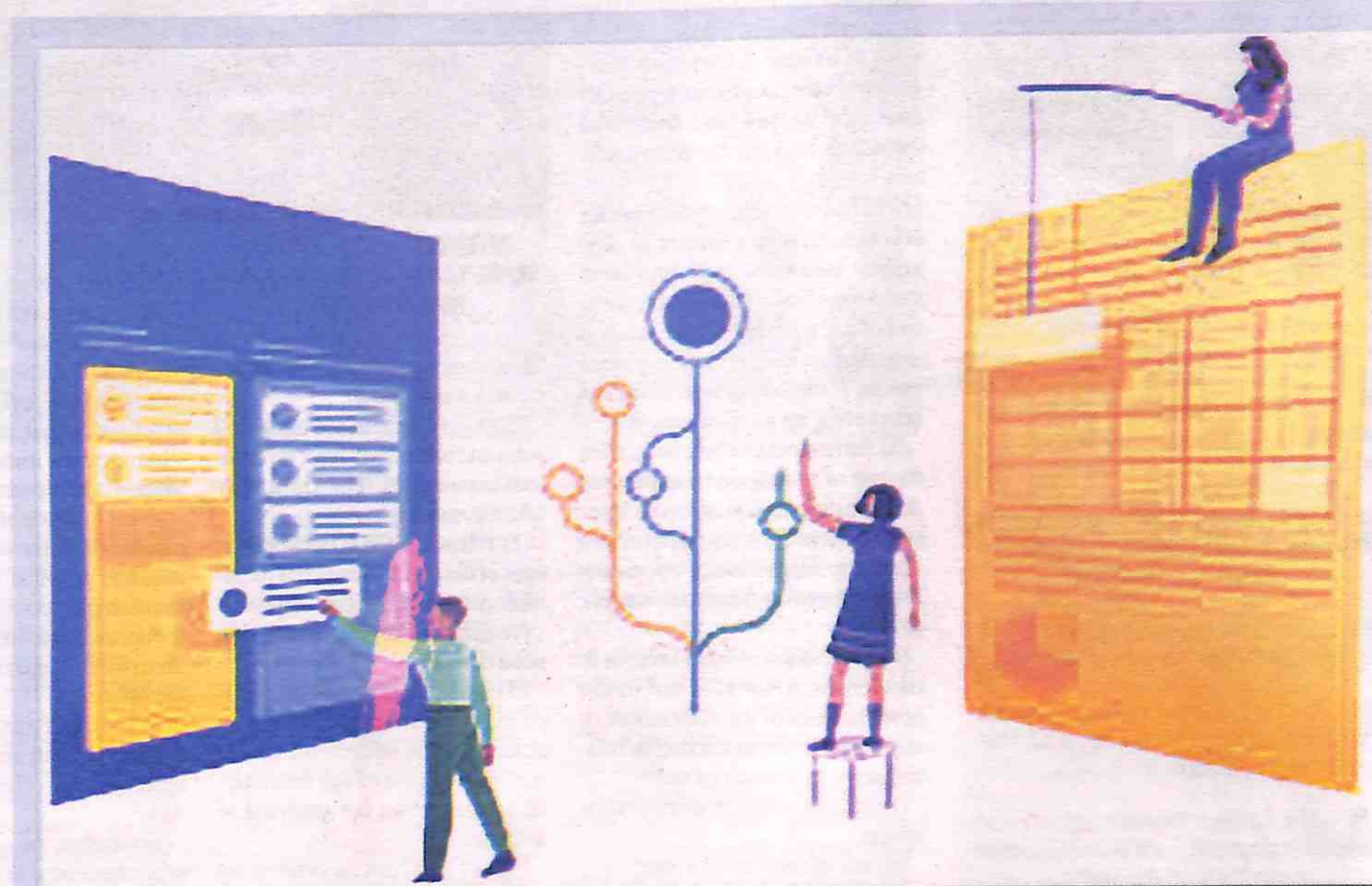
1) IDENTIFY THE VISION

Identifying a vision focuses on the size of the opportunity for everyone likely to be involved on the journey, including suppliers, partners and other stakeholders. The role of the leader is to create a journey experience and an organisation that others wish to be part of. The key important milestones to be achieved during this stage are:

- Identify the reasons for embarking on the journey, what is the vision?
- Establish the challenges and issues likely to be faced in the future
- To produce a vision statement stressing the dreams and ambitions of the organisation.

The outcomes from each of the objectives should be used to describe the landscape. Having

Navigating the leadership terrain is widely recognised as the new core requirement of the 21st century leader.



the vision inspires individuals to come on board. Every leader ought to keep in mind that everyone wants to be part of something special, hence establishing the purpose, belonging, challenge, adventure and opportunity should form part of the vision. If not, early momentum on the journey will be problematic.

2) STRATEGY

The strategy stage focuses on creating the route map needed to carefully chart the right course on the journey. The role of the leader is to demonstrate how the vision will be realised.

The key factors to be achieved are:

- Identify the areas of operational focus critical to success on the journey
- Establish the behaviours and/or values important to the organisation
- Match the relevant areas of focus to each individual's role.

The strategy becomes the blueprint for the journey. The production of the route map is the single most important piece of work carried out by leaders on the journey.

3) ENGAGEMENT

The engagement stage focuses on obtaining the buy-in and commitment from others to the route map. The role of the leader is to not to generate more followers, but to create more leaders throughout the organisation.

The important objectives are:

- Identify cultural architects (leaders without authority)
- Carry out informal people surveys to gauge commitment levels

● Use the feedback to improve the overall workplace experience.

The outcomes from each objective should be used to improve communication, build trust, develop leadership capability and sustain performance momentum on the journey. Cultural architects are advocates of the vision, the route map and are proud to be associated with the organisation and the journey.

The greater the number of cultural architects you have in the organisation, the higher your level of people engagement will be. Productivity and performance will improve.

4) MOTIVATION

The motivation stage focuses on the creation and reinforcement of the performance climate needed on the journey. The role of the leader is to create a climate which will enable others to perform to their full potential.

- Define what is meant by high performance
- Identify what motivates and de-motivates individuals
- Remove any barriers to high performance that may exist.

The outcomes from each objective should be used to improve the people management skills of leaders and managers.

5) DEVELOPMENT

The development stage focuses on the need to protect the systems, processes and people important to creating a successful and sustainable organisation. The role of the leader is to improve operational efficiency on the journey by setting new and higher standards.

Performance complacency can easily creep in on any journey. The development stage is designed to stop this happening. The three important objectives are to identify the barriers to operational efficiency

● Agree behavioural competencies for each job role

● Educate individuals in the principle of life-long learning.

Understanding the unique contribution of others, unlocking the power of information and the creative use of experience and expertise is important to delivering success.

6) OWNERSHIP

The ownership stage focuses on maximising the people potential in the organisation and is the culmination of the work carried out during the previous five stages. Ownership is often regarded as the 'holy grail' on the journey – the ultimate cultural prize where agility, pride, trust and collective focus is demonstrated.

The role of the leader is to build a confident, high-performing workforce resulting in the successful execution of the strategy. The three important objectives to be achieved during this stage are:

- Explain the importance of 'personal accountability'
- Ensure people understand their role and performance responsibility
- Use coaching and feedback to inspire others.

The outcomes from each objective should be used to create an environment where people are confident enough to take the appropriate action to perform at the highest level.

ON THIS DAY

...JULY 9

1872 - The doughnut cutter was patented by John F. Blondel.

1877 - Alexander Graham Bell, Gardiner Greene Hubbard, Thomas Sanders and Thomas Watson formed the Bell Telephone Company.

1878 - The corn cob pipe was patented by Henry Tibbe.

1900 - The Commonwealth of Australia was established by an act of the British Parliament, uniting the separate colonies under a federal government.

1922 - Johnny Weissmuller became the first person to swim the 100 metres freestyle in less than a minute.

1935 - Norman Bright ran the two mile event in the record time of nine minutes, 13.2 seconds at a meet in New York City.

1943 - American and British forces made an amphibious landing on Sicily.

1947 - The engagement of Britain's Princess Elizabeth to Lt. Philip Mountbatten was announced.

1951 - US President Truman asked Congress to formally end the state of war between the United States and Germany.

1953 - New York Airways began the first commuter passenger service by helicopter.

1968 - The first All-Star baseball game to be played indoors took place at the Astrodome in Houston, TX.

1971 - The United States turned over complete responsibility of the Demilitarised Zone to South Vietnamese units.

1985 - Herschel Walker of the New Jersey Generals was named the Most Valuable Player in the United States Football League (USFL).

1985 - Joe Namath signed a five-year pact with ABC-TV to provide commentary for "Monday Night Football".

1997 - Mike Tyson was banned from the boxing ring and fined \$3 million for biting the ear of opponent Evander Holyfield.

2005 - Danny Way, a daredevil skateboarder, rolled down a large ramp and jumped across the Great Wall of China. He was the first person to clear the wall without motorised aid.

2015 - The South Carolina House of Representatives approved taking down the Confederate flag from the Capitol grounds. The flag was removed the next day and taken to a state military museum.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Kiely Williams (Pop singer) - July 9, 1986, (age 33)



OJ Simpson (Football player) - July 9, 1947 (72 years old)



WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Utsini umtsetfo

SODV Act 2018

Seizure of arms, dangerous weapons

PART XXV
WEAPONS

149. (1) Where the respondent has threatened the use of a weapon or expressed the intention to kill the aggrieved person, a police officer shall seize any firearms or dangerous weapons which the respondent may possess and shall take the matter to court for determination.

(2) The court shall order a police officer to seize any firearm or dangerous weapon which may be in the possession or under the control of a respondent, if the court is satisfied on the evidence placed before it, including any affidavits supporting an application, that—

(a) the respondent has threatened the use of a weapon or expressed the intention to kill or injure himself or herself, or any person in a domestic relationship, by means of such firearm or dangerous weapon; or

(b) possession of such firearm or dangerous weapon is not in the best interests of the respondent or any other person in a domestic relationship, as a result of the—

(i) state of mind or mental condition;

(ii) inclination to violence; or

(iii) use of or dependence on intoxicating liquor or drugs of the respondent.

(3) Any dangerous weapon seized in terms of subsection (2) —

(a) shall be given a distinctive identification mark and retained in police custody for such period of time as the court may determine; and

(b) shall only be returned to—

(i) the respondent; or

(ii) to the owner of the dangerous weapon, if the respondent is not the owner,

by order of the court and on such conditions as the court may determine.

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (3), if, in the opinion of the court, the value of the dangerous weapon so seized is below two hundred Emalangi and if the return of the dangerous weapon has not been ordered within twelve months after it had been so seized or if the court is satisfied that it is in the interests of the safety of any person concerned, the court may order that the dangerous weapon be forfeited to the State.

(5) Any firearm seized in terms of subsection (2), shall be handed over to the national commissioner of police who shall deal with it in accordance with the provisions of the Arms and Ammunition Act, No. 24 of 1964, or its successor.

PART XXVI

DEFENCES AND MATTERS
TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT
IN SENTENCING

Minimum age of criminal capacity and presumption.

150. (1) A child of the age of 10 years and below shall have no criminal capacity in relation to any offence under this Act.

(2) Where a child is between the ages of ten and 14 years, the rebuttable presumption shall apply.

Previous or existing relationship not a defence.

151. Any relationship, previous or existing, shall not provide a defence to any offence under this Act. Knowledge of age immaterial to conviction but relevant to sentence.

152. (1) Except as otherwise expressly stated, it is immaterial to a conviction, in the case of any of the offences under this Act committed with respect to a child, that the accused person did not know that the child was under eighteen years of age at the time of the offence or believed that the child was not under that age.

(2) The court may consider when determining an appropriate sentence for any offence under this Act whether the accused person knew that the victim was under 18 years of age at the time of the offence or believed that the victim was not under that age.

CONSENT TO OFFENCES

153. (1) Subject to subsection (2) consent is not a defence to any offence under this Act.

(2) Consent is a defence to a charge under Section 36 and Section 37 if it is proved beyond a reasonable doubt that—

(a) both the victim and the accused were under 18 years of age at the time of the alleged offence; and

(b) both the victim and the accused gave their full and free consent to all of the sexual acts alleged.

(3) A prosecution may not be instituted under either Section 36 or Section 37 without the written consent of the director of public prosecutions, where—

(a) the victim was under 18 years of age at the time of the alleged

offence;

(b) there was an age difference between the victim and the accused of no more than five years; and

(c) both the victim and the accused gave their full and free consent to all of the sexual acts alleged.

Intoxication immaterial to conviction but relevant on sentence.

154. (1) Except as otherwise expressly stated or where the offence requires proof of intention, it is immaterial to conviction, whether the accused was intoxicated at the time of the alleged commission of the offence.

(2) The Court may consider when determining an appropriate sentence for any offence under this Act—

(a) whether the accused person was intoxicated at the time of the commission of the alleged offence;

(b) the extent of their intoxication; and

(c) the impact that intoxication may have had on their decision-making ability at the time of the commission of the alleged offence.

SUBPOENAS

155. The provisions of the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act so far as they relate to subpoenas are applicable to all criminal proceedings under this Act.

Cross-examination by legal representatives.

156. Where there is legal representation the presiding officer shall ensure the cross-examination is conducted in such a manner as not to harass the witness when dealing with the cases brought under this Act.

STANDARDS OF PROOF

157. (1) When considering an application for a protection order, the court shall apply the civil standard of proof.

(2) When considering the guilt or otherwise of an accused for any offence under this Act, including an alleged breach of a domestic violence order under Section 118, the Court shall apply the criminal standard of proof. Admissibility of certain evidence.

158. (1) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary the fol-

lowing evidence shall be admissible in court—

(a) evidence collected electronically, visually, graphically or by any other form including recorded tapes, DVDs and other similar devices; and

(b) evidence of a specialist or professional on the emotional condition of the applicant or complainant which is a consequence of the unlawful act.

(2) A specialist or professional for the purposes of this section means—

(a) a medical practitioner who is registered as such under the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act, 1970, or its successor—

(i) against whose name the speciality paediatrics is also registered;

(ii) against whose name the speciality psychiatry is also registered;

(iii) against whose name the speciality gynaecologist is also registered;

(iv) general medical practitioner; or

(v) veterinary practitioner;

(b) a maintenance officer who is appointed as such under section 4(1) of the Maintenance Act, 1970 or other law replacing it;

(c) a social worker under the department of social welfare who has not less than two years work experience;

(d) a nurse who is registered as such under the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1965, or its successor, and who has not less than two years work experience;

(e) a midwife who is registered as such under the Nurses and Midwives Act, 1965 and who has not less than one-year experience;

(f) a child counsellor who has not less than six months experience;

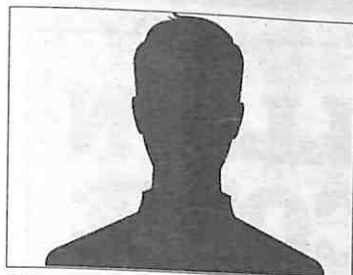
(g) a rural health motivator (umgugcuteli) or a person of similar occupation who has an experience of not less than two years;

(h) a person who has an experience of at least four years as an educator and has not at any stage, as a result of misconduct, been dismissed from service as an educator; and

(i) a psychologist who is registered as a clinical educational or counselling psychologist under the Medical and Dental Practitioners Act, 1970, or its successor.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2) 'educator' means a person who teaches, educates or trains other people, or who provides professional educational services, including professional therapy and educational psychological services at a public, independent or private school as defined under the Education Act, 1981, including former and retired educators.

Disrupted world order brings urgency to the Security Council



BY SITHEMBILE MBETE

SOUTH Africa is six months into its third elected term on the United Nations Security Council.

Its conduct in its previous two terms has been criticised for the country's controversial voting record. During its first term, South Africa was accused of supporting rogue states when it voted against resolutions condemning human rights abuses in Myanmar, Zimbabwe, and Sudan. In its second term, it was accused of voting for Western-sponsored regime change in Libya.

Despite these criticisms, the African Union (AU) has endorsed South Africa's candidature three times and it has received over two-thirds of the vote in the United Nations (UN) General Assembly. This shows that the world views it as a constructive contributor to an organisation charged with maintaining international peace and security.

BEING A MEMBER OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL MATTERS.

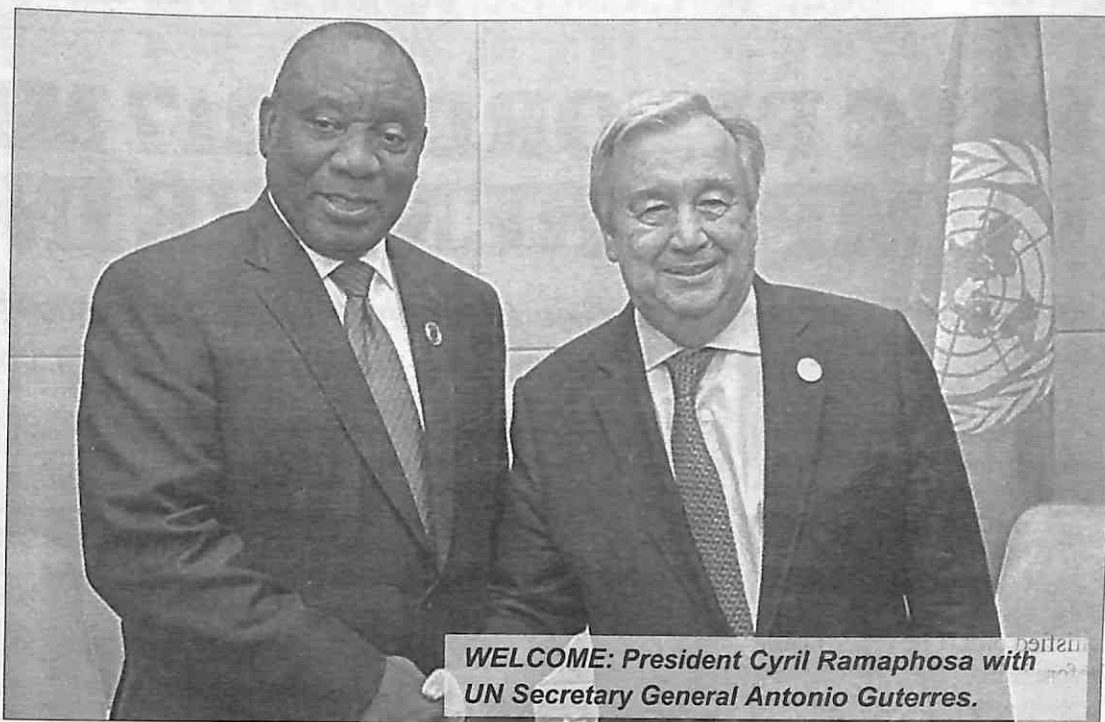
This is because it is the most powerful body within the UN.

The UN, founded in 1945, has 193 member states. Its powers are vested in its Charter, which provides for six main bodies in the organisation. The General Assembly is the main forum for deliberation and policymaking. All member states are represented and every September the full membership of the UN meets in New York for the General Assembly session.

Then there's the Security Council. Its primary responsibility is to maintain international peace and security. Its decisions are binding on all member states and it's the only body that can authorise the use of force to maintain international peace and security. This makes it arguably the most powerful international forum in the world.

The membership of the Council reflects global power dynamics at the end of the Second World War. It has 15 members – five permanent and 10 that are elected by the general assembly for rotating two year terms. All have one vote in the Council. But the permanent members – the US, UK, France, Russia and the People's Republic of China – have the power to veto resolutions. This makes the permanent members of the Security Council – known as the P5 – the governing elite of the UN.

The day-to-day work of the UN is done by the Secretariat, which is headed by the Secretary-General – currently Antonio Guterres – who is the de facto Chief Executive Officer of the UN.



Election to the Security Council is prestigious for member states because it gives them a seat at the highest table of global decision-making.

WHAT'S A STAKE

South Africa's re-election to the Security Council under President Cyril Ramaphosa raised hopes of a return to the foreign policy of President Nelson Mandela and a stronger commitment to human rights. Though admirable, the fact is that the world has changed dramatically since the Mandela presidency, which ended in 1999.

Pretoria needs to update its approach to the Security Council to suit the pressures of a changing world order. This is illustrated by a number of events that have contributed to a decline in the currency of democracy and set back debates about global human rights.

These include the presidency of Donald Trump, which has led to the US all but abandoning its role as guarantor of the liberal international world order. In addition, China is entrenching its position as the new superpower, while Vladimir Putin's Russia has put great power rivalry back on the international agenda.

The shifts in global power dynamics are starkly shown by the fractures in Security Council. In 2018, there were fewer consensus resolutions passed and an increased use of the veto. This trend appears to be continuing in 2019. Earlier this year, two draft resolutions on the situation in Venezuela failed, while so far six resolutions have passed without consensus.

