

O SUNDAY bserver

observer.org.sz



The Right Place

The Right Sunday



JUNE 9, 2019

PRICE: E7.00 (VAT INCLUSIVE)

GETTING THERE!



NEARING COMPLETION: The Five Star Hotel and International Convention Centre which is under construction at Ezulwini is nearing completion. Government says the facility is expected to stimulate the economy through hosting of international events as it will be one of the biggest in the region once complete. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

SundayObserver Scene



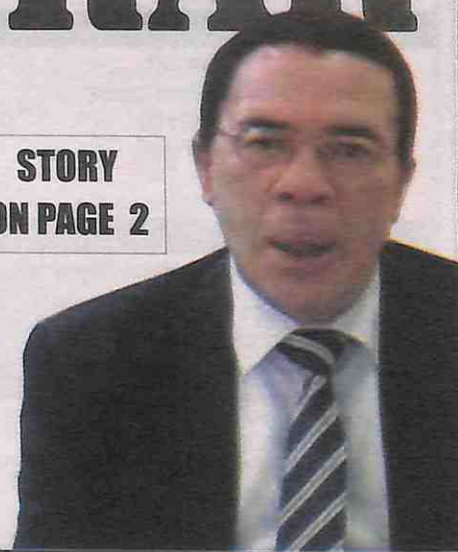
TB Joshua's son coming to Eswatini

PAGE 12

UNESWA REGISTRAR 'DEMANDS' JOB BACK

● Dr Salebona walks back to his job after 7 months

STORY ON PAGE 2



Analysis & opinion inside

PM HAS SIDE-STEPPED THE FIRST HURDLE



PAGE 21

INTERNATIONAL ALBINISM AWARENESS DAY 2019



PAGE 23

TOURISM COMES OF AGE



PAGE 25

Pigg's Peak can wait: A TRIBUTE TO DINI SOBUKWE

It takes Eswatini to end sexual violence against children

PAGE 26

Clarification

UNESWA REGISTRAR BOUNCES BACK TO HIS JOB

...says he never resigned from his post

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

University of Eswatini (UNESWA) Registrar Dr Salebona Simelane has bounced back to reclaim his position at the university, amid claims that he had resigned and was at loggerheads with the institution.

These claims seemed to be validated by the length of the leave and the university's decision to advertise his post as vacant while the registrar was 'on leave'. The Sunday Observer understands that no applicant was interviewed for the post and the institution has simply reinstated Simelane for a period of three years.

"On Monday he showed up and demanded back his office," said a source, who further alleged that Dr Simelane had demanded about E4 million from the institution.

It is understood that the registrar had threatened to take the institution to court for constructive dismissal, armed with proof that the university had advertised his position.

"Since the institution could not afford to pay him that much the only option was to take him back as per his conditions," said a well-placed source.

According to sources, the restructuring process which gave birth to the creation of an additional post in the office of the pro vice chancellor was initiated by a board whose tenure had expired.

Simelane confirmed his return yesterday, adding that he resumed duties on Monday.

"Yes, it is true I'm back at work. What was not true was that I had resigned. No, I had not resigned" I had taken a seven and half months leave. I started on Monday; for more information you can speak to the Vice chancellor (VC)," he said.

Nathie Maseko, who was the Acting Registrar during Simelane's leave, confirmed that Simelane was back at work when called as he immediately referred questions to him saying he was now the rightful person to talk to on matters involving the university. Maseko also maintained that Simelane was on leave all this while and was due to report beginning of June as his leave had been that long.



UNESWA Registrar Dr Salebona Simelane and Vice Chancellor Professor Justice Thwala.

"It is true he is back in office. I have been acting on his behalf while he was on leave. I may request that you call him because he is the one in office now. I was aware that he was on leave from October to 31 May, 2019 as he had accumulated a lot of days (for leave)," he said.

Asked on the advertisement of the registrar's position, Maseko stated that he was aware that the institution had issued it but referred questions to the registrar or the vice

chancellor.

Probed on the allegations of him having been at loggerheads with the institution to the extent of threatening to sue the university, Dr Simelane said he had no comment and referred questions to the VC.

Soon after he had taken his leave in October last year, news of him having resigned emerged suggesting that he was unhappy with the restructuring process which seemed to have deprived him some of his duties and powers.

Allegations

As per the reports, the university's strategic plan had somehow phased out the position of the registrar by removing some duties and powers from this office.

The allegations were to the effect that these duties were transferred to the office of the pro-vice chancellor. Furthermore, there were allegations that the registrar was considering suing the university on the grounds of constructive dismissal.