This matters because for 20 years after the end of the Cold War, there was a shift towards consensus decision-making in the Council. The drafters and supporters of a resolution tried to get broad agreement on the text before submitting it for discussion. Consensus decisions gave the Security Council the appearance of legitimacy because the individual five permanent members

cooperated with the majority instead of using their structural power to enforce their particular perspective or interests.

The increased use of the veto and failure to get consensus decisions reflects the return of superpower rivalry and division in the Council since the 2011 NATO intervention in Libya and the ongoing stalemate in addressing the intractable war in Syria.

But tensions among the permanent members provide an opportunity for the 10 elected non-permanent elected members to exert greater influence over Council operations.

The highlight of South Africa's tenure will be in October 2019, when it holds the rotating presidency of the Security Council. This is one of the highlights for elected Security Council members. They generally use their presidencies to present themes that are not officially on the Council agenda or to keep issues that would otherwise be neglected on the agenda.

South Africa's Permanent Representative Jerry Matjila has been in the position for three years and has built good relationships with his counterparts. He appears to be able to balance South Africa's interests and interaction with partners from the global north and the global south.

DIFFICULT DECISIONS

As in its previous two terms, Pretoria's focus for its tenure in the Security Council is the maintenance of peace and security in Africa. This was tested earlier this year when election results in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were contested. Western members of the Security Council, especially Belgium and France, unsuccessfully sought South Africa's support to take a strong position against any possible fraud in the results. South Africa refused, and aligned itself with the Southern Africa Development Community that favoured the formation of a DRC government based on the results released by the elec-

toral authorities.

China and Russia were aligned with South Africa in viewing this as an internal and sovereign issue that required no further involvement from the Security Council. In the event, Felix Tshisekedi was sworn in as president on January 24, 2019 and was recognised as the legitimate head of state by Council members.

Aside from challenges within Africa, the biggest controversy of South Africa's tenure so far was the vote on two competing draft resolutions – one sponsored by Russia the other by the US – in response to the political situation in Venezuela. South Africa voted against a US-sponsored draft that called into question President Nicolás Maduro's election in a poll in May last year. The draft failed because of vetoes from China and Russia.

South Africa's voting decisions on the issue were consistent with its stated foreign policy. Pretoria has long opposed regime change and international intervention except in very particular circumstances. The debacle over its vote for resolution 1973 in March 2011 authorising military intervention in Libya still leaves an embarrassing after-taste.

So far, South Africa has managed its tenure in the Security Council by taking cautious and calculated decisions. The appointment of a new minister, Naledi Pandor, to the international relations ministry bodes well for the rest of South Africa's term. She is a seasoned politician with the necessary gravitas to restore respect in South Africa's foreign policy. She also has the trust of President Cyril Ramaphosa, which is important for giving the Department of International Relations and Cooperation the authority to make tough decisions on the Council.

- Sithembile Mbete is a lecturer at the University of Pretoria.

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Wit and Wisdom

"Everything you can imagine is real."
– Pablo Picasso

"Sometimes the questions are complicated and the answers are simple."
– Dr. Seuss

"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You."
– Dr. Seuss, *Happy Birthday to You!*

"I'm not afraid of death; I just don't want to be there when it happens."
– Woody Allen

"Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself."
– George Bernard Shaw

"Sometimes people are beautiful. Not in looks. Not in what they say. Just in what they are."
– Markus Zusak, *I Am the Messenger*

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."
– Albert Einstein

"Some infinities are bigger than other infinities."
– John Green, *The Fault in Our Stars*

"Reality continues to ruin my life."
– Bill Watterson, *The Complete Calvin and Hobbes*

"Who are you to judge the life I live? I know I'm not perfect -and I don't live to be- but before you start pointing fingers... make sure your hands are clean!"
– Bob Marley

"Things change. And friends leave. Life doesn't stop for anybody."
– Stephen Chbosky, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*

"The only way out of the labyrinth of suffering is to forgive."
– John Green, *Looking for Alaska*

"Dumbledore watched her fly away, and as her silvery glow faded he turned back to Snape, and his eyes were full of tears. 'After all this time?' 'Always,' said Snape."
– JK Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

"He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; Who has enjoyed the trust of pure women, the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; Who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; Who has never lacked appreciation of Earth's beauty or failed to express it; Who has left the world better than he found it, Whether an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; Who has always looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; Whose life was an inspiration; Whose memory a benediction."
– Bessie Anderson Stanley, *More Heart Throbs Volume Two in Prose and Verse Dear to the American People And by them contributed as a Supplement to the original \$10 000 Prize Book HEART THROBS*

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	1.6%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E12.80 per litre
Replacement	E12.85 per litre
Diesel	E12.80 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 8 JULY 2019

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	14.1735	14.2235
British Pound/SZL	17.7424	17.8050
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.6149	7.6410
Swiss France/SZL	14.3094	14.3541
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3224	1.3384
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.9016	9.9394
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.8393	10.8742
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.9083	15.9645
Gold	1,406.1696	
Oil	64.82	

For more information contact:
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Standard Bank

RSSC RECORDS E217 MILLION COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

STORIES BY QONDILE NTIWANE

ROYAL Swaziland Sugar Corporation has recorded total comprehensive income of E217.8 million.

According to a report published by the sugar company yesterday, the amount was 27 per cent lower than that achieved in 2018.

According to the consolidated statement of the comprehensive income, the profit attributable to owners was E301 222 last year.

The decline in profitability is mainly due to the sugar price that was 12.3 per cent lower than the previous year owing to a lower world market sugar price and continued pressure on SACU prices.

"The valuation of biological assets reflects an increase of E76 million, recognising an improvement in pricing for 2019/20, with tariff measures in place in the SACU market and higher expected sucrose volumes," reads part of the report.

The report also stated that the consolidated statement of finan-

... Consolidated statement of financial position for the Group shows a strong balance sheet with total assets of E3.1 billion



cial position for the Group showed a strong balance sheet with total assets of E3.1 billion.

Phase I of the Integrated Growth Programme (IGP) was successfully commissioned in May 2018 at a cost of E145 million while Phase 2 commenced during the current financial year.

"These works will be completed in the early part of the 2019/20 season.

The closing cash does not reflect the drawdown of loans against capital expenditure for Phase 2 of the IGP amounting to E130 million.

"The drawdown for this and sub-

sequent expenditure occurred in April 2019.

The financial ratios show a general decline when compared to the last year but still show good returns given the depressed sugar markets," it stated.

The report further gave an outlook that the sugar markets remained difficult, more so in the SACU and world markets.

The view was that there should be a moderate recovery in the SACU sugar prices in the medium term and also that the business continue to improve efficiencies in its pursuit to be a low cost produce of sugar.

The sugar further reported that there were no material changes to contingencies while capital commitments have been reduced by E178.6 million when compared to that disclosed in the March 2018 integrated report. This was due to the spending profile of the on-going IGP.

...RSSC gets record cane and sugar production

RSSC achieved a record cane and sugar production in the 2018/19 season.

According to the company's total comprehensive income report, cane crushed at 3.7million tonnes, and was 15 per cent higher than

cane crushed the previous year.

The operating segmental results in the consolidated financial statements show that cane growing, as at the end of 31 March 2018, was E276 999 as compared to the E263 951 recorded in 2018.

Estate cane yields were also higher at 112.9 Tc/ha, as compared to 99.4tc/ha for the comparative period.

The report also highlighted that sugar production was at 505 575 tonnes, 90 degrees pol sugar was

16 per cent higher than the 435 763 tonnes of 96 degrees pol sugar produced the previous year.

Meanwhile, ethanol production at 29.8 was 17 per cent higher than last year due to higher molasses processed..

SRA awards South African company E5.8m partnership tender

BY BAHLE GAMA

THE Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) has awarded Gartner South Africa (Pty) Ltd with a tender contract worth close to E6 million.

The precise amount of the tender is E5 841 600, including VAT, for over three years. The company will partner with SRA in strategic tax digitisation.

This is according to the Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (ESPPRA) which stated that the company was awarded

the tender in terms of Section 45 of the Public Procurement Act No. 7 of 2011 (the Act), following a competitive bidding process.

Gartner is a South African company that equips executives across the enterprise to make the right decisions and stay ahead of change.

In bidding for the contract, the company was up against another

South African company, ICT Works, which scored 74.8 per cent in evaluation, whilst Gartner attained 88.8 per cent.

Founded in 1979, Gartner South Africa (Pty) Ltd is a global company, serving 15 600 client organisations around the world, in over 100 countries.

"We are the leading research and

advisory company. We've expanded well beyond our flagship technology research to provide senior leaders across the enterprise with the indispensable business insights, advice and tools they need to achieve their mission-critical priorities and build the organisations of tomorrow," reads their website.

Name	Nationality	Proposed Contract Sum INCL. VAT over 3 years	Total Evaluated Score (%)
Gartner South Africa (Pty) Ltd	South African	E5 841 600	88.8 per cent

FILTER

The Kingdom of
Eswatini
a royal experience

Search ...

KINGDOM OF ESWATINI WEBSITE GETS TOP GOOGLE RATING

... The report also reveals that the www.thekingdomofeswatini.com website recorded a peak of 22 500 page views and 10 150 sessions in the month of June.

STORIES BY BAHLE GAMA

THE www.thekingdomofeswatini.com website recently made it to the top of Google rankings for 'Eswatini Tourism' and 'visit Eswatini' searches.

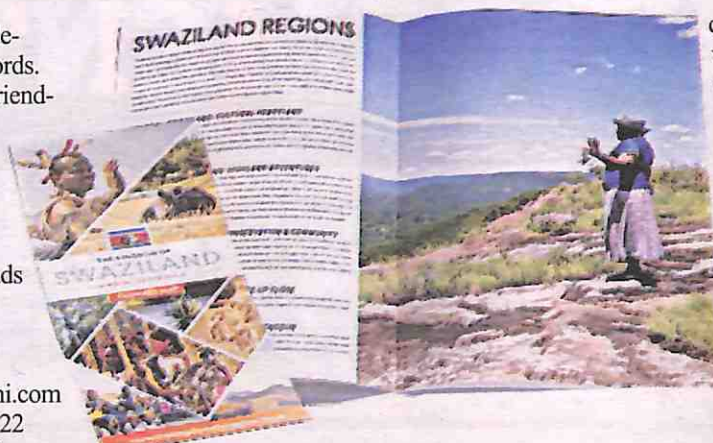
This is according to a website report compiled by the Eswatini Tourism Authority's (ETA) marketing department.

The report assessed progress since the new version of the website was launched last September. It was revealed that the website is also on the first page of results 'Eswatini accommodation' and 'Eswatini lodge'. According to the report, the new features are inclusive of more content pages,

accommodation filters, wide-spread maps and What3Words. "The website is mobile-friendly and compatible across all devices, making it perfect as a resource for visitors to learn about the country and find important information on-the-go," reads the report. The report also reveals that the

www.thekingdomofeswatini.com website recorded a peak of 22 500 page views and 10 150 sessions in the month of June.

ETA Acting Marketing Manager Chunky Mdluli said the ETA was excited with the positive feedback, especially because it showed that the country was being marketed quite extensively.



"The ETA is very pleased to receive such feedback because the content that has been developed since last September is being consumed by our target markets," she said. Mdluli further mentioned that the ETA and consultants were adding and refining

content, as well as fine-tuning some elements of the website. "The addition of content will be an on-going process to ensure that

visitors and local users have the latest information at their fingertips," further reads the report. Mdluli further said the website's progress would work to the advantage of domestic tourism as well as the economy.

'Swaziland' searches lead to 'Eswatini'

DESPITE the www.thekingdomofeswatini.com being an Eswatini URL, the Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA) has ensured that 'Eswatini' searches are channelled to the Eswatini URL.

This is according to a report by the ETA Marketing Department to monitor performance of the website.

ETA Acting Marketing Manager Chunky Mdluli revealed that the ETA ensured that they did not lose the consumer base they had captured before the name change.

"All Swaziland searches are transferred to the new website. This is something we had to make sure of because it would have been detrimental to our industry," she said.

She also said this functionality was imperative in the movement towards Eswatini and it served as a form of education.

"People Googling our country will definitely know that we have changed and thus move with us towards the future," she said. Meanwhile, the report further mentions that the new site is in the Top 5 for 'Eswatini'.

Pupils save over E87 000 in JA cooperatives programme

BY BAHLE GAMA

JA pupils in 50 schools in the country have saved over E87 000 in the cooperatives programme under the financial literacy programme of Junior Achievement Eswatini.

This is for the first six months of the year.

JA Eswatini's Communications and Marketing Specialist Siphesihle Mkhonta disclosed these figures, further stating that they have broken their record of enrolling 5 000 pupils in the cooperatives programme where they save with Lubane Savings and Credit Cooperatives which gives a percentage of interest to their savings.

"The E87 314.99 within the first six months is a great indication that our pupils are growing in financial literacy and are getting ready to run financially sound businesses.

These savings were introduced as part of the financial literacy program in high school has seen 6 583 pupils taking part, with 3 637 females and 2 946 males.

The financial literacy programme serves as an entry point for JA Eswatini to schools, targeting Form Two learners," she said.

She stated that the JA financial literacy programme has been developed from being a series of six activities that help learners explore personal finance education and career options based on their skills, interests and values into introducing valuable finance lessons such as tax education. It also enables pupils to learn how to formulate and run cooperatives and also delve more



SIGN: Pupils signing for their savings that are kept with Lubane Savings and Credit Cooperatives. (Courtesy pic)

on the concept of saving and investments. This programme has been extended from the six hours and is implemented through the duration of Form Two learning period. Eventually this programme will be executed throughout the high school life of a pupil in order to extensively delve into the practical aspect of this programme.

"We have been working with Lubane and our target was to get 5 000 pupils this year, which we have exceeded before year end. We are so proud of this achievement and look forward to more rewards for the pupils as they grow their savings," she said.

Mkhonta also highlighted that these pupils have been assisted to open Siyakhula bank accounts with

EswatiniBank, an account specifically for pupils who are part of the cooperatives programme.

This account will soon be launching a personalised bank card for the pupils which will have a JA logo and still be used in EswatiniBank ATMs.

"The E87 314.99 within the first six months is a great indication that our pupils are growing in financial literacy and are getting ready to run financially sound businesses

Minister commends increase in ENACTUS teams

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

ACTING Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Dr Tambo Gina has commended the increased number of teams in the ENACTUS competition.

Representing Minister Manqoba Khumalo during the ENACTUS National Competition held at Esibayeni Lodge on Saturday, the minister revealed that, notably since the year 2002, the teams have grown for one to 14, something he described as a commendable achievement.

The minister highlighted that Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini and Minister Khumalo had both played a major role in the development and growth of the ENACTUS programme in the country.

"The honourable prime minister, while still the chairperson of the ENACTUS Eswatini Board, facilitated the registration of ENACTUS

as a formal local entity in 2008. He continued to lead the organisation until he handed over his chairmanship to Honourable Khumalo, while he was still the General Manager of Conco, in 2011.

"Even after his tenure as chairman, his excellency continued to serve in the Board of Directors. Ladies and gentlemen, this is a clear demonstration of how much the prime minister is committed to the overall development of the country and the heart he has for youth development as all efforts applied were out of good will," he said.

He added that during Minister Khumalo's tenure as Chairperson of the ENACTUS Board, ENACTUS was able to add four more institutions and expanded the impact of both students and beneficiaries.

He stated that one of the teams even made it into the semi-finals in the world contest, a very admirable achievement.



GREETINGS: Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini being welcomed upon his arrival for the 2019 ENACTUS Eswatini National Competition.



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THE FSRA ON TUESDAY

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A STAKEHOLDER
EDUCATION
FORUM

THIS article is a continuation from last week's where we discussed procedures to be followed by credit providers before enforcing a debt either by repossession or judgement.

Today, we will continue to look at the debt procedures in court (for purposes of the CC Act, court means the Magistrate's Court)

DEBT PROCEDURES IN COURT

The CC Act continues to state that the credit provider may also approach the court for an order enforcing the remaining obligations of a consumer under a credit agreement at any time if—

(a) All relevant property has been sold pursuant to—

- i. An attachment order; or
- ii. Surrender of property in terms of Section 99; and
- iii. The net proceeds of sale were insufficient to discharge all the financial obligations of the consumer under the agreement.

(b) The net proceeds of sale were insufficient to discharge all the financial obligations of the consumer under the agreement.

WHEN CAN THE COURT DETERMINE A MATTER INVOLVING A CREDIT AGREEMENT?

The CC Act outlines several instances in which the court may determine a matter involving a credit agreement.

Section 101 (3) of the CC Act states that, 'Notwithstanding any provision of law or contract to the contrary, in any proceedings commenced in a court in respect of a credit agreement to which this Act applies, the court may determine the matter if the court is satisfied that—

(a) In the case of proceeding to which Sections 99, 100 or 102 apply, the procedures required by those sections have been complied with.

The procedures referred by the above section relate to the surrender of goods; required procedures before debt enforcement and the repossession of goods.

(b) There is no matter arising under that credit agreement, and pending before the Authority that could result in an order affecting the issues to be determined by the court; and

(c) that the credit provider has not approached the court—

- (i) during a time when the matter was before a debt counsellor; or
- (ii) despite the consumer having—
 - (aa) surrendered property to the credit provider, and before that property has been sold;
 - (bb) agreed to a proposal made in terms of Section 100 (i) (a) and acted in good faith in fulfilment of that agreement;
 - (cc) complied with an agreed plan as contemplated in Section 100 (1) (a); or
 - (dd) brought the payments under the credit agreement up to date, as contemplated in Section 100 (1) (a).

Briefly, Section 100 (1) (a) cited by the above states that,

'If the consumer is in default under a credit agreement, the credit provider—

(a) Shall deliver to the consumer a notice in writing, drawing the attention of the consumer to the default and propose, in the case of inability to pay,

that the consumer refer the credit agreement to a debt counsellor with the intent that the parties develop and agree on a plan to bring the payments under the agreement up to date or, in the case of any other dispute under the agreement, refer the matter to the ombudsman;

RECKLESS CREDIT AGREEMENT MATTER BEFORE COURT

In terms of the CC Act, if the court determines in any proceedings contemplated in Section 101 that a credit agreement was reckless as described in Section 82, the court shall make an order contemplated in Section 83.

Section 82 describes a reckless credit agreement as (1) A credit agreement is reckless where, at the time that the agreement was made, or at the time when the amount approved in terms of the agreement is increased, other than an increase in credit limit—

(a) The credit provider failed to conduct an assessment as required by Sec-

tion 26, irrespective of what the outcome of such an assessment might have concluded at the time; or

(b) The credit provider, having conducted an assessment as required by Section 26, entered into credit agreement with the consumer despite the fact that the preponderance of information available to the credit provider indicated that—

- (i) The consumer did not understand or appreciate the risks, costs or obligations of the consumer under the proposed credit agreement; or
- (ii) Entering into that credit agreement would make the consumer over-indebted or further over-indebted.

Now, if a court has determined a credit agreement to have been reckless in terms of Section 82, it may make an order in terms of Section 83 (2) -

- (a) setting aside all or part of the rights and obligations of the credit provider and or the consumer under that agreement, as the court determines just and reasonable in the circumstances; or
- (b) suspending the force and effect

of that credit agreement in accordance with subsection (3)(b)(i).

The court may also declare a credit agreement to be reckless in terms of Section 82 (1) (b). If a declaration is made to that effect in terms of the CC Act, the court—

(a) shall further consider whether the consumer is over-indebted at the time of the court proceedings; and

(b) where the court concludes that the consumer is over-indebted, the court may make an order—

(i) suspending the force and effect of that credit agreement until a date determined by the court when making the order of suspension; and

(ii) re-arranging the obligations of the consumer under any other credit agreement, in accordance with Section 94.

Before making an order that declares a credit agreement to have been reckless, Section 4 of the CC Act states that the court shall consider—

(a) the consumer's current means and ability to pay the financial obligations of the consumer that existed at the time the agreement was made; and

(b) the expected date when any such obligation under a credit agreement will be fully satisfied, assuming the consumer makes all required payments in accordance with any proposed order.

To be continued.

Information provided in this article is meant for financial literacy purposes only and should not be construed as financial advice. should not be construed as financial advice. For more information you can email stakeholder@fsra.co.sz or call 2 406 8000

BUSINESS EXTRA

ABSA's weaker price bucks trend in sector

JOHANNESBURG - ABSA's share price took a more than four per cent knock last week, extending a decline that started on June 2 to more than 6.5 per cent - this is quite a significant drop considering the JSE's bank index was up in the period.

So what could be forcing investors to sell ABSA shares? The bank's only announcement last week was a notice to inform shareholders of a telephone conference that will be held at the end of this month so that shareholder concerns about



executive remuneration policy for 2018 can be addressed.

You see, in a no longer so rare corporate event in South Africa, more than 25 percent of ABSA's shareholders voted against its remuneration implementation

report at the annual general meeting last month. It's not that the executive pay increases seemed excessive, relatively speaking. For instance, former chief executive Maria Ramos' pay actually declined to R29.7 million from R37.9m the previous year. But after the 2017 remuneration debacle, the bank claimed to have "refreshed" its remuneration philosophies, principles and policies, and improved the transparency and level of disclosures for its 2018 executive remuneration plan.

Fin24

Shareholders get tough on executive pay

JOHANNESBURG - Shareholder of JSE-listed companies are becoming tougher on executive remuneration, amid the weak economy.

At Old Mutual's annual general meeting (AGM) held in May, 46 per cent of shareholders voted against approving the company's remuneration policy, while 69.13 per cent voted against approving the company's remuneration implementation report. ABSA Group performed better at

its AGM: only 11.04 per cent of shareholders voted against approving the company's remuneration policy, while 31.43 per cent voted against the company's remuneration implementation report. Last week, ABSA said its Chairperson, Wendy Lucas-Bull, and the Chairperson of the Remuneration Committee, Alex Darko, would engage with shareholders in a telephone conference on July 25 to enable them. *Business Report*

Focus on World News

Global News

'IRAN BETTER BE CAREFUL'

BASOP: US President Donald Trump.

DUBAI - Iran said on Sunday it will shortly boost its uranium enrichment above a cap set by a landmark 2015 nuclear deal, prompting a warning 'to be careful' from US President Donald Trump, who has pressured Tehran to renegotiate the pact.

In a sign of heightening tensions, France, Germany and Britain - all parties to the deal - expressed concerns over the step taken by Tehran, its latest effort to force the West to lift sanctions ravaging its limping economy.

In a live news conference, senior Iranian officials threatened further violations, saying Tehran would keep reducing its commitments every 60 days unless European parties to the agreement protect-

ed it from sanctions imposed by Trump.

"We are fully prepared to enrich uranium at any level and with any amount," said Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesman for Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation.

"In a few hours the technical process will come to an end and the enrichment beyond 3.67 per cent to the limit set in the 2015 agreement.

Speaking to reporters as he departed Morristown, New Jersey, Trump warned Tehran. "Iran better be careful. If you enrich for one reason and I won't tell you what that reason is but it's no good. They'd better be careful," he said.

Iran is 'doing a lot of bad things', Trump said but did not elaborate.

"The way they want it, they would have automatic rights to have nuclear weapons. Iran will never have a nuclear weapon," he added.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the step was extremely dangerous and was designed to create atomic bombs, and again called on Europe to impose punitive sanctions on Tehran.

Iran has denied any intent to develop nuclear weapons.

Under the deal, most international sanctions against Tehran were lifted in return for limitations on its nuclear work.

Iran's main demand - in talks with the European parties to the deal and as a precondition to any talks with the United States - is to be allowed to sell its oil at the levels

before Washington pulled out of the agreement and restored sanctions.

The confrontation has taken on a military dimension, with Washington blaming Tehran for attacks on oil tankers, and Iran shooting down a US drone, prompting aborted US air strikes.

The Europeans, who object to Trump's withdrawal from the deal, have so far failed to salvage the pact by shielding Iran's economy from US sanctions, which cost billions of dollars in lost oil sales.

French President Emmanuel Macron condemned Iran's decision as a 'violation' of the pact which the United States pulled out of last year.

Daily Mail

'Game changer for Africa'

NIGER - African nations officially launched a landmark trade agreement at the African Union summit in Niger on Sunday, with the long sought-after agreement hailed as a historic step towards 'peace and prosperity' across the continent.

After 17 years of tough negotiations, the AU launched the 'operational phase' of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in what AU Commission chairperson Moussa Faki had described as a 'historic' moment. "An old dream is coming true, the founding fathers must be proud," said Faki, adding that AfCFTA would create 'the greatest trading area in the world'. Niger's President Mahamadou Issoufou hailed it as 'the greatest historical event for the African continent since the creation of the Organisation of African Unity in 1963' referring to the AU's predecessor. AU officials announced the launch of the five 'operational instruments' of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Nations agreed to shared 'rules of origin, the monitoring and elimination of non-tariff barriers, a unified digital payments system and an African trade observatory dashboard', the AU commission announced. The agreement was given a boost when the presidents of Nigeria and Benin signed on to rapturous applause on Sunday morning at the two-day summit in Niger's capital Niamey. With Nigeria and Benin on board, 54 of the 55 AU member countries have now signed onto the deal, with holdout Eritrea announcing it will consider joining the pact. Around 4 500 delegates and guests - including 32 Heads of State and more than 100 ministers - attended the AU summit in Niamey, which has been revamped and boasts a brand-new airport, upgraded roads, and new hotels for the occasion. *News24*

Satanism claims drive man (32) into raping landlord (61)

BULAWAYO - A 32-year-old Bulawayo man recently appeared in court facing rape and physically abusing his 61-year-old landlord.

Mduduzi Khabo appeared before Magistrate Franklin Mkwanzani, facing the two charges.

Prosecutor Ntokozo Dlodlo told court that on a date unknown to the state, but sometime in 2009, Bekezela Tshuma hired Khabo to fix her vehicle.

Khabo would occasionally fix the car and he would also visit Tshuma at her home.

The prosecutor told court that on May 6, 2011, Tshuma found the accused at the Bulawayo City Hall.

"The accused told the complainant that he had nowhere to go and feared for his life as his family was having conflicts with the Central Intelligence officers (CIOs). The complainant had compassion for him and she took him to her home, where she allocated him a spare bedroom to stay for as long as he had to sort out his life," Dlodlo told the court.

The prosecutor further told court that

in January 2012, on an unknown date again, Khabo informed Tshuma that his rivals had joined Satanism.

"In January 2012 on a date unknown, the accused person informed the complainant that his rivals have since joined Satanism, hence they have threatened to kill his brother if he does not have sexual intercourse with the complainant. The accused induced fear into the complainant and had sexual intercourse with her without her consent and protection," said Dlodlo.

Newzfm.com

29 killed in bus crash on Indian expressway

NEW DELHI - A bus careered off one of India's busiest roads early yesterday killing at least 29 people, police said.

The driver of the bus was suspected to have fallen asleep before the double-decker bus hit a divider and fell into a gap between two flyovers on the Yamuna expressway from Delhi to Agra, according to police. The bus was taking about

50 people from New Delhi to Lucknow, in Uttar Pradesh state, when the accident happened at about 4.15am. It fell more than 12 metres (40 feet) into a river below the road, crushing the top deck of the bus and water was complicating rescue efforts, police said.

"Twenty nine persons have died and 18 others are injured," said Agra district magistrate. *AFP*

BRIEFS

Sejala explains hunched over rusted crutches

ANGOLA - "I was defending this area during the war," Domingo Sejala explains hunched over his rusted crutches - a constant reminder of the injuries he sustained during the Angolan civil war.

The bloody post-colonial conflict lasted from 1975 to 2002, pitting the ruling MPLA against Unita rebels. Sejala, a veteran of the MPLA armed wing, now lives in a collapsed and abandoned high school still riddled with bullet marks from the war. "We have nowhere to go," he says. Disabled and without any State assistance, former soldiers like Sejala find themselves destitute in the city of Kuito." *AFP*

War victims one step closer to justice

JUBA - Justice could be on the horizon for South Sudan's victims of war crimes following the office of the Legal Counsel of the African Union (AU) signing a draft for the formation of the long-awaited Hybrid Court. The establishment of the Hybrid Court would mean a semblance of justice for all those raped, killed, maimed and otherwise abused following the outbreak of the country's civil war in 2013. The East African reports that there appears to be goodwill within the AU Commission and the Peace and Security Council to form the court in order to bring to book war criminals.

ANA

US billionaire Jeffrey Epstein arrested

NEW YORK - A hedge fund billionaire has been arrested on sex trafficking charges in the New York area, after having long been followed by accusations of molesting young girls, US media reported.

Jeffrey Epstein, who is expected to appear before a federal magistrate on Monday, was arrested Saturday at a New Jersey airport after arriving from Paris in his private jet, CBS Miami reported. A source familiar with the case told the television station Epstein was charged with one count of sex trafficking and one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking.

AFP

Dalai Lama's birthday celebration opposed

NEPAL - The Dalai Lama's birthday celebrations in Nepal were cancelled Sunday after the government refused permission for the event to go ahead, officials said, in another sign of the growing influence of China over its Himalayan neighbour. Nepal is home to around 20 000 exiled Tibetans, but under pressure from Beijing the current communist government has taken an increasingly hardline stance on their activities. "Permission was not issued because there might be a problem in peace and security," said Krishna Bahadur Katuwal, assistant chief district officer of Kathmandu.

AFP

Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

DA ACCUSES COUNCIL OF VBS MUTUAL BANK REPORT COVER-UP

JOHANNESBURG - The DA in Gauteng has accused the West Rand district municipality of hiding a forensic report into more than R80 million invested with VBS Mutual Bank.

DA member of the standing committee on public accounts (SCOPA) Ina Cilliers made the claim after the municipality denied her access to the forensic report following her party's formal request through the Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) on May 31.

The municipality, through its Deputy Information Officer Rethabiseng Mokebe, said it was not in a position to accede to the request. The municipality had made the refusal in terms of Section 33 of the PAIA, which obliged the municipality to protect the privacy of third parties in terms of Section 34 (1) of the Act.

"You are hereby informed that you may lodge an internal appeal or an application with a court, as the case may be, against the decision of the West Rand district municipality not to make a record

available to you within three days of the receipt of this letter. An internal appeal may be lodged with the executive mayor of the municipality notice of an internal appeal must substantially correspond with regulations of the Act," Mokebe added.

Cilliers, who was outraged by the response, said her party was going to appeal against the municipal decision which cited the Protection of Personal Information Act to deny them access to the forensic report.

"While the DA is cognisant of the significant role the Act plays in safeguarding the personal information of individuals, we are of the belief that this Act is being abused and used as an escape route to avoid responsibility by those who looted through the illegal investments with VBS Bank," Cilliers said.

She said members of the Gauteng provincial legislature served a vital role in ensuring that public funds were not abused and that the people of Gauteng received value for money.

"Should the appeal be dismissed, we will seek legal counsel on the matter and act accordingly. It cannot be that good laws are used to cover up bad deeds.

"The DA will continue to ensure that government is held to account and those who wrongfully benefit from dipping into the public purse are brought to book," Cilliers said.

Newly-elected Mayor Diteko Moreotsenye dismissed the DA's accusation, saying the contents of the forensic report were made public, including to DA councillors.

"We are now implementing the recommendations of the forensic report," he added. Moreotsenye, however, refused to divulge the contents of the report.

Auditor-General Kimi Makwetu has already revealed that municipalities which invested about R1.7 billion with VBS Mutual Bank were not likely to recover their funds, saying it would affect their service delivery budgets.

News24



Malema orders everyone in the room to have sex

JOHANNESBURG - The EFF leader told party-goers to stop engaging in self-hate.

A video of Economic Freedom Fighters leader Julius Malema telling male Durban July attendees to go back to their hotel rooms and have sex with their women has been circulating on social media and causing a bit of a stir. In the video, the EFF leader can be seen standing in a DJ booth and holding a microphone as he tells people to leave the venue. Malema says in Sepedi:

"They say sex in English is nice, but when it is said in our language, you're using vulgar language. 'That's self-hate. Stop self-hate. Sex is sex. Whether *unyoba* or *ke sex*, it's the same. Sex is sex in any language. Go to your rooms and have sex. Take your alcohol with you. Your women are waiting for you, stop sleeping here. You're scared of women; you are all packed up here. Let's go. Thank you very much."

Citizen

'She made it a race thing'

CAPE TOWN - The family accused of racism by DA MP Phumzile van Damme have denied that they were racist towards her at the popular V&A Waterfront in Cape Town in June, claiming it was Van Damme who turned the incident into a 'race thing'.

The family's lawyer Carlo Viljoen told Rapport newspaper that the incident started off at a Clicks store, where the family was waiting in line to pay when Van Damme tried to jump the queue ahead of them.

The family, who have decided not to lay a charge against Van Damme "out of fear of intimidation", say when they objected to Van Damme jumping

"What consequence would they face if they reported the alleged racism?" Van Damme asked. "If they claim I was racist, they should have no problem opening a case. They can even go to Clicks and request CCTV footage."

Last month, News24 reported that Van Damme claimed she had an altercation with the mother of the family after which she allegedly told her she would "push her aside". Van Damme claimed that

when she went outside, the family was standing there 'in a threatening manner'.

"I went to her and said, 'why are you looking at me in a threatening manner?' Then she said, 'it's because you're black'." Van

Damme and the popular tourist destination have since buried the hatchet after the upmarket establishment apologised, saying they hadn't treated the matter with 'the necessary objectivity, respect and empathy'.

News24

Manuel deceived into giving green-light for SARS #rogueunit

DURBAN - A news magazine has reported on the history of the SARS rogue unit quoting confidential papers arising from aborted disciplinary hearings against former employees Ivan Pillay and Johann van Loggerenberg.

Nosweek said the 2015 internal disciplinary charges were never tested as both former SARS Deputy Commissioner Pillay and investigations head Van Loggerenberg resigned rather than answer the battery of accusations against them.

"The confidential disciplinary papers recount how the rogue-unit saga began, with a memo from Pillay, dated February 2, 2007, to then-Minister of Finance Trevor Manuel which sought and obtained permission to establish a special investigations unit within the

National Intelligence Agency.

But it seems there was deception from the start."

Leadership

The magazine said at SARS a decision initiated or supported by Pillay was said to have 'misrepresented and misled' Trevor Manuel, resulting in the National Research Group being established not within the NIA, as directed, but within SARS.

"There it fell under the leadership of Andries Janse 'Skollie' van Rensburg, who 'misdirected' ministerial-approved funds to equip the new unit with cell-phone jammers, eavesdropping equipment, vehicle trackers, night-vision binoculars and covert recording equipment implanted on car keys and pens."

The news magazine said it was alleged that it was the SARS rogue unit that spied on the now defunct Scorpions and the offices of the National Prosecuting Authority in Silverton after prosecutor Gerrie Nel suspected that colleagues were leaking information about the prosecution of Police

Commissioner Jackie Selebi to politicians. "The disciplinary papers describe how, when Pillay subsequently decided to fire Skollie van Rensburg, he threatened to expose the rogue unit's existence. So Pillay agreed that Van Rensburg should receive R3 million in severance pay 'in order to ensure his silence'. By agreeing to this payment, Pillay had made himself 'party to corruption by paying a bribe,' claimed SARS."

According to the report, more danger of media exposure came from Michael Peega, a National Research Group (NRG) operative who was fired for his involvement in a rhino poaching incident. "Peega promptly authored an 'intelligence dossier' revealing the existence of the secret unit—and claiming it was 'rogue'."

It said the NRG was disbanded and its members redeployed.

"In its place emerged the ultra-secret High-Risk Investigation Unit (HRIU) led by Johann van Loggerenberg under Pillay's supervision and control. Objective of these units, declared SARS in the disciplinary papers, was to subject targets 'suspected of significant tax violations to surveillance, investigation and interrogations using covert and illicit methods'. Van Loggerenberg's high-risk unit was set up in such secrecy that even former members of the NRG believed these activities had been completely disbanded." It also said the new unit was composed of former undercover and military intelligence agents who were required to work from home, expected to establish 'front' businesses and were given assignments on a 'need-to-know' basis.

News24



Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

HATE SPEECH COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST ZINDZI MANDELA

JOHANNESBURG - AfriForum has lodged a complaint of hate speech against SA Ambassador to Denmark Zindzi Mandela for tweets the organisation believes "bore witness to a hate-bearing attitude".

The complaint was lodged with the SA Human Rights Commission (SAHRC). On June 14, Mandela created a stir on social media after her "apartheid apologists" and "land thieves" tweets went viral. AfriForum Deputy CEO Alana Bailey said in a statement yesterday: "Mandela bore witness to a hate-bearing attitude towards white people in the country. She has publicly contributed to the polarisation of local communities. With crude language, as well as false and humiliating references such as 'rapists', 'cowards' and 'land thieves,' she is contributing to a dangerous discourse of scapegoating."

"Her defence - that she is entitled to her personal opinion - demonstrates a complete lack of insight into her respon-



UNDER-FIRE: SA Ambassador to Denmark Zindzi Mandela.

sibility as ambassador to promote the image of South Africa and to serve all South Africans without prejudice.

"It is also inconsistent with the South African constitution, which clearly states that the country belongs to everyone. She has to be held accountable for her

actions and AfriForum therefore requests the SAHRC to investigate and act in this regard."

Afrikaans Sunday newspaper Rapport reported on Sunday that Mandela's term as ambassador had been extended from June to December 2019. *Times Live*

Suspended Ekurhuleni operations chief accuses mayor of lying

JOHANNESBURG - Suspended Ekurhuleni Chief Operations Officer Lesiba Mojapelo is expected to appear before a municipal disciplinary hearing yesterday.

It is alleged that Mojapelo didn't follow supply chain policies when awarding a R4m tender to TS Records, then linked to current ANC Ekurhuleni Regional Secretary Theminkosi 'TK' Nciza, to market the city's 2010 FIFA World Cup activities. At the time, Mojapelo was the general manager of the city's 2010 legacy projects.

According to, Business Day Mojapelo claimed Ekurhuleni Mayor Mzwandile Masina lied to the council earlier this year, leading to his suspension. Mojapelo alleged that Masina lied about having an updated Special Investigating Unit report on the awarding of the tender before he was suspended.

Law unto himself

Mojapelo further accused Masina of being a law unto himself and said working with him had become untenable.

Masina's office denied Mojapelo's claims in the Business Day report.

The municipality received the original SIU report in October 2018 and it was tabled in council in February 2019.

In February, the African Independent Congress (AIC), the ANC's coalition partner in Ekurhuleni, called for Mojapelo to go, but the ANC stood by him at the time, News24 reported.

Mojapelo is no stranger to controversy.

In May this year, News24 reported that he denied any wrongdoing in the handling of the city's Lungile Mtshali Community Development Project and instead suggested that some of his colleagues were targeting him after a report noted irregularities in the project.

The project was aimed at giving each of the 112 wards in the municipality R1m for the development of parks. Among some of the adverse findings in the preliminary review report by Meodi Chartered Accountants, was that out of the 13 parks for which the city had been invoiced for work done, four were non-existent. The city was billed R1 095 306.06 for the four sites. The report also found that work at eight out of the 13 sites "was of either poor quality and standard or was not performed as claimed on the invoices".

This work amounted to R3 776 169.69.

News24



ACCUSED: Ekurhuleni Mayor Mzwandile Masina.

Mom wants R5m from Gauteng health

JOHANNESBURG - A family was thrown into disarray after it emerged that babies must have been swapped in hospital 20 years ago.

What was once a bundle of joy became a source of despair for a Gauteng mother, who discovered a son she had raised as her own for 16 years was not her biological child.

Meta Diphoko's stable and peaceful life took a dramatic turn in 2012 when she approached the courts for maintenance against her husband.

"Hae demand-ed DNA tests be conducted on the boy and the third born, a girl, before he pays maintenance." *News24*

Malema says Twitter is 'divorced from reality'

JOHANNESBURG - EFF leader Julius Malema may have a 2.47m-strong Twitter following, but says social media doesn't always reflect reality.

Malema, who uses the platform to comment on current affairs in SA, according to News24, said the platform is "divorced from reality", adding that "Twitter results" don't translate to the real world. "I also hasten to point out that Twitter is entirely divorced from reality: I know for a fact that the EFF won nearly every 'poll' conducted on Twitter in the run-up to the elec-

tions. "It ultimately lost the elections and came third," he allegedly said in an affidavit to defend a hate speech lawsuit brought against him and his party by the South African National Editors' Forum (SANEF) and five journalists.

"Despite a better performance than in 2014, the 'Twitter world' result did not translate into the real world. This, also, with respect, should give the court proper perspective in so far as the complainants are concerned," he said.

Helen Zille agreed with him.

Times Live

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MR ESWATINI FOR NEW MZANSI MAGIC

BY DELISA THWALA

ONLY the sky is the limit for Mr Eswatini Rodney Lanseburg.

Lanseburg is slowly paving the way for himself in South Africa, as he is set to appear on a Mzansi Magic drama titled 'Isikhundla'.

Isikhundla is a movie about two ambitious lawyers from different backgrounds who are battling it out for a promotion; one to help finance her mother's operation, the other to win his father's approval.