However, the then Acting Registrar Ambrose Gama, when called in November, said he was not aware of such resignation and the allegations.

Gama wondered where such information came from as the institution was not aware of the resignation of Simelane and, therefore, considered him as the employee of the university who was on leave.

He, however, did not get into the details and duration of Simelane's leave, referring further questions to the registrar.

"I do not know where that matter came from but the reporter claimed to have interviewed Simelane, yet on our side we do not know anything about the resignation. Where the information was obtained we don't know. Please talk to Dr Simelane," he said.

At the time, Dr Simelane said he was still an employee of the university on leave but also did not like to disclose the duration of his leave as he referred questions to the acting registrar.

"Who said I am no longer an employee of the university; did you see the resignation letter? I'm still with the university but am on leave; I have never said I have resigned."

I am an employee of the university; go and seek information from the acting registrar so he will give you accurate information. Just yesterday I was in the university working even though I am on leave; whenever they need me I go and work and return home," he clarified.

Simelane disputed all the allegations concerning him leaving and intending to sue the university.

When asked about the duration of his leave Simelane referred questions to the acting registrar, requesting not to respond to the question.

regards to the restructuring process. He did not deny that Simelane was not happy with the restructuring process which saw some co-functions of the office of the registrar being moved to that of the Pro Vice Chancellor.

"He, however, saw that the changes that had been implemented took away some of the co-functions of the office of the registrar. He felt like they had eroded a lot of his duties and was of the view that it would be best if he retired. But on review by Council, it was realised that there was need to correct that and the functions be retained in his position, as per the Act. This was done amicably, and he agreed to reconsider coming back," he said.

Apologies, registrar position no more vacant – Vice chancellor

UNESWA Vice Chancellor Professor Justice Thwala has extended apologies to those who applied for the position of the registrar following its advertisement in February.

Thwala stated that the university had withdrawn the advert following discussions they had as the administration. He alluded to the fact that Simelane was back at work after his leave and agreements that had been reached with him following discussions and reforms made in his office.

"It is true that he was on leave but now he is back at work; he is back in his office. We are yet to issue a

statement clarifying this matter. We are also going to write to all those who had applied for the position of the registrar and apologise, to those who were interested," Professor Thwala said last night.

He stated that they want to appreciate those who applied for showing interest. "There are some developments that have seen the registrar returning to his position and the university is no longer proceeding with the applications," he continued.

The VC said there were developments that had compelled the university to reconsider its decision though he did not dwell much on

them, saying he would reveal them in a press statement to be issued in due course. The professor disputed that Simelane demanded his job as he said this was done through a mutual agreement with the institution. "His term of offices expires next year in June. He is resuming his duties for the next 18 months as his contract has not expired yet. It is also upon the university to decide to extend it once if it has expired if it deems fit such as when it is pleased with his performance," the VC stated. He also denied that Simelane threatened legal action, stating that he had never approached the courts on his grievances with

MANAGING EDITOR

Mbongeni Mbingo

e-mail: mbingo@observer.org.sz
Cell: 7602 9564 / 7904 8641

P.O. Box A385, Swazi Plaza,
Mbabane LILUNGA HOUSE
Tel: 2404 4437, 2404 4436, 2404 9600
2404 9797, 2404 0706
Email: info@observer.org.sz
Website: www.observer.org.sz

HOW TO FIND US

f Swaziobserver
#Swaziobserver

NEWS REPORTERS

Zwelethu Dlamini - 7946 0316
Fortune Ndlangamandla - 7946 0386
Email: sunday@observer.org.sz

SPORT REPORTERS

Sibusiso Masilela

Email: sport@observer.org.sz

SCENE EDITOR:

scene@observer.org.sz

SENIOR SUB-EDITOR

Futhi Dlamini - 7946 0345 / 7615 8517
Email: subeditor@observer.org.sz

NHLANGANO

Tobacco Company Complex, Cnr
King George, Masengule Street Opposite
SEDCO premises, Tel: 2207 5159
Starsky Mkhonta Cell: 7621 5081 / 7921 5081
starsky@realnet.co.sz

SITEKI

Siteki Market Office No. 15
Wonderboy Dlamini
CELL: 7643 6549 / 7968 3737

PIGG'S PEAK

Kai Kai Building opposite
Shoprite, Office No. 3, Tel: 2437 1083
Sizwe Dlamini Cell: 7670 0678 / 7946 0377
Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz

MANZINI

Makhaya Convenient
Centre, Office No. 25
Sifiso Nhlabatsi CELL: 7674 6378 /
7946 0374
Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 25 05 7220

ACTING MARKETING MANAGER

Gcebile Dlamini: 7946 0347 /
7606 5512 2404 8671 / 240 48699

smm@observer.org.sz

ACTING CIRCULATION OFFICE

Mhloniswa Dlamini: 7946 0338
/ 7687 6985

circulation@observer.org.sz

TOP GUNS IN GOVT HOUSES DRAMA:

GOVT WANTS MZUTHINI EVICTED, MADLOPHA STILL IN GOVT HOUSE

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Liqoqo member and former His Majesty's Correctional Commissioner General Mzuthini Ntshangase's letter of eviction has been sent out for approval to public service ministry superiors and the ministry of justice after his continued refusal to move out the government house.

His belongings and assets, including a Mercedes vehicle, were found in the government house on Friday evening.

According to officials from the ministry of public service where the houses are managed and allocated, a civil servant should prepare to vacate the state house by his last day of service.

Ministry of Public Service Communications Officer Hlobisile Vilakati confirmed that the ministry has already written a letter to the ministry of justice seeking the eviction of Ntshangase and other former civil servants who were illegally occupying government quarters.

"It is true that it is now overdue that Ntshangase vacates the house as he was appointed in April, and it is not out of bad blood, but it is just procedural on the part of the housing department. The circular states that a civil servant who has retired, or no longer employed by government should leave immediately, but some are given the ultimatum of 30 days, for instance, a family of the deceased civil servant," she said.

The ministry of justice and constitutional affairs is responsible for effecting evictions within the parameters of the set law of all retired civil servants or

those who are adamant and still occupy government quarters illegally after the housing department has made prayers in good faith that such people be moved out lawfully, and be assisted by their parent ministries officers, especially immediate supervisors/human resources officers and be afforded transportation.

According to the information gathered, Ntshangase must have vacated the government house and submitted back keys to public service ministry housing department before 30 June.

If he continues staying and utilising the government quarters it would be illegal, as government will suffer losses concerning rent and housing tax that is supposed to be paid monthly by one occupies leased or a pool house in the system.

Ntshangase, when called on the matter, said he had not receive the eviction letter and did not entertain other questions.

"I am not aware of the matter. What I have said is enough; I am not saying another word on the matter," he said before dropping the call.

Just like Ntshangase, former Public Service Principal Secretary Evar Madlopha, who retired last month, continues to occupy government quarters while he is also expected to move out like every civil servant who has retired or left government service. Ironically, during his tenure, several civil servants who continued to stay in government quarters when they had retired were evicted through correspondences signed by him. Madlopha was so strict to the extent that in March 2017, he issued a circular that only allowed 30 days

grace period to a family of a deceased civil servant.

"In the event a civil servant dies whilst in lawful occupation of a government quarters, her or his family will be given 30 calendar days of the date of death grace period to wind up the affairs of the deceased. On expiration of the 30 days period, the house should be vacated. Continued stay in the government quarters beyond 30 days grace period will make the occupant liable to pay commercial rent as stipulated in government's General Orders," the circular in part states.

The circular further stated that the children of the deceased civil servant who had been occupying government quarters together with their deceased parents will not be prioritised over all other applications for accommodation in the government quarters even if they are employed by government.

These children are required to follow the normal course in applying for a government house.

Attempts to get comment from Madlopha proved futile as his phone was not available on the MTN network yesterday when he was called several times.

On the contrary, former Army Commander Sobantu Dlamini, who was also appointed with Ntshangase to be a member of the Ludzidzini Council, this week did the noble thing and surrendered the government keys to the housing department after vacating the state house. His former neighbours stated that they noted he had vacated the house last month.

Dr Ben Dlamini also not spared

The Housing Department has also made prayers to have Dr Ben Dlamini evicted from a house he has stayed in for over 20 years as it is believed to be government

owned.

The senior citizen is said to have been occupying the government house for many years as his own.

He will also be evicted, even though he revamped the state house by repainting it to pink colour and modified garage.

"Unfortunately for him, a long serving senior public works and transport officer was able to identify it as he knows very well all the old government houses in the four regions and confirmed it is indeed a government house," said one of the officials.



Mzuthini Ntshangase.

Good news for Eswatini Mobile subscribers

...free data when roaming SA, Moza, other countries

BY NOKUZOLA THWALA

For the month of June and July, all mobile contract and No-Frills customers will enjoy free data when travelling to South Africa, Mozambique and any other country which uses the Vodafone network.