It will be aired on Mzansi Magic on Saturday.



ACTING: Mr Eswatini Rodney Lanseburg.

The pageant king announced this move on his social media page, where he expressed his joy about this development.

Rodney confirmed with the

Entertainment Desk yesterday that he would be appearing on screens this coming Saturday.

He said he could not wait for people to see the whole movie and witness his TV talent.

"Yes, I will be appearing on Mzansi Magic on channel 161 DSTV this coming weekend.

"It's a brilliant movie and the directors did a marvelous job on the production," said Lanseburg.

He also revealed that his agency team was working on something new and bigger.

Mzansi Magic is a popular South African channel on DSTV Multichoice. They are known for airing flexible and relatable content to their viewers.

Mzansi Magic, channel 161 and is known for hogging viewers with shows like 'Uthando Nesthembu', 'Isibaya', The Queen and many more telenovelas.

DENZEL 'NUMBER ONE' TOPPING CHARTS

BY DELISA THWALA

SINGER Denzel's recently released debut single 'Number One' is sitting on number four in downloading charts on iTunes.

Worth noting is that it is barely a week after the song was released.

The song has been sitting on number four since its upload.

This was confirmed by the singer during an interview.

He shared that for him, it meant a lot and that he did not anticipate so much support from his fans at the onset of his release of the song.

"When I worked on this song, I did not anticipate so much love really, I was just testing the market and how the people are going to take it and by the look of things, it is working for me, I'm happy and humbled," said the singer. "Number One was just a teas-

er, I'm working on something even bigger that will excite my fans and make them love me more," said the singer during the interview. The song is a viby afro pop tune with a dance element to it. The singer has also been added to stable Platinum Concept

where he was launched. He was launched as an official part of the stable and will now be part of their team.



NUMBER ONE: Denzel.

Boyce played a huge role in helping Emaswati

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

AMERICAN actor Cameron Boyce's death has affected Emaswati as he played a huge role in helping the country, as he once donated funds for the provision of clean water in the kingdom.

His death has saddened everyone who loved him. He died after suffering from a seizure, the aftermath of his long time medical condition.

The actor died on Saturday at his home in Los Angeles. Apart from his professional career, he was quite active on social media.

He used his celebrity status and tried to bring a change in the world. His spokesperson revealed that he was the voice of the voiceless and even got honoured for his work with the Thirst Project.

Last year, he was honoured for his work with the Thirst Project, bringing awareness to the global water crisis and raising more than US \$30 000 for the organisation to dig up two wells in Eswatini, in an effort to bring clean drinking water to the region.

In 2017, he received a Daytime Emmy Award with Disney XD for his participation in the series 'Timeless Heroes Be Inspired,' in honour of



DIE YOUNG: Cameron Boyce.

Black History Month.

He appeared alongside his grandmother Jo Ann Boyce, one of the 12 black teens known as the Clinton 12, who were the first to integrate into public school in Clinton, Tennessee, according to his Disney Channel biography.

Cameron was an actor and dancer, who had his breakthrough roles as a child actor in Grown Ups and Eagle Eye.

He also landed starring roles as Luke Ross in the popular Disney series Jessie and Conor in Gamer's Guide to Pretty Much Everything. He played Carlos de Vil in the Disney TV movies Descendants and Descendants 2.

ILLA WANTS TO EMPLOY 10 PEOPLE FOR FILL UP MOGAMBO

BY DELISA THWALA

MR Successful events, aka Illa Penboy, will be lessening the unemployment rate all in one night during the Gwalisa Mogambo show which he held at Esibayeni Lodge on August 2.

During an interview, Illa Penboy said he wanted to create job opportunities for the youth, and he was going to do this by hiring them on the day of his show.

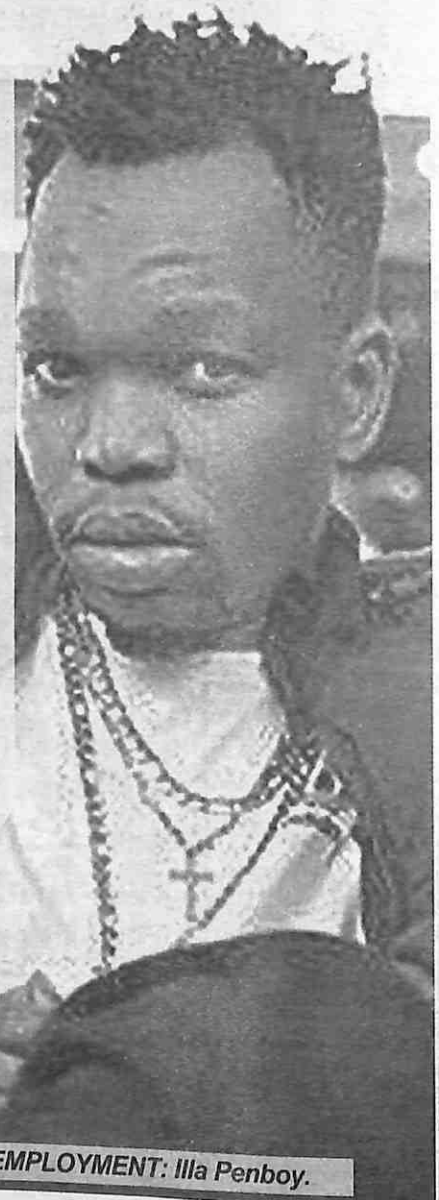
"I'm looking for 10 people who have a huge following on Facebook and Instagram, they will be marketing and promoting the show before the day and during the day," elaborated the rapper. He said the reason behind this was because he wanted to make sure he contributes to the economy and also help the youth

secure job opportunities, they were looking for someone who is active and can stand for long hours, follow directions and be on time.

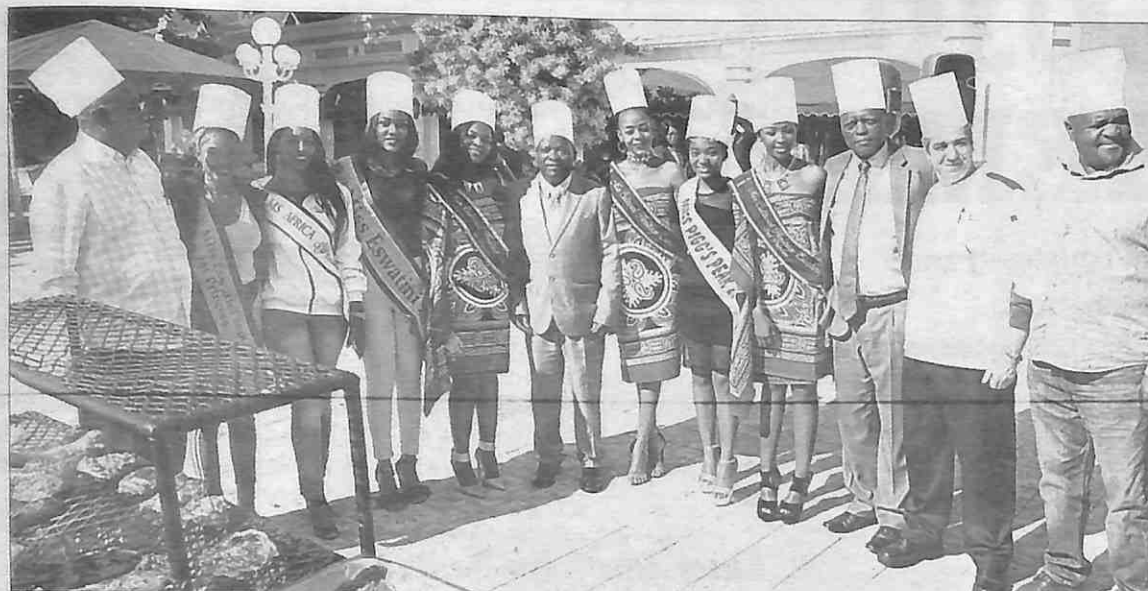
Other duties include general clean up for the work area and throwing away trash and making sure the place is not littered with bottles and any other dirty materials.

Remuneration

The rapper is looking for exactly 10 people for the day and all remuneration packages will be communicated with them in due course. The show will feature Kokota hit-makers and local acts will include Msizi, Popzin, Kangaroo Zulu D, Supa CDQ and many more. The MC for the day will be Mbali from South Africa, Lindz Mafa and Shabba from Ligwalagwala FM. Tickets to the show are available at OK Foods outlets.



UNEMPLOYMENT: Illa Penboy.



DONE: The queens posing with Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati and Minister of Tinkhundla David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala with other guests.



LET'S SERVE: Ladies delivering meat to braai.

ENCAC APPLAUDS BIGGEST BRAAI'S 5TH EDITION LINE-UP

BY DELISA THWALA

THE fifth edition of the Biggest Braai was launched yesterday.

Eswatini National Council of Arts and Culture CEO Stanley Dlamini applauded the Biggest Braai organisers for the all local line-up of artists.

This was during the official sponsorship launch for Philani Maswati's Biggest Braai held at Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre yesterday.

"As the arts office we are very happy when our artists are booked as it signal progress on their part," said Dlamini.

Dlamini also urged the Biggest Braai organisers to beef up their security during the event to avoid violence and misbehaving of revellers, making reference to the recent Epic Gig which degenerated into chaos.

Sympathise

"We truly sympathise with victims of the Epic Gig but we request that the security be tightened to avoid similar scenes at this event," said Dlamini.

Local artists lined up to perform at this year Biggest Braai include Popzin, Linda Dlamini, Phathwakahle, and DJs MBO, Khwany and Master P. Philani Maswati Charity Organi-



THANKFUL: National Council of Arts and Culture CEO Stanely Dlamini saying his part during the sponsorship Launch of Biggest Braai held Royal Swazi Spa yesterday.

sation Chairman Lutfo Dlamini shared with the media that they were done booking artists and anyone interested will have to wait for next year as the line-up is now finalised.

"To all aspiring artists the line-up is now full, and we unfortunately cannot accept requests. They can try for next year," said Dlamini.

MLINDO, ALSKA CONFIRM SHOW

South African singer Mlindo The Vocalist and Alska have confirmed

that they were definitely coming in the country.

In documents seen by this publication, Lutfo Dlamini, both singers have signed contracts and all payments due to them have been made.

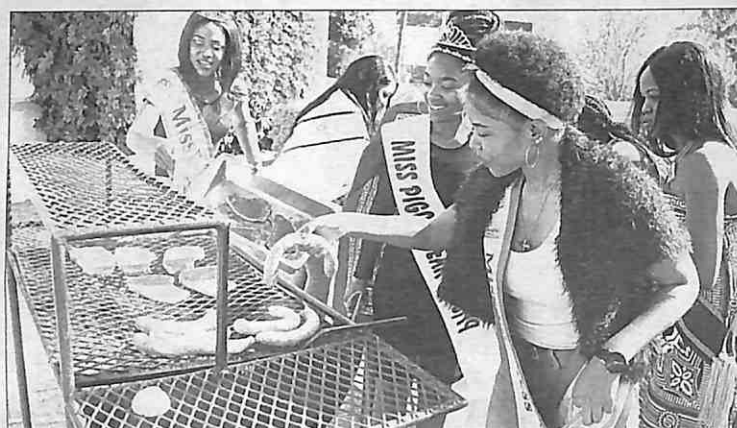
They are waiting for the actual day of the event. The artists have also been sponsored with accommodation at Royal Swazi Spa worth over E25 000.

BEAUTY QUEENS TO MAN VVIP TABLES

The country's beauty pageants Miss Eswatini and her princesses



ALL THINGS CULTURE: Miss Cultural Heritage Nokulunga Dvuba, First Princess Temakhosi Dlamini and Second Princess Takitsi Mdluli. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



BRAAI: Miss Eswatini Nosi-pho Dlamini braaing meat with the help of others for the ministers.

and Miss Cultural and her princesses will be manning the VVIP tables during the event.

This was announced during the launch. Beauty Pageant Eswatini President Catherine Potgieter, said they were happy with this development and hope the girls would do their best on the day.

"We are very happy with this development. It is a new adventure for our girls and we hope they will do their best and we thank the Biggest Braai team for such an

THE LINE-UP FOR BIGGEST BRAAI 2019

Linda Dlamini	Cleopatra
Popzin	Gedlembane
Alaska	DJ Mbo
Mlindo the Vocalist	DJ Khwany
Phathwakahle	DJ Master P
Mc Word	DJ Yanda
Mimzkulu	DJ Lolo
Dumako Brothers	DJ Extra Luv

opportunity," said Potgieter.

SPRING BASH DATES REVEALED!

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

THE date for the fourth edition of the Spring Bash hosted by SwaziBoy Entertainment have been confirmed.

The show is scheduled to be held at Esibayeni lodge Ronde Vu on September 28.

This is according to SwaziBoy Entertainment PRO Ur Gal Zee, Last year's Spring Bash saw nearly thousand

locals reuniting and appreciating good music rendered by the two stables with two dance floors.

Ur Gal Zee said they were still finalising a few logistics for the show and this include the line-up as well.

"Our fans will be kept posted about this year's bash," she said.

After a successful collaboration with MegaSound last year, they promised to make the Spring Bash an annual event.

For this year's show they are working on having more activities as the bash starts during the day.

The Spring Bash has become an annual show where families and friends gather to have fun. They are entertained by Eswatini artists and DJs.

All the three shows that have been hosted before were successful.

CONFIRMED THE DATES: SwaziBoy Entertainment PRO Ur Gal Zee.



FOCUS ON LUJU FASHION THEME

BY AYANDA DLAMINI

THE Standard Bank Luju Food and Lifestyle Festival is a hub of colourful, eclectic and richly-diverse patterns and styles.

The second edition of the festival will magnify the revolution of style

...meet your Standard Bank Luju Food and Lifestyle Festival Style Ambassadors

with this year's theme: 'A Return to the African Future'. This theme is an invitation to celebrate African heritage with a touch of vintage and creative flair.

With strong influences from the

popular 1950s and the unforgettable Sophiatown era, festival-goers can relive the past, revel in the present and marvel at the future and all its brilliant prospects.

Today, we feature some of the excit-

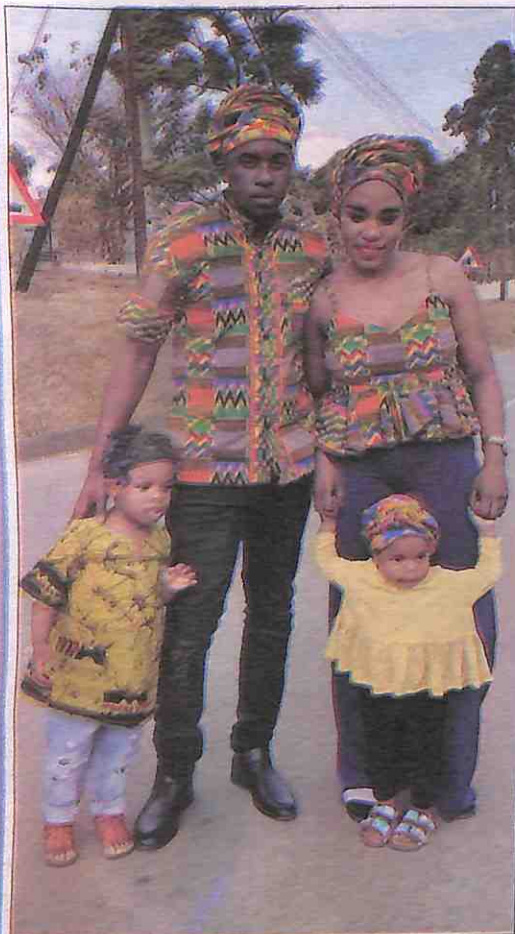
ing fashion made by the local designers who have joined the Standard Bank Food and Lifestyle Festival as Style Ambassadors: these are Tiwi Gondwe, Nelly Shambira, Emily Mbewe and Teresa Ngoma.

Their outfits will be available for sale at the festival or, if you think they have what you want for your Luju look, you can order outfits from them to wear at the festival.

August 3 is a day not to be missed for any food enthusiasts, culture buffs and travellers looking for a unique and sophisticated African-vintage styled event celebrating the local, the wholesome, the creative and the delicious.



Here's some fashion inspiration to get you geared up for Eswatini's biggest lifestyle event and have you turning heads and stopping traffic.



EMC Studio, by Emily Mbewe and Teresa Ngoma

FROM the golden sands of North Africa (Egypt, Morocco), they excite your senses with flowing textures of luxury scarves, wind sweeping dresses, metallic beads and rich brocades.

They also embrace the vibrant bold headwraps, kante fabrics and exquisite accessories found in the Equatorial region. Then they travel right down to the motherland, basking in

rooted culture and bright colours, from vivid *buhlalu* to gorgeous *shweshwe* prints.

"Let's celebrate and sing praises to the rich abundance in our African past and the bright future to come.

"In a nutshell, we will be bringing you the '80s denims, afros all the way to new aged skinny jeans and colourful bomber jackets. We are EMC Studio, a fashion house, a family."

A closet is an opportunity for anyone to stand out and really make a lasting impression.

Launched in 2018, The Closet is that perfect place to get preloved, brand-new, gently used vintage clothes and accessories. They also do a bit of designing and making clothes from scratch using Africa's finest Ankara fabrics.

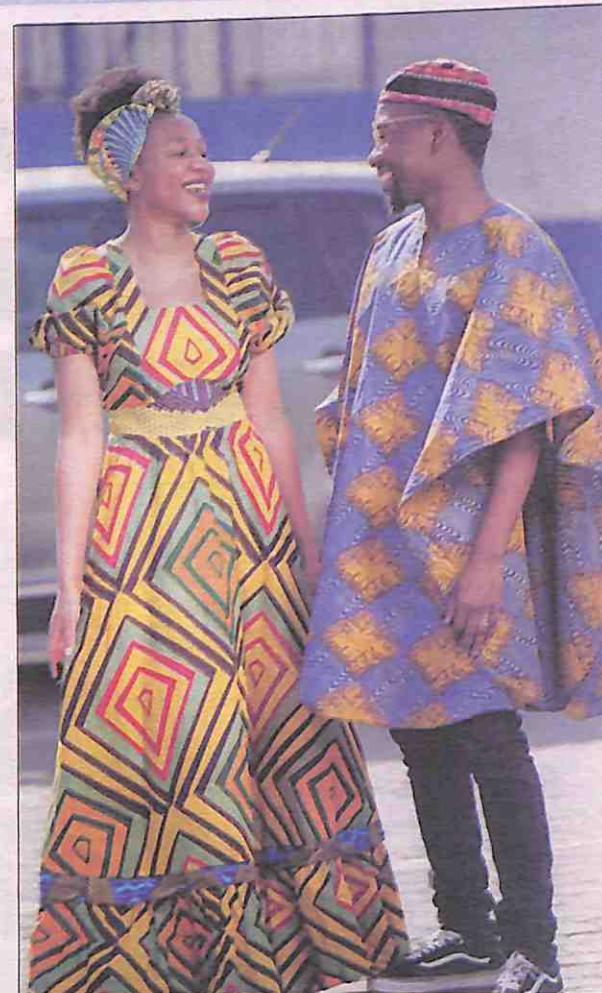
"We are a fashionista's best place to create a perfect personal wardrobe.

"What is vintage? A lot of people have misunderstood what vintage is, with a lot of them thinking that vintage is some kind of fancy name for used, second-hand clothes. I believe the difference is great.

"Vintage in general is something from the past of high quality and long-lasting value. It is usually something representing the best of its kind.

"In the past eras, it has always been quality over quantity. There was no mass production like we see today. So almost every vintage piece today is unique and a great choice if you want to stand out. Aside from an increased awareness of sustainability, vintage fashion fits neatly into the wider mood of the Instagram age, where authenticity and originality—not being seen in the same outfit as anyone else—

The Closet, by Nelly Shambira



are highly prized.

"Fashion tends to mine the past. So, come along with me; let's journey together. Let us fuse the past, the present and the future this Luju Festival. Let us embrace the original and showcase it in a modern

way. Let me take you to a place where vintage clothes are much more than just old used clothes. A place where vintage is art, a place where vintage is the stories of those who lived and have gone ahead of us!"

Tiwi's Closet, by Tiwi Gondwe

TIWI'S Closet is a curated sustainable fashion brand specialising in carefully hand-picked vintage, upcycled and thrifted apparel and accessories.

Tiwi's Closet is a brand for the woman who loves fashion.

"We provide unique solutions to your styling dilemmas. We want to be a part of your personal style journey, by adding versatile and unique pieces to your closet.

"Fashion is timeless. It constantly borrows and recycles from the past but each new repetition of the past adds a new element.

"This is how we interpreted the theme. We wanted to illustrate how each fashion era can be celebrated in a contemporary fashion, while leaving room to predict the future of the fashion cycle. In the weeks leading up to the Luju festival, we will continue to create looks that speak to this theme."



POETRY COMES OFF AGE!

BY PHETSILE MAMBA

THE fourth edition of the First Friday session held at Edibanweni was a success.

The country's finest poets, who took turns on stage, delivered spectacular performances on stage.

Poet Thabani mounted the stage and delivered five poems.

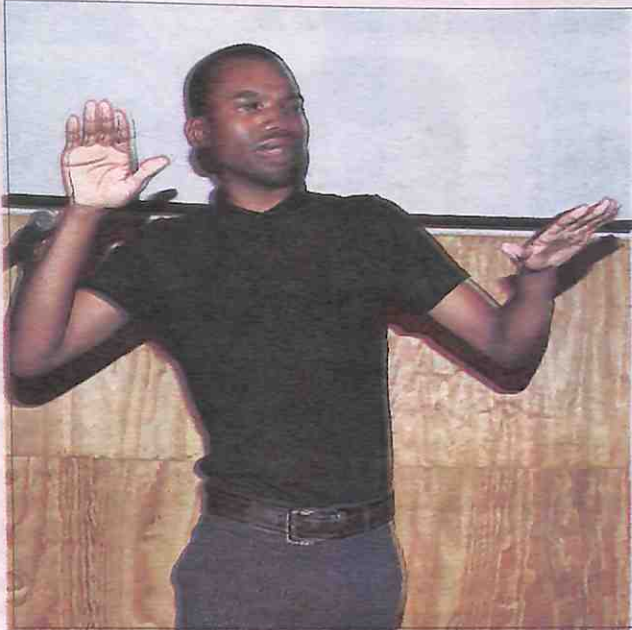
His poems were very touching, as they were centred on child abuse, including 'Stop abuse', 'In my nature to ruin a good thing', 'A message to my daughter' and 'Stop men abuse'.

He left the audience yearning for more.

He was followed by one of Eswatini's best poets, Skeel, who has been in the industry for so long. He did not disappoint as he rendered a poem about how the Lord he serves never leaves His people.

The host, KrTC was a marvel to watch as he also gave his fans something to munch on.

The event gave anyone present a platform to showcase



POET: Thabani the poet performing at the First Friday at Edibanweni in Mbabane. (Pics: Phetsile Mamba)

their talents, as there was an open MIC session.

Few upcoming poets and musicians went on stage and showed the audience what they got.

They were promised that as they are doing that, they may get a chance to be on the line-up at the show in one of the Fridays every month.

Speaking to Ndumiso Msibi, he said it was not his first time coming to the event and it has been good. He was impressed about the growth of poetry in the country.

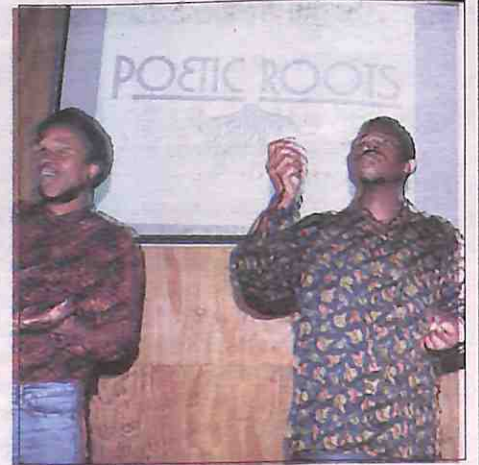
Kaymen the musician went on stage and kept the audience entertained with his guitar with songs he had written himself, such as 'Thula'.



PERFORMING: Skeel rendering his performance on the day.



SINGING: Kaymen entertaining the audience with his music.



POETIC ROOTS: Buhle Buyeza performers were a marvel to watch.



MC: KrTC directing proceedings at the event.

Holly Rey billed for Luju Fest

BY SETSABILE NKAMBULE

'DEEPER' hit-maker Holley Rey will be making her debut performance in the country at the Standard Bank Luju Food and Lifestyle on August 3.

This was confirmed by House on Fire Communications Officer Wandile Dlamini. "She is one of the biggest and most exciting acts that would take place on the day of the festival. This would be her first time being in Eswatini, so we are excited about that too," said Dlamini.

Dlamini stated that they would be adding more acts to the line-up in due course.

Holly Rey is an Afro-electro house artist and songwriter from Durban, South Africa.

She is well-known for being the first woman to take home the SAMA record of the year award in 20 years after Brenda Fassie, who won 'Song Of The Year' in 1999 for 'Vuli Ndlela'.

She independently released 'Deeper', which has been a remarkable success story for the Durban-based artist, across all levels of the music industry.

In February, 'Deeper' was certified platinum by Recording Industry of South Africa (RiSA), a significant achievement driven by 3.5-million streams and 25 000 downloads.

The video for 'Deeper' has had an incredible 5.7-million views on YouTube, with no signs of slowing down. Dlamini stated that the festival would take place over two days, commencing on August 2 till the next day. "Luju is a unique and sophisticated African-vintage styled event celebrating the local, the wholesome, the creative, and the delicious," he said.

LINED-UP: Holley Rey.



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Celebville

International Celebrity News

Stevie Wonder to have kidney transplant

NEW YORK - Stevie Wonder told thousands of fans watching him perform in London on Saturday night that he is due to have a kidney transplant in September. The singer, songwriter and musician told the crowd at an event in Hyde Park that he had a donor lined up, and was making the announcement to avoid rumours spreading about his health. "I'm going to have surgery, I am going to have a kidney transplant in September of this year," he said, as he finished his performance, according to footage posted on Twitter by those at the



KIDNEYS: Stevie Wonder.

concert. The sixty-nine year old, who has won more Grammy awards than any other artist and whose hits include 'Superstitious', 'I Just Called to Say I Love You' and 'Isn't She Lovely', did not reveal what was behind him needing the transplant. *Times Live*

Cameron Boyce, Disney Channel star, dead at 20

HOLLYWOOD - Cameron Boyce, a young Disney Channel star, has died at age 20 in Los Angeles, Disney CEO Robert Iger confirmed on Sunday. Boyce died in his sleep on Saturday from an ongoing medical condition, his family told celebrity news outlet TMZ. Boyce was known for his starring role in the Disney series and movie "Descendants," the comedy series "Jessie," and Disney XD series "Gamer's Guide to Pretty Much Everything." He also had parts in the feature films "Mirrors," "Eagle Eye," "Grown Ups" and "Grown Ups 2." The Walt Disney Company mourns



R.I.P; Cameron Boyce.

the loss of #CameronBoyce, who was a friend to so many of us, and filled with so much talent, heart and life, and far too young to die," Iger tweeted. *TMZ*

Justin Bieber bottle cap challenge nominates Tom Cruise

NEW YORK - Justin Bieber is stoking the battle flames again by nominating Tom Cruise after doing the bottle cap challenge and saying the cap could be Tom's dome, if he wants to join the party.



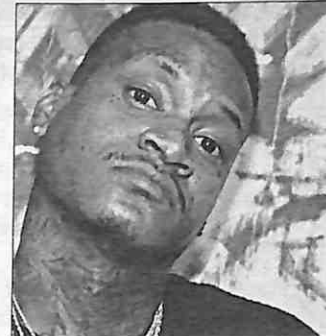
CHALLENGES: Justin Bieber and Tom Cruise.

JB threw up a video on Sunday, showing himself doing the now-famous viral challenge that tons of celebs have taken part in. He tells the cameraman, "This could be Tom Cruise's head," and then does a spinning kick to fully unscrew the cap and send it flying.

In his caption, Bieber wrote, "I nominate Tom Cruise and Hailey Bieber." Besides the fact that we're likely to see Hailey's version of the challenge,

it's obvious that the Biebs actually DOES want to fight ol' Tommy, despite telling paps that he was just messing around when he sent out that bizarre tweet. *TMZ*

NEW YORK - Slim 400 is finally out of intensive care after being shot up in Compton, but he's not out of the woods yet.



GETTING BETTER: Slim 400.

Sources connected to the rapper tell TMZ that Slim was recently taken out of the ICU at the hospital he's being treated at, and that he's now in stable condition. That said, we're told Slim still has a long road of recuperating ahead of him.

Sources say he's expected to remain in the hospital for a good long while, despite initial expectations that he'd be making a full recovery in the coming weeks.

Considering he's undergone four surgeries since being rushed to the

hospital -- after being shot nine times in multiples areas of his body -- it's no wonder he'll be bedside for the foreseeable future. *TMZ*

Slim 400 out of ICU

Siyabongwa Thwala tells our stories in theatre

PRETORIA - Leading thespian Siyabonga Thwala has gone back to the stage to revive his passion for telling stories.



TELLS IT ALL: Siyabonga Thwala.

Every year Thwala makes it a point to balance theatre with TV and is doing a new play *The Fisherman*, opening at the Market Theatre in Newtown, Johannesburg, on Friday. The play is adapted from Chigozie Obioma's novel of the same title by Gbolahan Obisesan. The story is told in a two-hander format with Thwala portraying the role of Obembe and Warren Masemola as Ben.

The story is about two brothers who are reunited with one another by the river where they used to fish. As they recall the traumatic events that split

them up and recreate these memories, the brothers become all the characters that populated their lives.

In *The Fishermen*, Obioma seeks to juxtapose biblical and tribal traditions of Igbo in Nigeria.

Sowetan Live

Prince Kaybee takes on flexing SA celebs

DURBAN - In what may have been an indirect jab at a certain rapper - who is synonymous with flexing his riches on these social media streets - Prince Kaybee took to Twitter to let his fellow artists know that it ain't all about the money.

The Wajelwa hitmaker explained that as far as he is concerned, people care more about the music catalogue and the artist's legacy than how much moola they have in their bank accounts.

Kaybee went on to encourage artists to rather focus on making great music.

"I don't think anyone cares about your money dear artist/ Dj/ musi-



JAB JAB: Prince Kaybee.

cian whatever you call yourself! Get in studio and over commit to making music because that's what we want you to leave behind, a catalogue," he said.

Sowetan Live

'Kim Jayde on being bullied at school'

CAPE TOWN - Kim Jayde is one of the most popular TV presenters and models today. She recently made it on to the Forbes 30 Under 30 list, which is a big deal. Everything she's achieved has left her reflecting on all the hardships she's endured, including being bullied.

The 28-year-old Zimbabwean-born presenter remembered how hard junior school was for her and how being bullied almost dimmed her light.

"Junior school was really hard, because I was bullied very badly. I was a shy, awkward little girl and I didn't have people skills. So I



OPENS UP: Kim Jayde.

would literally ask the teachers to give me extra homework so that I didn't have to go out and play at break time."

Times Live

The Republic' gets an overwhelming YES from Mzansi

PRETORIA - There's a new Sunday night drama in Mzansi that is packing fire, and after just the first episode it looks like fans are hooked! The drama series, produced by Tshedza Pictures, which gifted Mzansi with *The River*, has a star-studded cast and a gripping political storyline. In addition to the excitement of having people such as Masasa Mbangeni, Warren Masemola and the multi-lingual Florence Masebe, tweeps can't believe how much drama unfolded in just the first episode.

Producer Phathu Makwarela took to Twitter to thank the people who



YES: The Republic drama started on Sunday.

had come together to bring the drama to life. "A big thank you to the whole cast and crew on *The Republic* for doing this fun yet daring project. And to all the viewers who gave our first episode last night a yes."

Sowetan Live

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST



TODAY

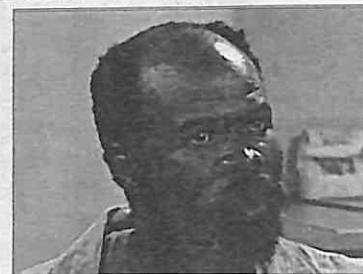


DRAINED: Ntwenhle.

Sibongile's attempts to manage Fezile backfire and create even greater tension. Qaphela and Saddam rush to save Jerry. The recent tragedy puts Qondi in a difficult spot and leaves Ntwenhle emotionally drained.



TODAY



GOOD NEWS: Sibiya.

Phindile takes things to the next level in her relationship with Sechaba. Lalage comes home to a pleasant surprise and Obanja decide to turn over a new leaf. Sibiya gets good news and he and Makgorometsa make amends with Gatanga.



TODAY

Vho-Makhadzi has a heart to heart with Vhutshilo. Mulalo brings his baby home, however he gets more than he bargained for. Warona gives Nare an ultimatum, its either he gets a job or loses her.



BACK: Mulalo.



TODAY

Puleng is disappointed in Suffo. Mzi tries to make things better with Pearl. Fats is worried there are no singers in his competition.



DISAPPOINTED: Puleng.

MEME OF THE DAY

Stop calling other people's girlfriends slay queen, tell your girlfriend to bath properly and dress well.

Follow Us @ No Chill In Mzansi



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19

You might find that your emotions are going through a powerful transformation, Capricorn. Use it to add a bit of spice and passion to your day. Set the tone by showing people that you have something to say and you aren't afraid to say it. Put a humorous spin on everything you do. This attitude will get you through any locked door.



Aquarius January 20 – February 18

Give special attention to others today, Aquarius. Remind people how much they mean to you. Adopt a childlike attitude of excitement and adventure. This is the name of the game on a day like this. Let the sunshine touch your spirit regardless of the weather. There is extra fuel for your fire. Get out and do the things you love to do.



Pisces February 19 – March 20

Proceed with passion, Pisces. Get out of gloomy mode. Don't sit home and mope. Get out in the sunshine, literally as well as figuratively. Don't stay cooped up inside when there is a big world out there to explore. This is a day to keep things light and energetic. Remember that happiness is a decision.



Aries March 21 – April 19

This is your day to shine, so turn it up a notch, Aries. Brush your hair before you go out, and make sure you're wearing flattering attire. You have the chance to propel your emotions into an upward spiral. If there's a part of your life that feels stagnant, give it a jolt of creative energy or simply remove it from your life.



Taurus April 20 – May 20

If an emotional issue is bringing you down, Taurus, find healthy ways to relieve the situation. Overeating won't solve the problem. This will only mask your difficulties and make them harder to deal with later. It's time to pull out of the rut and infuse the situation with freshness.



Gemini May 21 – June 21

Whatever you visualise today will likely materialise in the near future, Gemini. People are clamoring to make themselves heard, so jump in with your opinion. Keeping things balanced in your world means getting your needs met as well. Don't sacrifice your well-being just to maintain the peace. Make changes that benefit all parties involved.



Cancer June 22 – July 22

Inflated egos might block your progress today, Cancer, so be on the lookout for people trying to get a bigger slice of the pie than they deserve. Be realistic in terms of how you allocate resources to people around you. Someone may be trying to take advantage of your generous spirit. Use your detective skills to get to the root of the problem and make any necessary changes.



Leo July 23 – August 22

This day will be agreeable, Leo. There is a dynamic energy in the air that's fueling your fire. Have a good time regardless of what you do. An adventurous, high-spirited approach will get you where you need to go in every situation. You have the power to make important transformations that will help you in the future.



Virgo August 23 – September 22

Don't be quick to criticize today, Virgo. Keep things positive and think about how you can compliment someone. Your heart might need a bit more attention than usual, so surround yourself with people who bring your spirits up rather than drag them down. If you're always looking to the future, you may not realize all the wonderful things happening in the present.



Libra September 23 – October 23

Things might reach a climax in some way today, Libra. Set aside time to think about what you can do to love yourself. Maybe you've been thinking so much about group needs that you've failed to think about how to take care of yourself. Preaching your ideas and values to others means nothing unless you apply them to yourself.



Scorpio October 24 – November 21

Don't wait for someone else to take the lead today, Scorpio. Take charge. Do what you know is right even though someone else might disagree with you. You know what's best for you and the situation at hand. Be just as strong and bold as anyone else. You have every right to state your opinion. Act on the things you believe in.

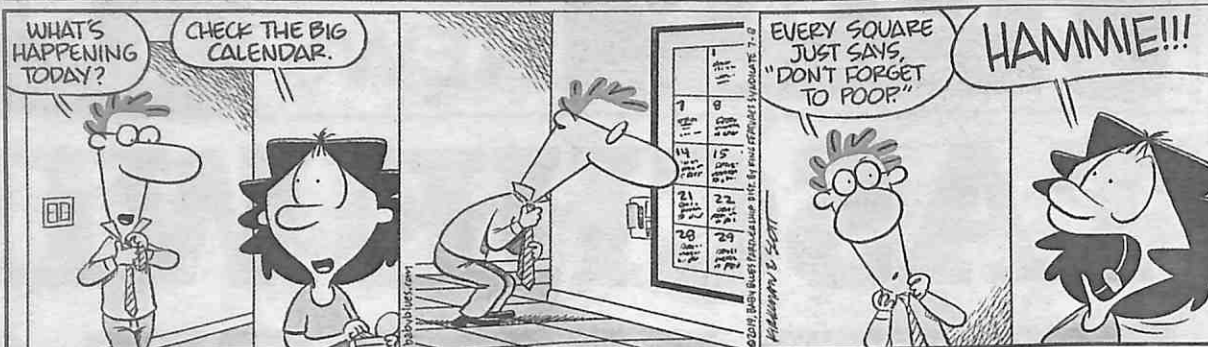


Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

Put on a noble demeanor before you leave the house this morning, Sagittarius. The key is to smile from ear to ear and just keep smiling. Open your heart and freely express your love, because it will brighten up other people's lives, too.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES

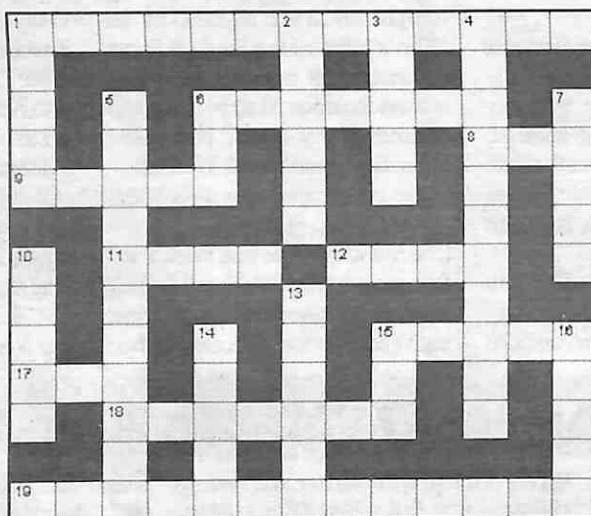


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



PUZZLE CHOICE

THEMED CROSSWORD



- Down**
1. ___ Muirhead was Mary Kane in the 1941 classic, Citizen Kane (5)
 2. First name of the motel owner in 15 Across (6)
 3. ___ Roberts is Tess Ocean in the 2004 movie, Ocean's Twelve (5)
 4. Pauline in the 2005 movie, The Dukes of Hazzard (5,6)
 5. Longfellow Deeds in the 2002 movie, Mr. Deeds (4,7)
 6. ___ West starred in the 1933 movie, I'm No Angel (3)
 7. Liv ___ is Maya in the 2004 movie, Jersey Girl (5)
 10. Halle ___ is Rowena Price in the 2007 movie, Perfect Stranger (5)
 13. ___ Goldberg is Jodi in the 2009 movie, Stream (6)
 14. Jerry ___ is George Fawkes in the 1995 movie, Funny Bones (5)
 15. ___ Abbott and Lou Costello (3)
 16. Alan Ladd starred in the title role of this 1953 western (5)
- Across**
1. She is Fox in the 2008 movie, Wanted (8,5)
 6. First name of actress playing Sugar Kane in the 1959 movie, Some Like It Hot (7)
 8. Doris ___ is Jan Morrow in the 1959 movie, Pillow Talk (3)
 9. Alan Ladd starred in this 1953 movie (5)
 11. ___ Bean is Ian Howe in the 2004 movie, National Treasure (4)
 12. ___ Hayworth is Ann Shankland in the 1958 movie, Separate Tables (4)
 15. Name of the motel featured in the 1960 movie, Psycho (5)
 17. ___ River, starring John Wayne as Thomas Dunson (3)
 18. Rat Pack member, Peter ___ (7)
 19. John Connor in the 2009 movie, Terminator Salvation (9,4)

LOL Laughing Out Loud

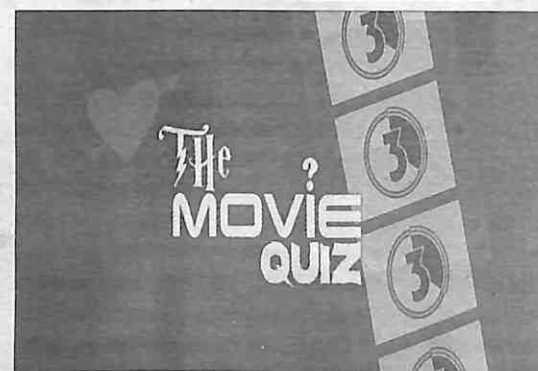
DATING A TWIN

I'm dating this wonderful girl and she has a twin. People often ask me how I can tell them apart—but it's easy, really. Jane likes to paint her fingernails and Tom has a willie.