This offer has been extended to all Eswatini Mobile customers who are currently on any of Max Value contracts as well as No-Frills offer that come with four options.

According to information released by Eswatini Mobile Corporate Communications Manager Nosipho Shongwe, contract customers who will roam using the Vodafone network anywhere in the world will each receive a Gigabyte of data to utilise in June and July, respectively.

Eswatini Mobile said that in a bid to enhance customer experience, their loyal clients who want to utilise their Eswatini Mobile SIM cards while visiting other countries will be able to enjoy this promotion.

Similarly, customers on any of Eswatini Mobile's No-Frills offer will also be provisioned with 500MB free data when they visit any coun-

try with Vodafone network.

Shongwe mentioned that the No-Frills packages were aimed at pre-paid subscribers who wanted to enjoy all the resources availed to contract customers.

She said the exciting part about No-Frills is that there is no paperwork submitted or any credit checks performed when acquiring this package.

"You literally manage your No-Frills contract on a month to month basis, you are not tied down to a particular package over a set peri-

od and can

decide to

opt out by

simply fol-

lowing set

steps with-

out consul-

ting the

organisa-

tion." She mentioned that customers could upgrade their packages whenever they felt like as they had four different packages to choose from.

"This is a flexible, user friendly package, created specifically for customers different data and voice needs."

She further urged customers who wanted to know more about the No-Frills packages to simply visit an Experience Centre or call 980 for prompt assistance.

COUNTRIES WHERE CUSTOMERS CAN ROAM WITH VODAFONE

Albania	Vodafone Albania
Czech Republic	Vodafone Czech Republic
United Kingdom	Vodafone UK
Ghana	Vodafone Ghana
Greece	Vodafone Greece
Ireland	Vodafone Ireland
Mozambique	Vodacom Mozambique
New Zealand	Vodafone New Zealand
Portugal	Vodafone Portugal
Romania	Vodafone Romania
Turkey	Vodafone Turkey
South Africa	Vodacom South Africa
Italy	Vodacom Italy
Netherlands	Vodacom Netherlands
Malta	Vodacom Malta

Government saves E30m through freezing posts

BY FORTUNE NDLANGAMANDLA

In as much as other sectors of government are affected by the freezing of vacant posts and creation of new ones in all government ministries and departments, the Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini's administration has managed to save E30 million over the past six months.

Of note, sectors like education and health have been affected by the government's decision to freeze filling of vacant posts and creation of new ones.

The milestone is contained in a press statement titled 'Government achievements in past six months' (ministry of public service) released by Government Spokesman Percy Simelane on Friday.

Simelane said ministerial reports covering achievements, challenges and focus areas would be released periodically to keep the public abreast of the operations of government.

Value

"The implementation of Circular No.3, freezing of vacant posts and creation of new posts in all government ministries and departments was able to curb the wage bill and a four per cent net month-to-month reduction was realised, reflecting a compound-ed value of E30million over the past six months," he narrated. The mouth-piece continued to add that on issuance of the circular freezing the filling of vacancies and new appointments, the ministry of public service has been inundated with requests to fill vacan-

cies from ministries and departments, citing difficulty in executing their respective mandates effectively without the requested posts. Simelane stated that government will continue monitoring the wage bill and come up with relevant recommendations. Furthermore, he said government would review the in-service training cut off age from 45 to slightly above 50, depending on the training duration.

The currently available budget due to the obtaining fiscal position is no longer commensurate with the need for continuous capacity building. Promotion of a culture of continuous learning and growth in the service to keep public officers relevant, motivated and embracing a culture of ser-

vice excellence," he expanded. Moreover, Simelane said as part of the espousal of Continuous Professional Development (CPD), a provision for PhD has been included in the in-service policy. Two officers are currently enrolled for PhD studies to strengthen the research capacity of the ministry of agriculture.

Programmes

He said the PhD programme was currently funded through development partner support and university fellowships only as opposed to being provided for under the government budget. On implementing and up-scaling a public sector wellness programme," he said;

Budgetary constraints have hindered the regional coverage initiatives as transport is a cause for concern. We

would continue coordination and implementing the wellness agenda in ministries and departments." He added that government facilitated men engage forums in various ministries and departments, discussing socially active topics such as the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act, financial wellness and HIV/AIDS services.

He said the department operates with a shortage of technical staff, hence unable to adequately respond to the increased demand of wellness services. He said the ministry would continue providing psychological, psycho-social, disease management as well as information and education services in the public sector wellness context.