DID YOU KNOW

1. There are more living organisms on the skin of a single human being than there are human beings on the surface of the earth.
2. The longest bout of hiccups lasted nearly 69 years.
3. Babies are born without kneecaps. They appear between the ages of 2 and 6.
4. Men can read smaller print than women. Women can hear better.

MOVIE QUIZ QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



Yesterday's Quiz

1. Which 1970s film about a giant ape was a remake of a 1933 movie?
- A. King Kong.

Today's Quiz

1. Which disaster movie was about a fire in the world's tallest building?
- Answers:
A. Towering Inferno
B. Superman.



DStv
Feel every moment

NEWS



TASCHE WINS THE VOICE SA

ROCK legend Francois van Coke takes his 19-year-old protégé to the top!

The beautiful and talented Tasché Burger from Brackenfell in Cape Town is the winner of The Voice South Africa Season 3.

Mere days after celebrating her 19th birthday, Tasché racked up the lion's share of the votes that were cast during the final week of The Voice SA this week to walk away not only with the title of 'The Voice South Africa 2019,' but also a prize package that includes:

- a Telkom tech bundle with a Huawei P30 Pro, a Tab M5 Lite, a router, and a Huawei Watch GT, Telkom data, and an Anti-Theft Back Pack

- Truworths clothing vouchers to the value of R100 000

- a Toyota RAV4

- and a recording contract with Universal Music South Africa.

Tasché has been singing since childhood and after matriculating last year she's been taking singing lessons and waitressing as she started to gig professionally. "Singing always just came naturally to me," she says. "It's a hobby, a passion ... a love ..."

Tasché performed the Afrikaans hit "Lisa Se Klavier" in her Blind Audition and Francois van Coke, LIRA, and Riky Rick turned their chairs for her almost immediately. Riana Nel, who Tasché idolises as a singer-songwriter, let the tension rack up until she, too, succumbed in the final stanza.

But Riky Rick cautioned the then-



18-year-old against siding with an artist whose career she wants to emulate. And as the studio audience chanted 'Francois! Francois!', Tasché took the momentous decision to become only the second member of #TeamVanCoke. "I feel like crying!" Francois admitted at the time.

Tasché was an audience favourite from the very beginning this season and Francois never took any chances with his young protégé, carefully protecting her in the Safe Zone during his team's Battle Rounds to guard against a #Steal bid from #TeamRiana.

And tonight it paid off when #TeamVanCoke won the competition with his last #TeamVanCoke

Talent still in the game, after a famously slow start at the beginning, when none of the artists that Francois turned his chair for wanted to join #TeamVanCoke.

Tasché was announced the winner at a glitzy event at the Mosaïek Teatro in Fairlands, Johannesburg, tonight which was attended by the Who's Who of the South African entertainment industry, including actress Rolanda Marais, actor and comedian Siv Ngesi, and Carte Blanche legend Derek Watts.

The show opened with a spectacular group performance of the Queen anthem "We Will Rock You" featuring the Talent alongside their four coaches, and the Top 5 Talent each got to perform a duet with their

musical idols – the PJ Twin(26) performed Luther Vandross's "Impossible Dream" with Timothy Moloi, Eon Claude le Roux (28) sang Elton John's "Don't Let The Sun Go Down on Me" with Caroline-Grace Brüssow, Siki Jo-Ann Qwazi (25) got to sing Chaka Khan's "I'm Every Woman" with Judith Septhuma, Tasché performed Francois van Coke's own hit "Toe Vind Ek Jou" with her coach, and Soné Joubert(26) got to live her dream when she sang 'Mannetjies Roux' with the one-and-only Laurika Rauch herself. There was also a special guest performance of a 'Bitter' and 'If I Ever Saw Heaven' medley by #TeamRiana co-coach Jo Black and special guest star Roan Ash.

CATCH UP ON DSTV NOW



THE PREDATOR M-NET

From the outer reaches of space to the small-town streets of suburbia, the hunt comes home. The universe's most lethal hunters are stronger, smarter and deadlier than ever before, having genetically upgraded themselves with DNA from other species. When a boy accidentally triggers their return to earth, only a ragtag crew of ex-soldiers and an evolutionary biologist can prevent the end of the human race.

CHICAGO PD M-NET

District 21 of the Chicago Police Department is composed of the uniformed cops, who deal with street crimes, and the Intelligence Unit, which deals with major crimes like drug trafficking and high-profile murders. Sgt Hank Voight - a tough boss who doesn't mind bending the rules a little in the pursuit of justice - heads the unit's elite team. The responsibilities of life on the force take a toll on the officers, as they struggle to balance their personal lives with the strain of the job. From Emmy-winning producer Dick Wolf.

CHARMED M-NET CITY

Mel and Maggie Vera suffer a shock when their mother dies suddenly, but before they have time to heal from their loss, another surprise shows up on their doorstep in the shape of an older sister - brilliant geneticist Macy - whom their mother never told them existed. The emotional stress takes its toll and the girls begin to exhibit impossible new abilities. An explanation comes from an unexpected place: the new chair of the women's studies department. Harry Greenwood reveals that the three are powerful witches, and he is their whitelighter, there to advise and guide them as they battle dark forces.

BLAZE AND THE MONSTER MACHINES NICK JR.

AJ is an 8-year-old techie who drives monster-truck Blaze, the top racer in Axle City. The two go on adventures that have them taking on problems involving science and math. Many predicaments they face are caused by Blaze's rival, Crusher, a tractor-trailer that will do anything to beat other vehicles to the finish line. The animated series is billed as the first TV show for preschoolers to comprehensively cover areas of science, technology, engineering and math. Each episode introduces different STEM concepts, including buoyancy and trajectory.

MASABATA TAKES A BOW – LOCKDOWN

WHO can live without her and which alliances will fall apart after taking her down?

The enemy of my enemy is my friend. These are the words that saw the demise of Masabata. An unlikely coalition between sworn enemies Deborah, Tyson, MaZet, Monde and an unknowing Maki Magwaza became the final nail in the cult leader's coffin. Deborah's mind control of Maki Magwaza through music worked agin in her favour as Tyson and MaZet convinced Monde to programme the assassin to kill her leader. Those who simply can't deal

Katlego

Katlego can barely cope without her leader. Her and Masabata go way back to days just before Katlego was incarcerated and she was on a killing spree under Masabata's directives. A short stint as Masabata's assassin landed her in prison but right next to her leaders side. What will she do now without

Masabata? Will she draw nearer to her sister, Monde?

Maki Magwaza

She came in as the most feared woman with any sharp object in her hand. However, by the time Deborah was done with her, she became a scared little puppy as soon as a certain tune came on. Maki Magwaza can barely cope with what she did to the woman she believes saved her life, how can she continue to live without her?

Tyson and MaZet

Tyson and MaZet had a common enemy to take down – Maki Magwaza who was ruling the roost as the head of the Thabazimbi drug empire.

However, their coalition came just seconds after a heated war between them for the drug business. A war that saw Tyson calling a hit on MaZet only child, Nkuli. Tyson's efforts to recall the hit were a miss and it seems MaZet may have truly lost her daughter and grandchild.



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Piglets (Large-White)
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mm Dx 17/07/19

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(Sigwaca).
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mm Dx 22/07/19

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EXPERT SERVICES
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Richard specialist in:
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R/N 168426 Dx 19/07/19

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R/N 167891 Dx 20/07/19

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Dx 11/07/19 Doc: 19559

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Contact Muzi Nhleko 76221144
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VACANCY
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VACANCY
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 DOC:19558 Ds 24/07/19

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2. CAPE TOWN 11th TO 17th AUGUST
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4. VICTORIA FALLS ON THE 16th TO THE 22nd OF DECEMBER
5. CAPE TOWN 16th TO 22nd DECEMBER INCLUDES;

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 Ds 01/08/19 Doc:19559

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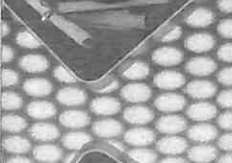
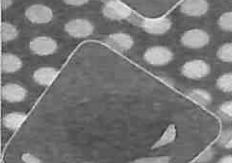
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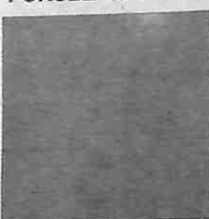
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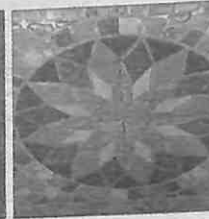
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Ds 03/08/19 Doc:18540

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Fax: 2505 9673MATAPHA
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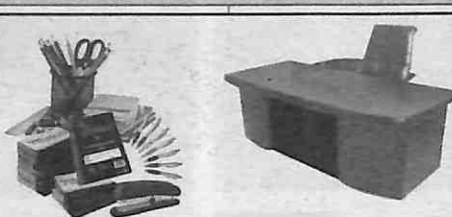
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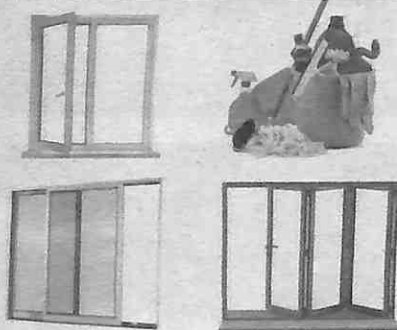
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Toyota Noah 4 wheel drive, clean interior one owner family car.



E75,000.00 NEG

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E 5.27 Million

Sqm: 650 sqm
Plot number 23

Located near the Mozambican Embassy, other embassies i.e. US Embassy, Shopping Centers like The Gables, Corner Plaza, recreational facilities and the country's leading hotels and guest houses! Hurry so many people have shown major interest in this great deal!

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5 bedsitters/ Bulgar proofed Flats
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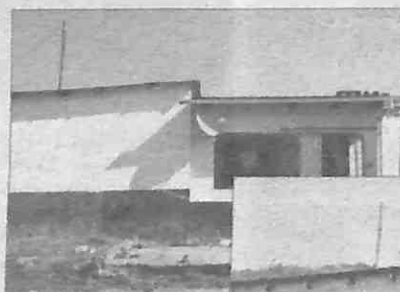
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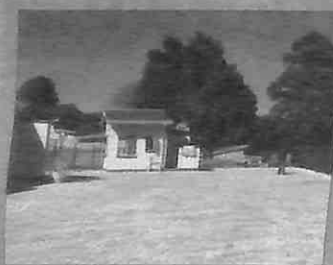
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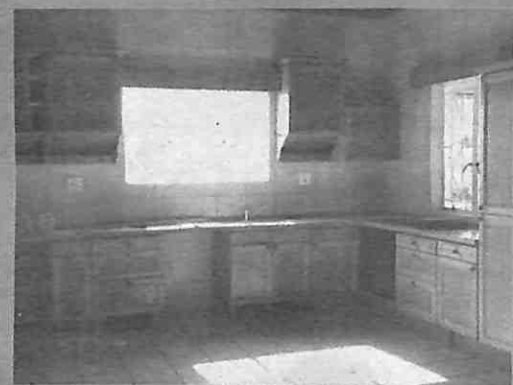
- The proximity of your workplace- it is best to choose a home that is nearer to your place of work.
- Charm of the neighbourhood
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- Access to shopping centres- An ideal area should have shops nearby for your convenience
- Schools- if your looking for a family home and have children who have started to attend school, it is best to look for an area with schools nearby. Nothing is more frustrating than having to travel over 60kilometres just to drop off your child at kindergarten
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The site - this goes beyond location; it is the actual situation of the home. Is it on a hill? How is the scenery? Is it easily accessible to water? Are the soils fertile?

Neighbourhood- this is a facet most people ignore yet it is very significant. Look at your neighbours and how they carry themselves in the neighbourhood. Do the neighbours keep their yards clean and tidy? Is there any old trash lying around carelessly? Is it safe enough for people to walk in it?

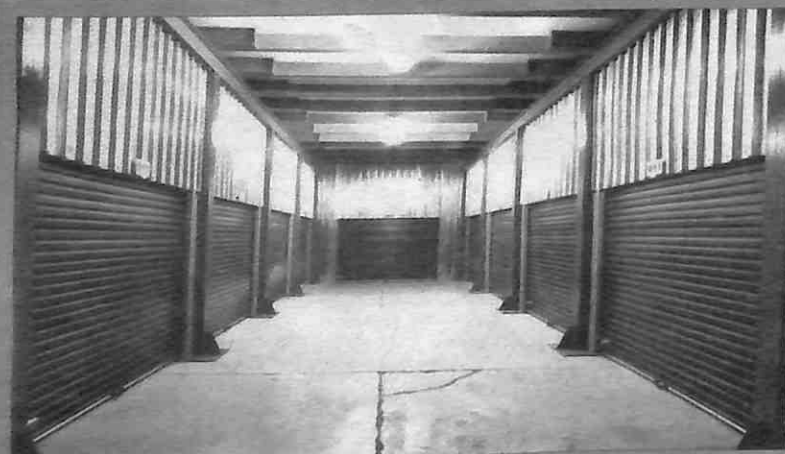


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AFCON 2019 UPDATES

Lorch dedicates goal to late brother



CAIRO -Bafana Bafana hero Theminkosi Lorch has dedicated his winning goal against hosts Egypt at Cairo International Stadium to his late brother who passed away in Free State last week.

Speaking in the Media Mixed Zone after South Africa stunned the Pharaohs of Egypt to book a berth in the quarter-finals against Nigeria, Lorch said the goal was for his late brother and close friend.

"This win means a lot, especially for the country and I am also happy for my family back home.

"This was for my late brother, who passed away in the Free State last week.

I dedicate this goal to him," he told the media.

Lorch said that when he scored, he thought maybe it was not a goal because of the silence that greeted the goal.

"Normally when you score, people celebrate but it dawned on me that I had hurt

the feelings of more than 80 000 people. We had to make our fans back home proud

FOR YOU BRO: Bafana Bafana attacker Theminkosi Lorch.

and I am over the moon," he said.

The midfielder-cum-striker said despite the criticism the team got in the past week, they had to soldier on with the coach 'telling us to be positive and encourage each other.' He said there was little time to relish the Egypt victory as they have to turn their attention to the Nigeria game tomorrow.

"The Nigeria game is going to be a tough game, Nigerians are big and strong but we will plan for them the way we planned against Egypt.

"Now we believe and our confidence is sky high, anything is now possible but we must keep on pushing," he added.

Lorch said Saturday's win was well deserved. "Although we scored from a breakaway counter attack, we more than deserved this win as we never sat back.

"We pressed from the word go, in fact, it was Egypt that played

long balls and we could have scored more. Both Lars and Percy Tau got chances in the dying minutes and Egypt were lucky to survive," he said.

Kick-off for tomorrow's AFCON quarter-final against Nigeria is at 21:00.

AFP

Jose Mourinho sings the praises of Bafana Bafana

LONDON -Legendary former Chelsea and Manchester United coach Jose Mourinho has praised Bafana Bafana for their performance in beating Egypt at the Africa Cup of Nations.

Bafana produced one of their best performances in years as they defeated the north Africans 1-0, courtesy of a late Theminkosi Lorch goal.

The result sees coach Stuart

Baxter's men advance to the quarter-finals, where they are set to face Nigeria at the Cairo International Stadium tomorrow.

Nonetheless, Mourinho was scathing in his assessment of the Pharaoh's display and claimed that inspirational Liverpool winger Mo Salah showed signs of fatigue.

He told King Fut: "I watched the games in which Salah played

last season. He is very tired, and that is normal after you play 60 games.

"When you are in possession, you cannot keep on passing the ball backwards.

"These are not (Javier) Aguirre's instructions. This only shows the players' mentality.

"South Africa were patient, disciplined and well-organised. On the other hand, Egypt were really disappointing." **Sport24**

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AFCON 2019 UPDATES

Madagascar book historic Afcon quarterfinal berth

CAIRO - Madagascar continued their incredible run at the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations with a 4-2 penalty shootout win (2-2 after extra-time) over Democratic Republic of Congo at Alexandria Stadium in Alexandria on Sunday evening.

Barea will now face either Ghana or Tunisia for a place in the final four.

Ibrahim Amada and Faneva Imà Andriatsima were on target for Madagascar in regulation time while goals from Cedric Bakambu and Chancel Mbemba levelled matters on two occasions for the Leopards.

Following a goalless 30 minute period in extra-time, the game would be decided from the spot and after four faultless penalties from Barea, Yannick Bolasie blasted his attempt over the



woodwork as Madagascar claimed another historic scalp. Madagascar opened the scoring as early as the ninth minute through an Amada stunner. The Barea midfielder let fly a left-footed rocket

from range which clipped the underside of the crossbar before nestling in the back of the net, as the islanders kicked on from where they left off against Nigeria. **Backpage TXT**

Chiipezeze considering legal action over match-fixing claims

HARARE - Zimbabwe goalkeeper Elvis Chiipezeze says he is considering legal action against a report that he was involved in match-fixing during the Africa Cup of Nations.

Chiipezeze was accused by a publication of being paid to concede goals during the Warriors' 4-0 loss to DR Congo.

The Herald claimed that the 29-year-old Baroka FC shot-stopper was approached by TP Mazembe owner Moise Katumbi to give away some easy goals.

The player went on to have a poor game which seemed to make the situation worse.

He told Kick-Off: "Yes I saw the report.

"No... you know sometimes the media is always talking because

that story came out in, is it Mozambique if I'm not mistaken [sighing]?"

So it's painful you know to be accused of such things because it could ruin someone's career. So it's painful, it's painful."

"I don't do such things, because I know those things will ruin someone's career you know. I don't even tolerate such stuff. So I don't know who published that story, what their agenda was you know," he insisted.

"But you know things like these, you know when you lie to the world, trying to tarnish my image, I'm not even happy, even now I'm talking to my lawyer, I think he is going to fix it so that I clear my name because it's not healthy."

Kick-Off



HERO: Riyad Mahrez in action against Guinea.

Mahrez scores as Algeria outclass Guinea

CAIRO - Algeria booked their place in the quarterfinals of the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations with a commanding 3-0 win over Guinea at 30 June Stadium in Cairo on Sunday evening, to underline their status as tournament favourites.

Following high profile North African casualties over the last few days, the Desert Foxes were eager to buck the trend and that is exactly what they did in the Egyptian capital.

Youcef Belaili, Riyad Mahrez and Adam Ounas all found the back of the net to set up a showdown against Ivory Coast in Suez on Thursday, for a place in the final four. Baghdad Bounedjah squandered a gilt-edged chance for the Algerians with 20 minutes on the clock. Adlène Guedioura picked out the marksman who controlled superbly before firing wide with the goal at his mercy.

Luckily for the forward, Belaili made no such mistake four minutes later to hand Algeria a deserved lead. **Backpage TXT**

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CELEBRATIONS: Brazil won the Copa America for the first time since 2007 despite Manchester City star Jesus seeing red in an ill-tempered final against Peru.

BRAZIL WIN COPA

... since 2007 despite City star Jesus seeing red in ill-tempered final against Peru

MARACANA - In front of 70 000 revellers at the Maracana, Brazil prolonged their record of having won the Copa America each time they have hosted the tournament by beating Peru 3-1 on Sunday evening.

Despite it being the Mecca of Brazilian football, this was only the host's third game at the iconic stadium since a 2013 friendly against England and the Confederations Cup final win over Spain in the same year, which tricked Brazil into being fooled about its standing in the international power ranks after overcoming the reigning world and European champions at the time.

Still, this Copa America had been viewed as a chance to exorcise some of those demons from their home World Cup and Tite, rumoured to be leaving his post whether Brazil were victorious or not, oversaw his proud nation's march all the way to the final this time around.

Expecting

Expecting to face one of the other favourites in holders Chile, Colombia, Argentina or Uruguay, it was their Group A foes Peru, who they had trounced 5-0 in Sao Paulo a fortnight ago, that stood in their way of claiming a first piece of major silverware in 12 years.

Beating the Chileans 3-0 in the semi-

final, the underdogs lead by Ricardo Gareca were much improved and had not conceded a goal since the sides' previous meeting.

Starting well again on Sunday evening too, they allowed Brazil to do little in the opening 10 minutes with quality pressing, composure and defensive stubbornness.

Made a fool of by man of the match and goalscorer Everton at the Arena Corinthians, right back Luis Advincula was a pacy, physically imposing presence as were the rest of his team-mates, marking Brazil's skilful wide-men and forwards in numbers. *Daily Mail*

Joao Felix plays down Griezmann pressure at Atletico

MADRID - Portuguese striker Joao Felix said yesterday he felt no pressure to replace Atletico Madrid star Antoine Griezmann as he was officially unveiled at the Spanish club following his big money move from Benfica.

"I will simply play and do my job as best I can, to help the club I am with," Felix told reporters.

The 19-year-old, who joined Atletico last week in a deal worth €126 million, is a potential replacement for the France striker who scored 133 goals in five seasons at the club.

Griezmann has already said he will leave Atletico - he is expected to join Barcelona when his release clause, which dropped to €120 million last week, is activated.

Felix's transfer fee is a record for a Portuguese club and for Atletico Madrid and makes the teenager one of the five most expensive players in history. "Regarding the amounts,

as I have said, it is a question of the market and I don't understand anything about that," he said.

Felix also downplayed comparisons with his teammate on the Portuguese national team, Cristiano Ronaldo who spent a decade at Real Madrid before joining Juventus in 2018.

"He is currently the best in the world, and possibly of all time. When he was with the national team he told me about Madrid and he said he liked it a lot, but I'm here to make my own story," he said.

"Cristiano is Cristiano and I want to be myself."

Felix will go into next season wearing the number seven jersey which up until now has been worn by Griezmann.

Atletico President Enrique Cerezo said Felix had "pure talent" and predicted that he will "make history at Atletico Madrid". *Goal*



WELL DONE: France's President Emmanuel Macron, centre right, and FIFA chief Gianni Infantino congratulate US players for their victory in the Women's World Cup final.

Man United gambled by sacking Mourinho, backing Pogba

MANCHESTER - It's fair to say Paul Pogba didn't look too thrilled when he arrived at Manchester Airport on Sunday afternoon.

The only member of the Manchester United party not to be wearing a club blazer, Pogba glared and scowled as he dodged the photographers and holidaymaker crowds to reach the terminal.

Of course it might have been the prospect of a gruelling 17-hour flight to Perth, for the first leg of United's pre-season tour that will take them to Australia, Singapore and China.

More likely, his mind was questioning quite why he was reporting for duty with a club he is actively seeking to leave this summer. Pogba has kept himself away from the club's official photographers, with images circulated by United's social media accounts rarely showing him in the foreground.

It's not exactly a secret that his agent, Mino Raiola, has been instructed to find Pogba a fresh challenge.



COSTLY BLUNDER: Man United gambled by sacking Jose Mourinho and backing Paul Pogba but it's now backfired as the Frenchman tries to leave Old Trafford and join Real Madrid or Juventus.

He has said as much, after the player himself said pretty much the same words while on a summer promotional tour of Asia.

Happy

Really, Pogba was quite happy passing his summer in New York, where he posted an Instagram video of himself running through Central Park last week, and waiting for the call from Real

Madrid or Juventus.

Instead, he is off to the other side of the world, going through testing pre-season fitness work and playing friendlies for a team he hopes soon to be leaving, three years after re-joining.

There were doubts he would even report back to United's Carrington training base on Sunday morning ahead of the flight to Australia. *Reuters*

FIFA boss, Macron booed at World Cup final ceremony

LYON - The crowd at the women's World Cup final booed FIFA chief Gianni Infantino and French President Emmanuel Macron as United States fans demanded equal pay for the players after their team claimed a fourth global title by beating the Netherlands 2-0 on Sunday.

Macron and Infantino, the head of soccer's world governing body, were turned on by the supporters as they approached the ceremony podium - a sharp contrast with the hero-like reception given to player of the match Megan Rapinoe by the 57 900 crowd.

The US captain, the leading voice for equal pay in a sport where the men are far better paid than the women, scored the opening goal with a VAR-awarded penalty in the 61st minute at the sold-out Groupama Stadium.

Rose Lavelle rounded off the victory eight minutes later as the Americans added to their 1991, 1999 and 2015

world titles.

Earlier this year, members of the US squad were named as plaintiffs in a lawsuit against the national soccer federation alleging gender discrimination.

It was filed in a federal court last month and says the women are not paid the same as their male counterparts.

On Saturday, Rapinoe launched a scathing attack on FIFA, saying the organisation did not respect the women's game.

Rapinoe said FIFA's decision to allow the men's Copa America final and Gold Cup showpiece to take place on the same day as the women's final was "unbelievable".

Rapinoe shook Infantino and Macron's hands as she received her medal. "It's unbelievable to know all the people who put in so much in this group," she said.

Reuters

Serena into Wimbledon quarter-finals

LONDON - Seven-time Wimbledon champion Serena Williams coasted into the quarter-finals yesterday, beating Spaniard Carla Suarez Navarro 6-2, 6-2.

The path for the 37-year-old American of equalling Margaret Court's all-time

record of 24 Grand Slam titles appears significantly easier.

Her quarter-final opponent today will be Alison Riske who knocked out world number one Ashleigh Barty earlier yesterday.

Citizen

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs are said to have stopped their pursuit of Black Leopards striker Mwape Musonda.

According to the Sunday World, Chiefs lost interest in Musonda because of Leopards' asking price.

"Yes, Chiefs were in the race but now it seems like they have lost inter-

Musonda's price scares Chiefs off

est in Musonda.

The player also wanted to go there but now the deal is off," a source told SundayWorld.

Dismissed

Leopards boss, David Thidiela has

dismissed reports that he spoke to Chiefs about the striker's services.

Musonda finished as the ABSA Premiership top goalscorer with 16 goals in the 2018/19 season.

Citizen

Weekend Sports Results

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HRFA WEEKEND FIXTURES

Hub Hardware Sigangeni Juniors League -U17 E28 000

M. Unlimited	3	Total Xi	3
Burning Spear	1	Mhlane	1
M. Celtics	3	M. Chiefs	0
Luphohlo	0	Tiki Taka	1
L. Nationals	0	Real Touch	3

Hub Hardware Maphaleni Juniors League -U17

Jubukweni Stream			
Rollers	3	L. Pirates	0
Academy	0	Jubukweni	3
Top Classic	1	Hill Stars	0
Mighty Birds	2	H. Fighters	2
Manchester	0	Love & Peace	1
Sunrise	0	Lunkanka	3

Maphaleni Stream

Thuluzobona	3	Rangers	2
Billy Ocean	2	Khulungwane	2
Young Lovers	2	Junior Stars	2
Young Stars	3	Xi Experience	2

Hub Hardware Mzimba Juniors League-U17

UTD Bombers	3	Top Centre	0
M. Rhinos	0	Real Monaco	3
Barcelona	1	Amacabane	0
Bush Bucks	0	Sundowns	0

Milky Max Pigg's Peak Juniors League E30 000

City Stars	5	Malanda	1
Academy	2	Young Stars	11
Mangwaneni	1	Peak City	7

Milky Max Mbabane Juniors League

Supersport	3	Mphalati	0
Mantholo	3	Mangwaneni	0



Umbelebele	3	Stone Breakers	0
Swallows	0	Free Style	1
M. Fighters	1	Habbana	0

Mandla Mahewu Mbabane Juniors League E15 000

M. Fighters	3	Bloemfontein	0
Habbana	1	M. Classic	1
Supersport	3	Mangwaneni	0
The Waiters	3	Stone Breakers	0

Barcelona	2	Malanti	4
Malanti	5	Amawele	1
Furniture Warehouse Mbabane Juniors E17 000			
Multi Classic	5	Movers	1(U17)
Free style	2	Sidwashini	4
Aces United	3	M. Fighters	2
Classic	2	Interstars	3
Supersport	3	Sdwasini	0(U17)
Mvakwile	3	Hurricane	4(U17)

Ezulwini Aces	1	Red Stars	2
White City	0	Ebuka Stars	3(U17)
Double Action	1	The Waiters	13(U17)
Wizards	0	Imbumba	3
Hurricane	2	MantholoUtd	0
Umbelebele	2	Mphalati	1
Mantholo	3	Multi Classic	0
Dark City	1	Lusoti	1(U17)
Veni Cosmos	1	Sivutsa	1

Sihlobo Sami Grocery Soccer Off-Season Tournament results

Peace Maker	3	Talosi	2
Lubhuku	2	Old Timer	0
Sangotfo	2	Gabigabi	2
Malinda UTD	0	Home Boys	0

Nedbank Volleyball League results

Males			
RSSC	3	0	Mshinande
Correctional	3	0	Ludzeludze
Ladies			
Correctional	3	0	RSSC
Correctional	3	0	Siteki Ladies

SBS Elite Netball League results

Correctional	70	25	UEDF
REPS	63	31	Raiders
Manzini	52	27	Fashions
OlympAfrica	74	38	Vixens
Males			
REPS	73	23	Vixens

MTN Basketball League results

Enjabulweni Griffins	44	48	Lady Jazz
Usutu Beavers	38	44	Shooting Stars
Usutu Wolves	33	92	Krinks
Super Ladies	56	34	Lynx Basketball
Jazz	68	72	Langalam Dunkyaine

FOREIGN SPORT

COACH TITE TELLS MESSI TO SHOW SOME RESPECT

RIO - Brazil coach Tite told Lionel Messi to show some respect following claims from the Argentina captain that the Copa America had been "fixed" so the hosts would win.

Brazil clinched the Copa by defeating Peru 3-1 at the Maracana on Sunday but Tite felt that his side had been hard done by in some refereeing decisions and said Messi's words had weighed on the officials. "He has to show some respect, he must understand and accept when he's defeated," said Tite, whose side beat Argentina 2-0 in a controversial semi-final. "We've been affected in many matches, even in the World Cup, so be very careful."

"He put a lot of pressure on because of how great a player he is. "Everyone has their own problems and you have to be respectful."

Messi had hit out at South American football's governing body CONMEBOL, accusing them of "corruption" after he was sent off in Saturday's third place play-off in which Argentina beat Chile 2-1. He'd also claimed after Argentina's semi-final defeat that the tournament hosts were "managing a lot in CONMEBOL these days."

Argentina had been angered that VAR wasn't used on two occasions to check the validity of their claims for a penalty that hadn't been seen by the referee.

Messi was then harshly sent off against Chile following a tangle with Gary Medel in which he seemed to do nothing wrong.

The Barcelona star claimed afterwards he had paid for his previous criticisms.

"My words had repercussions, but you must always be sincere," he said.

Tite agreed with that, claiming that Peru's penalty in the final — converted by their captain Paolo Guerrero — should never have been given.

"Today it wasn't a penalty. You have to be careful and show respect, as we respect others," said Tite. Peru coach Ricardo Gareca, who is Argentine, agreed with his Brazil counterpart.

Agree

"Messi is a voice of authority but that doesn't mean I agree with what he said," Gareca added.

Brazil midfielder Casemiro refused to be drawn on the Messi controversy, though. "They can say what they want, we only talk about Brazil," said the Real Madrid player. As Brazil celebrated and posed for photos with their trophy, they were joined by the country's far right President Jair Bolsonaro, a deeply divisive figure who has been accused of making racist, sexist and homophobic comments.

Citizen



RESPECT US: Brazil coach Tite.

SA in race to stage 2023 women's World Cup

CAPE TOWN - As the curtain was drawn on a highly successful 2019 women's World Cup in France, attention immediately turned to the next instalment in 2023.

The 2023 women's World Cup will be the ninth edition. The tournament is once again expected to involve 24 national teams, including that of the host nation, assuming the current format is maintained.

However, FIFA president Gianni Infantino has proposed an expansion from 24 to 32 teams as well as doubling the tournament's prize money.

At the 2019 women's World Cup, a total of \$30

million was on offer, with the champions, the United States, picking up \$4 million.

As it currently stands, there are nine bids from 10 countries to host the 2023 women's World Cup - including one from South Africa.

South Africa successfully hosted the 2010 men's Soccer World Cup.

The other bidders are: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea/North Korea (joint bid).

The date set aside for the host confirmation is March 20, 2020.

Sport24

El Shaarawy leaves Roma for China's Shanghai Shenhua

CHINA - Italy forward Stephan El Shaarawy has agreed to join China's Shanghai Shenhua, the club announced yesterday, 10 days after it was reported he wanted to stay at Roma.

Terms were not disclosed but Italian media reported El Shaarawy will earn a lucrative 15-16 million euros a year (\$17-18 million), while Roma will pocket a transfer fee that could reach 20 million euros (\$22.5 million) according to Transfermarkt.com.

Reported

Sky Sport Italia had reported in late June that the 26-year-old had rejected a move to the Chinese Super League strugglers, with newspaper Gazzetta dello Sport claiming Shenhua had balked at his demands to have input into choosing the club's coach and playing staff.

El Shaarawy -- nicknamed The Pharaoh because of his Egyptian ancestry -- had only a year left on his contract with the Serie A club, having joined Roma in 2016 from AC Milan after a loan spell in Monaco.

Capped 23 times for Italy, he had report-

edly sought a new deal worth four million euros a year with Roma.

He scored 11 goals in Serie A last season as Roma finished sixth and qualified for the Europa League.

Transfere

Shenhua are aiming to bolster their squad during the summer transfer window after slipping to 14th in the 16-team Chinese Super League, one point above the relegation places, at the season's midway point.

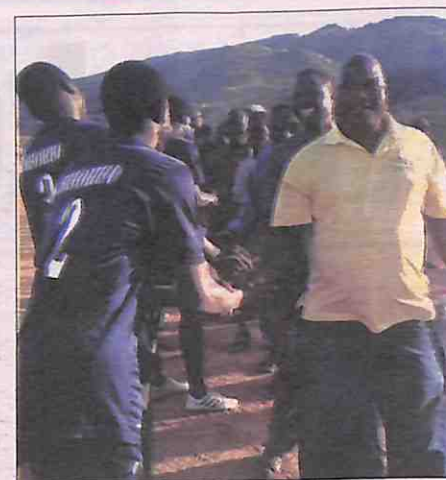
The club said last week that Spanish Manager Enrique 'Quique' Sanchez Flores had resigned for "personal reasons" after just half a season in charge.

The former Watford boss Sanchez Flores has been replaced by South Korean Choi Kang-hee, who coached K-League giants Jeonbuk Motors for five years until 2018 when he moved to China's Tianjin Quanjian before moving to Dalian Yifang.

Choi will reunite with his former Jeonbuk frontman Kim Shin-wook after Shenhua also said yesterday that they had signed the South Korean international striker. **AFP**



CULTURE AND SPORT: Cultural activities were the order of the day during the Hub Hardware Maphalaleni U-17 League grand opening at Maphalaleni Sports Ground on Saturday. (Pics: Jongile Xuba)



BACHAWULE MABULALA: Maphalaleni MP Mabulala Maseko also attended the event.

Hub Hardware Maphalaleni U-17 League opening



HRFA SOCIAL TEAM: The HRFA Social Team poses for a group photo before their match which they lost 3-2.



HUB UNITED: Staff and management from Hub Hardware posing for a group photo.



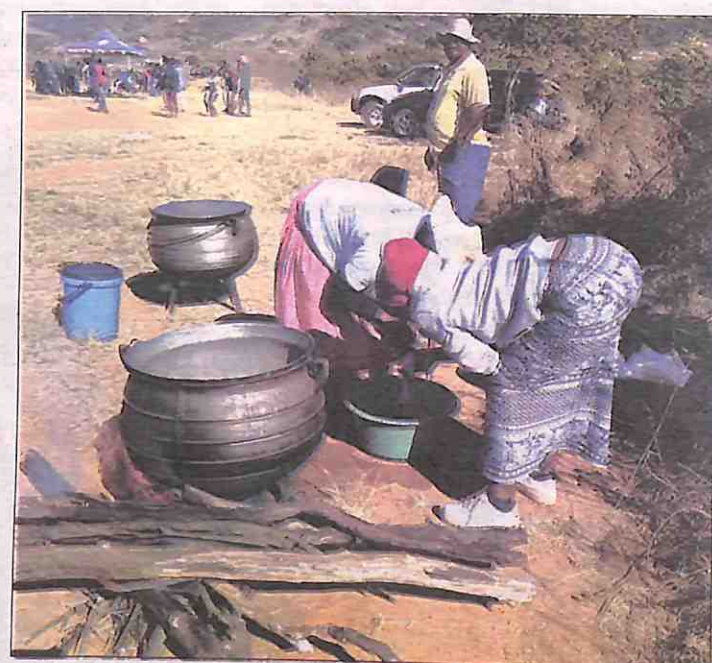
FANS: Spectators who had come to support the event.



FLANKED BY EMASWATI: Hub Hardware Marketing officer Dunn Darren with MP Mabulala (3rd I) and Mxolisi Dlamini watch proceedings.



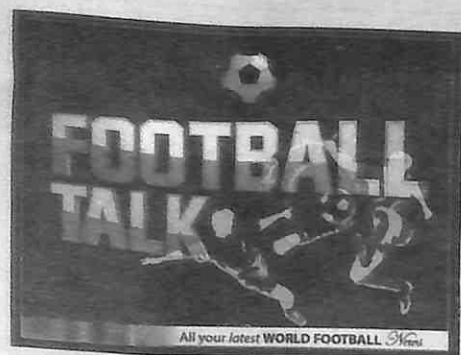
LASUKA LAHLALA: Part of the soccer matches on the day.



STOMACH ISSUES: THE MP making sure the food is well-prepared for the day.



LEFT - INGADLA: The young bags from Luvinjelweni also did their best on ingadla.



● Newcastle owner Mike Ashley has approached Rangers manager and former Liverpool midfielder Steven Gerrard about becoming the Magpies' next boss. **(Mirror)**



● Juventus are preparing a £120m bid for Manchester United's 26-year-old France midfielder Paul Pogba. **(Times - subscription required)**

● Spain goalkeeper David de Gea, 28, is set to sign a new contract with Manchester United which would earn him £350 000 a week. **(Mirror)**

● Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp would like to manage Germany one day, according to his agent. **(Welt - in German)**

● Barcelona have beaten Paris St-Germain to sign 16-year-old English striker Louie Barry after his contract at West Brom expired. **(Sun)**

● Tottenham are in advanced talks with Wales defender Ben Davies, 26, over a new long-term deal. **(Telegraph)**



● Brentford forward Neal Maupay, 22, could become Sheffield United's record signing, with the Premier League newcomers willing to pay £22m for the Frenchman. **(Sun)**

● Celtic and Scotland full-back Kieran Tierney is being targeted by Arsenal and Napoli, with the Italian side ready to sell Portuguese left-back Mario Rui to raise the funds needed to sign the 22-year-old. **(Telegraph)**

● Burnley are close to completing a deal for Stoke City's 30-year-old Dutch full-back Erik Pieters. **(Mail)**

● Crystal Palace are interested in signing Chelsea defender Reece James, 19, to replace fellow Englishman Aaron Wan-Bissaka who joined Manchester United in June. **(Sun)**

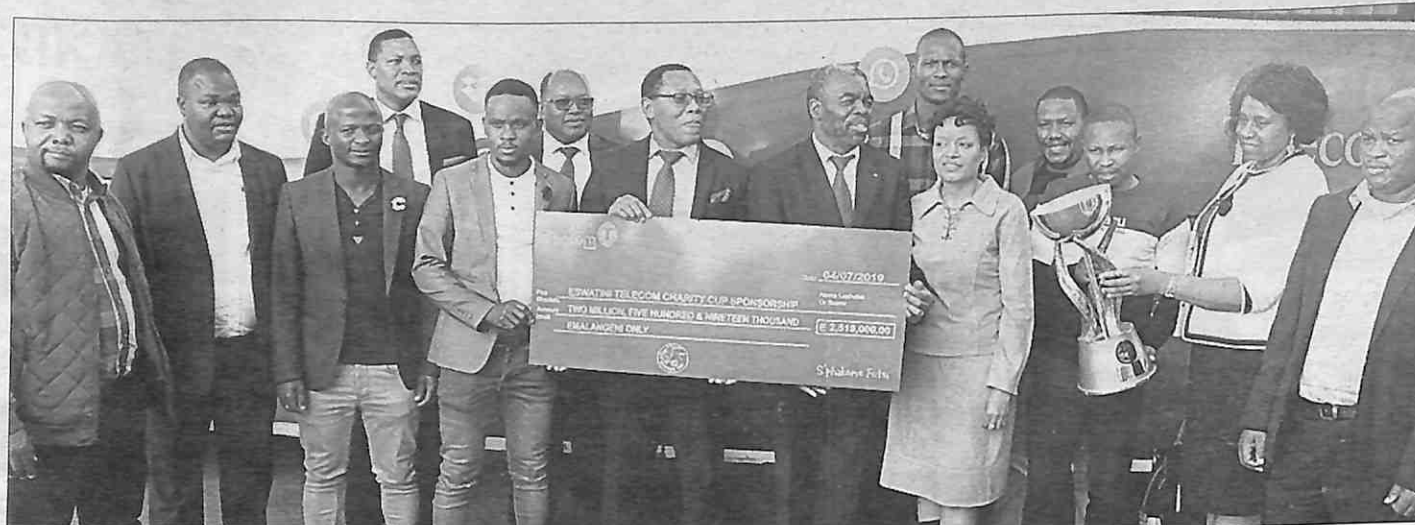
● England forward Jadon Sancho, 19, should turn down a move to Manchester United and stay at Borussia Dortmund, says former Old Trafford striker Wayne Rooney. **(Bild - in German)**



● Nottingham Forest will complete the signing of Manchester City's Kosovan goalkeeper Aro Muric, 20, in the next few days. **(Telegraph)**

THE SICKER PUNCH POW!

...with Mphikeleli Msibi [STRIKING, STRAIGHT AND STRENGTHENED]



'YAMINAWWE SIPHAKEME FUTSI'

THE cup of hope is here again!

The Eswatini Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (EPTC) Charity Cup is upon us, where elite league teams will take part in a four-team, one-day tournament in the name of charity. But again, don't be fooled by the word charity, when the teams take to the field they are not charitable at all. It becomes an all-out battle for top honours to mark the start of the new season and start it on a high note.

This soccer spectacular will see the country's big three teams in Mbabane Swallows, Mbabane Highlanders and Manzini Wanderers wait for the winner in the play-offs battling it out for the coveted silverware.

The tournament will start with the play-offs that will feature Green Mamba, Royal Leopard, Young Buffaloes and Manzini Sea Birds. The winner will then join the big three for the main tournament to be held on August 11.

Preparation

Some of the teams have already started their pre-season, while others are yet to report back to training in preparation for the new season. These teams will use the tournament for various reasons, including showing off their new signings, as well as to gauge how far they are with their preparations for the upcoming season.

The good thing is that all the big three teams in the country will definitely play in this year's tournament. The winner stands to pocket E1.1 million, while the draw is yet to be conducted.

Since this is a cup of hope, EPTC will distribute about E700 000 to this year's Charity Cup beneficiaries.

The company should be applauded for their generous donation and for being the key partner in helping bring social change.

Close to E900 000 was collected from last year's edition of the Eswatini Telecom Charity Cup and E700 000 will be distributed this year collectively to the beneficiaries, while the remainder will be allocated to others during times of appropriate emergencies.

This year's beneficiaries include His Majesty's Correctional Services - Mawelawela Recreational Center, Lihle LemaSwati Foundation, Rocking Horse, Gogo Nde Orphanage, Hospice at Home, Selulasandla Children's Village, Manzini Hope House and EPTC Employee Wellness Division.

To date, the Eswatini Telecom Charity Cup project has distributed in excess of E14 million through the Trust Fund since inception in 2001.

This goes so much to show that CHARITY is definitely the winner in this tournament.

Soccer fans should brace themselves for exhilarating football, as teams are currently beefing up their squads.

It is every soccer fan's wish to witness the one-day spectacular, which usually sets the tone for the new season. This tournament will certainly give fans a glimpse of what to look forward to in the new campaign. We hope to see sheer brilliance and artistry in the field of play, that will keep the thousands of fans at the edge of their seats. It's not just about football and rivalries inside the field of play, but let us all come together and help the needy.

Let us all move in one direction and change the lives of the less-privileged citizens in the country through the beautiful game of football. I have a feeling this is going to be a great tournament, all in the name of charity and exciting football. The main tournament will be played on August 11 and more information and details will be revealed in due course. The time has come for the EPTC Charity Cup, which is always a tournament of surprises, judging from what we have witnessed in the past. After all has been said and done, one can only hope that Charity will definitely be the winner in as far as the tournament is all about. #Yami Nawe Siphakeme Futsi.

Clubs return for pre-season training!

A number of Premier League team players have reported back for pre-season training in preparation for the upcoming season.

Many stars of the MTN Premier League and National First Division teams were enjoying a well-deserved break after a gruelling campaign, which is now nearing an end.

We all know most young players dream of being Premier League footballers, but the reality is that players at the top of the game get very little time to enjoy themselves away from the pitch, more especially when their team also get to participate in the CAF competitions.

Those who were with the national team during the COSAFA Cup had only had a couple of weeks of rest before they are called in for pre-season training before the friendly games begin.

The new campaign, which will see new boys Pigg's Peak Black Swallows included in the fixtures, will start in August.

A definite highlight just before the season commences is the EPTC Charity Cup, which always act as the season's opener. For all these years, the Charity Cup has never disappointed as it always lives up to expectations.

Preparations

Most of the teams will be getting their pre-season preparations underway this week. Pigg's Peak Black Swallows got back to training two weeks ago and you can easily tell that they mean business.

They will be campaigning in the elite league for the first time since the team was formed. The league

could prove to be another difficult season of trying to put together the fixtures, due to the participation of two top-flight teams in the CAF competitions.

Green Mamba and Young Buffaloes will take part in the CAF Champions League and the CAF Confederations Cups, respectively.

This then means that some fixtures will have to be shifted to allow these teams to prepare for the Africa games.

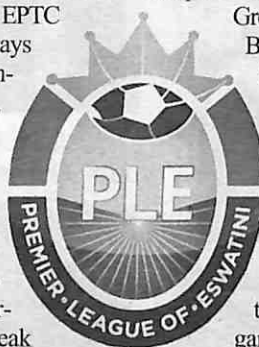
All the top flight clubs have returned to training. It is conventional wisdom in the game that the optimal time needed to prepare for the new season is six weeks, with emphasis on fitness initially and the

building up a rhythm of game time.

The pre-season usually starts with runs (laps around the pitch), leaving players exhausted at the end of the day. But after a week of the taxing regime, they are swiftly in peak condition to face the rigours of the new campaign. Football fans are now waiting for the games to begin. The Premier League of Eswatini had confirmed that the new 2019-2020 season would start with a full round of league fixtures.

This time around, we were told that the fixtures will be done through a certain programme for transparency sake, which was a positive thing going to the new season but it did not happen.

This was supposed to be done during the PLE retreat, but we still do not have the fixtures unlike the professional leagues. It's clear to me that someone wants to manipulate the fixture, hence the idea of not doing it through the promised programme.



'Ace', Tambuti boss vying for LRFA Chairmanship

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

SOCCER - THE race for the Lubombo Regional Football Association (LRFA) chairmanship will be tense as Nichodemus 'Ace' Mashwama and Tambuti FC boss Rudolf Matsenjwa have reportedly been nominated for the position.

The chairmanship position was left vacant by former top flight referee Mangaliso Sihlongonyane, who passed away in June 2018 at Mbabane Government Hospital.

LRFA Vice Chairman Sifiso 'Haiso' Shabalala has been keeping the fires burning since the demise of Sihlongonyane. Mashwama was once the chairman of the region some years back before he was replaced by the late Sihlongonyane.

Information gathered from reliable

sources is that the list of nominees was revealed during one of the association's meetings last week Friday.

The source mentioned that there were four candidates vying for the chairmanship position.

"The other two candidates are Richard Shongwe and Lucky Dlamini."

The candidates were nominated by the LRFA affiliates, namely Northern East, North West, Eastern, Western, Southern, Central and Super League. However, the nominees are still to be vetted to determine if they qualify.

Agenda

The LRFA will go to the polls on August 4 during the Annual General Meeting at Siphoso Primary School.

Part of the day's agenda will be confirmation of minutes of the past AGM, report of executive committee presented by the general secretary covering the period since the last AGM

and presentation of financial statement.

The association will further vote on proposal for amendments to the statutes, the regulation governing the application of the statutes and the standing orders of the General Assembly, to mention but a few.

LRFA Chairman, Sifiso 'Haiso' Shabalala said

they were still going through the list of the candidates, who had been nominated for the chairmanship position.

"A list of nominees will be released in due course to the media," he said.



A CANDIDATE: Nichodemus 'Ace' Mashwama.

Sihlangu, Sitsebe report for camp

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

SOCCER - THE nation's pride Sihlangu Semnikati and Sitsebe Semhlekezi players have reported for camp ahead of their respective international games.

Sihlangu is preparing for CHAN qualifiers against Angola next month.

Both teams have set their camps at Lobamba Technical Centre.

This was confirmed by Eswatini Football Association Marketing and Communications Officer Muzi Radebe.

Sitsebe Semhlekezi with the Under-20 will be travelling to South Africa for the COSAFA Women Championships slated for July 29-August 11.

Tough

The locals have been drawn in Group C together with Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola, which has been deemed a tough group.

Only the top two teams in each pool will advance to the semi-finals alongside the best third finisher.

South Africa, who have dominated the senior regional competition in the past with five wins in six finals, have been drawn alongside Malawi and Madagascar.

Group B consists of Zambia, Namibia, Botswana and Mauritius. In Group C there is Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola and Eswatini.

In the COSAFA Women Under-20 Championships, the locals have been drawn against Botswana, Zambia and Tanzania in Group B. Group A consists of South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

The full draw:

Women Senior Championships:	Group C
Group A	Zimbabwe
South Africa	Mozambique
Malawi	Angola
Madagascar	Eswatini
Comoros	COSAFA Women Under-20 Championships
Group B	Group A
Zambia	South Africa
Namibia	Namibia
Mauritius	Zimbabwe
Botswana	Malawi

ESWATINI RUGBY UNION TO RECRUIT ADMINISTRATORS

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

RUGBY - IN effort to develop the sport, Eswatini Rugby Union will embark on recruiting more administrators.

This transpired during the Eswatini Rugby Union (ERU) evaluation meeting held on Saturday at Manzini Caritas Centre. ERU Secretary Bonginkhosi Dlamini said they noticed the challenges they faced and discussed various ways that could improve the sport. He said they also deliberated on promoting discipline among the players

and clubs.

"The Union came up with a strategy to recruit more referees, medical officers and administrators. We invite interested individuals to join the clubs in order to benefit in certain areas of the game," he said.

Dlamini mentioned that the executive also reported its successful activity where they attended Shukuma Eswatini programme under the Eswatini Sport and Recreation Council.

Dlamini added that interested players could contact the president at 7822 9300.

He also noted that there was great

improvement in participation of girls and women in the sport which was highly appreciated.

He said the Union would soon engage in the development of coaches for different schools around the country to groom and create pathways to the senior sides.

"This will be done to promote rugby as a sport throughout the country in fulfilment of our objectives as a union, sports council and world rugby," he said.

Only ESSA branch, national committee members allowed to vote

BY JONGILE XUBA

SPORTS - ONLY the national and branch committee members of the Eswatini Schools Sports Association (ESSA) will be allowed to vote during the annual general meeting (AGM) and elections tomorrow.

This was revealed by ESSA Public Relations Officer (PRO) Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini, who urged all the members to make their way to the AGM to be held at Salesian Hall tomorrow morning.

He reminded members that not everyone was eligible to vote during the elections.

"I would like to remind all branch and committee members of the ESSA that their presence is mandatory for the AGM which will start at 10am.

Only these members will be eli-

ESSA executive nominees:

President	Organising Secretary
Celucolo Dlamini	Henry Mavuso
Vice President	Recording Secretary
Anthony Mdluli	Vivian Mduduzi
Selby Gule	Dlamini
Welcome Mndzebele	Nonhlanhla Mhlana
Bonginkhosi Mhlana	Treasurer
Secretary General	Lucky Dlamini
Felicity Dlamini	Zakhele Myeni
Mcebo Matsebula	

gible to vote as per our new constitution, so we ask they be there," he said.

The PRO said before the elections, a presidential address followed by various reports would be presented as part of the agenda. Elections will be conducted by Athletics Eswatini's Secretary General Secretary Thoba Mazibuko as the electoral officer.

Correctional continue Nedbank VB League dominance

BY JONGILE XUBA

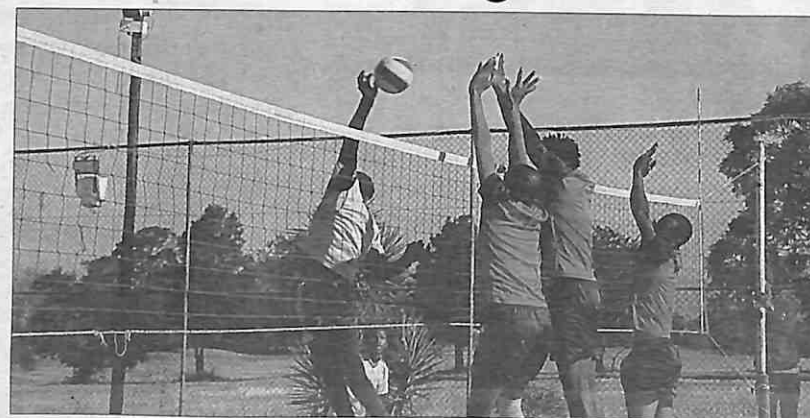
VOLLEYBALL - CORRECTIONAL Sunrise men's and ladies teams continued with their title defence in the Nedbank Volleyball League.

This was during games played at Hambanathi Courts in Mhlume where Correctional (male) beat Ludzeludze 3-0. The other men's league fixture saw hosts RSSC taking on Mshinande and they used home ground advantage to win 3-0.

The ladies league saw Correctional up against the hosts and the defending champions RSSC where they won 3-0. Siteki Ladies took on Correctional Ladies and the newcomers were beaten 3-0.

Umbuto Eswatini Defence Force (UEDF) teams requested to be excused this past weekend with their rescheduled fixture to be announced in due course.

Eswatini National Volleyball Association



(ENVA) Vice Secretary Eric Zwane applauded the competitiveness during the games.

He said the first round of the league was about to end and they were happy with the progress.

"So far so good as far as teams' performances and the league is concerned. We are approaching the end of first round with two weekends to go. We have watched some good matches so far."

Nedbank Volleyball League results:

Males		
RSSC	3-0	Mshinande
Correctional	3-0	Ludzeludze
Ladies		
Correctional	3-0	RSSC
Correctional	3-0	Siteki Ladies

He added that after the first round ends, the transfer window would open as well as registration of players. "Teams must use this time to bolster their current squads."

RESULTS

Africa Cup of Nations - Group D
Mali 0-1 Ivory Coast
Ghana 1-1 Tunisia
Tunisia win 5-4 on penalties

FIXTURES

PLAYING TODAY

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - QUALIFICATION

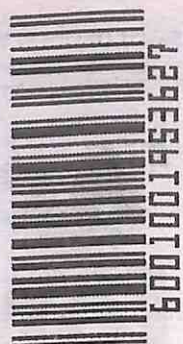
FC Astana	vs	CFR Cluj	3pm
Armenia	vs	AJK	4pm
HJK	vs	HB Torshavn	6pm
FK Sarajevo	vs	Celtic	9:45pm
Suduva	vs	FK Crvena Zvezda	8pm
TNS	vs	Eronikell	8pm

IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE ARE YOUR CHURCH

SPORTS

BSERVER

Tuesday July 9, 2019



Runners warned against running without licence

BY JONGILE XUBA

ATHLETICS - IN what will be a shock to most road runners, Athletics Eswatini (AE) President Zakhele Dlamini says those found without a running licence could be taken to task by the law.

The president made these remarks during the launch of TZD's sixth branch in Pigg's Peak this past Saturday.

He reminded runners that as the regulator of athletics in the country, AE saw it fit to adopt a road running policy which required runners to have licences.

Article 8.2 of the AE constitution states that affiliation and licence fees will be determined by the executive Board from time to time. Therefore, the executive took the decision to have licences in order to match up with the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) standards.

According to the president, anyone using the country's roads is required to have a permit by the ministry responsible and as an association, they are able to attain the said permission in the form of licences.

Engage

"Any runner needs a permit from the ministry of works to use the road as it belongs to the ministry.

"Having a running licence then comes in handy because the association applies to the ministry of works on your behalf to get you that permit," he said.

He added that the association did not hand out annual licences to individual runners or an athlete, which means those looking to get one, must join a club to engage in any sporting activity on the road.

"In order to get an annual licence which costs E50, runners will have to join a club as we only give individuals temporary licences which are E30 and only last for just one event. So, it is cheaper to join a club whether you are running for health, competitively or socially," he said.

Identify

Dlamini said this was a requirement, urging runners to make sure they have licences.

The licence is not only to identify runners and make them to be able to use the roads, but it will also enable those providing first aid or assistance after an accident, like police and paramedics, to easily get the particulars of the licence holder.

"Running licences are not a new concept to competitive runners as they have to produce them during each competition they join."

Now with that said, it remains to be seen if any arrest cases of social road runners without licences will surface in the near future, as the growing trend of road running continues to grow.

'SIKHALI', 'D4D' JOIN MBOMBELA UNITED

- They both sign two-year contracts
- They will play their last matches during the Charity Cup
- Physical trainer Siyabonga Bhembé also joins the NFD side

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - CAPITAL city giants Mbabane Swallows' influential pair of Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa and Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu have reportedly completed their move to South Africa National First Division side Mbombela United.

The Sihlangu pair is said to have signed two-year contracts with the Mpumalanga-based outfit over the weekend. A source close to the matter revealed that the two seasoned performers were now Mbombela United players after finalising the deal with the 'Beautiful Birds'.

"The two players signed on the dotted line last Friday after Mbombela agreed over the deal with Swallows. They are now training with their new team and have already been allocated accommodation by their new team," the source said.

The two players have re-united with former Swallows assistant coach Siyabonga Bhembé, who is now the

physical trainer for Mbombela United.

The Sihlangu pair will bid their farewell to Swallows fans next month during the 2019 EPTC Charity Cup tournament where they will play their last game for the red and white glamour side at Somhlolo National Stadium.

Swallows Chairperson Princess Lungile confirmed the move of the two players when contacted last night.

Relocating

"It is true the two players have joined Mbombela United. They will play their last matches for us next month during the Charity Cup before relocating to South Africa.

"We would like to thank Mbombela United Director Oupa Matseba for showing respect and professionalism during negotiations.

"Mbombela followed the proper channel and we are happy with the way they conducted the deal," she said.

The chairperson further asked the Swallows family to accept the two players' moves.

She said the players asked to join the SA side and she could not deny them

the opportunity.

"We couldn't block the players from making this move after they both served the team diligently over the years. I have given them full blessings to go and explore their talents outside the country. I am appealing to our supporters to open their hearts and also wish them well."

The two players have added to the list of Eswatini players at Mbombela United to five after their ex-teammates Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst, Sandile Ginindza and Maritzburg United loanee Justice Figuareido. This means that Mbombela United's foreign quota is only made up of Eswatini players.

COMPLETED THEIR MOVE: 'Sikhali' and 'D4D'.



BULL IN FOREIGN QUOTA DILEMMA

BY MELUSI MLOTSI

SOCCER - CAPITAL city giants Mbabane Highlanders face a potential dilemma of their foreign quota as six foreigners are on the verge of joining the club.

According to the rules, any top flight teams must register up to five foreign players and four are allowed to play at the same time.

The international players, who were unveiled during the team's party at Mbabane Central, are three South Africans namely, Joseph Letla, Lesley Peterson and Computer from Chippa United. A striker by the name of Alao from Benin and Ghanaian forward Emmanuel Effah were also unveiled.

The five above mentioned players join defender Jimmoh Moses, who had been in the team in the 2018/19 season. All the foreigner players were sweating out during



EZIMNYAMA NGENKHANI: Mbabane Highlanders players listening to --speeches during the introduction of their team's new boss Ally Kgomongwe at Mbabane Central High School Hall on Saturday.

the team's morning session at Ezulwini Sports ground on Sunday under the watchful eye of Technical Director Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini and interim coach Andries Mpondo.

This means that the club has reached their maximum of five foreign players for the upcoming 2019/20 season and will have to release some in order to add anymore, in accordance with rules of the National

First Division and Premier League (PSL) handbook.

Free scoring striker Thabiso Mokokane and midfield dynamo Vusumuzi Zungu have already left the club to try their luck in ABSA Premiership side Black Leopards and Mbombela United, respectively.

The team's secretary, Gcina Dlamini, said he could not comment for now until the technical bench finalised

the list of players who would be registered for the upcoming season.

"We will release a statement to the media in due course about the list of players the team will register for the 2019/20 season," he said.

On another note, Mbabane Highlanders General Manager Josiah 'Digger' Dlamini has reportedly undergone an operation.

Dlamini, who was conspicuously missing from the team's party at Mbabane Central High School on Saturday, is said to be receiving treatment in one of the local hospitals.

When contacted yesterday, Gcina confirmed that the GM was receiving treatment after undergoing an operation. "I wanted to be part of the party on Saturday but couldn't due to an operation I underwent. As I am speaking to you right now, I am still in hospital recuperating. I am hopeful the doctors will discharge me today," he said.