'Tsotsi', Sipiwo slug it out in leaked audio

... a phone recording between the two has laid bare the intensity of their fight and it is being shared through social media platforms, exposing the couple's 30-minute plus disagreement over a number of issues that have led to their separation

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

A phone recording between Advocate Mabila and his estranged wife Sipiwo has laid bare the intensity of their fight for the dissolution of their marriage.

The phone conversation is being shared through social media platforms, exposing the couple's 30-minute plus disagreement over a number of issues that have led to their separation.

The legal eagles are currently embroiled in a fight for divorce, and are awaiting a decree making their separation official.

It is clear that the conversation happened in the past week, probably on Monday, and both parties were alive to the conversation being recorded and make several references to this during the conversation.

It is anyone's guess who is responsible for the audio being leaked, and open to a lot of speculation. Ironically, the audio emerged at a time when promi-

nent Advocate Mabila and High Court Registrar Sipiwo (born Masuku) have filed divorce papers and currently awaiting a decree.

The couple refused to be drawn to comment on the audio, with Advocate Mabila stating that he was not aware of any audio clip and was not interested in hearing it either. He said this when the publication asked to share the audio with him so he could verify if he is not the Mduduzi talked about.

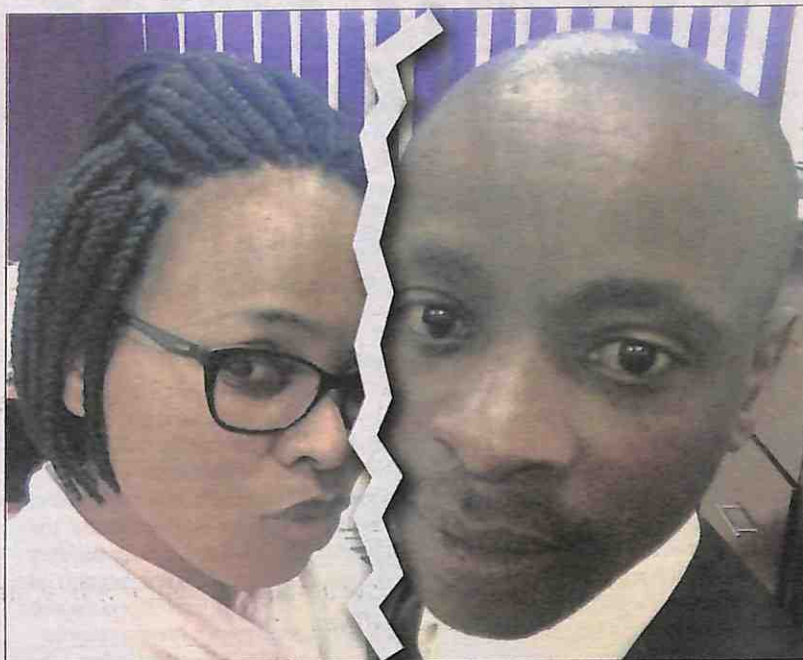
"Secondly, whatever I and the mother of my child discuss is private. I do not record calls; I know everything that I discuss with the mother of my child. God blessed me with the power to remember. I am not aware of it (audio), so I cannot therefore confirm nor deny it," he commented.

When content of what the audio carries were read to him, "Tsotsi" said he does not care about it and he was not interested in knowing about it (*anginendzaba nayo, angingenelani nayo futsi*).

He emphasised that God had blessed him with the power to remember everything he had discussed with individuals and always remembers things so he felt there is no need to refer to the audio.

However, he shared that all he ever wanted from Sipiwo was the homestead and their son's custody which was allegedly granted to him last Friday by the court. On the other hand, Registrar Sipiwo dropped the call without verifying the audio clip. Also when the reporter referred to her as Mrs Mabila she said she was not Mrs Mabila.

"Hhaa kute Make Mabila la ungibani wena? My surname is not a Mabila but Masuku. Hawu hawu ngicolele bhuti kadze ngahlukana naMabila musa kud-



Advocate Mduduzi 'Tsotsi' Mabila and his estranged wife, High Court Registrar Sipiwo in happier times.

lala ngami, bye," she said before dropping the call after she was asked about the audio. Be that as it may, in the circulating audio, the two argue, sometimes harshly, sometimes sarcastically and like the legal eagles they are, they also argue arrogantly, especially the registrar who was in her element.

Argument

The essence of the argument is over visitation and access to their home at Jubukweni, following their separation. The issue is that Sipiwo as the wife is traditionally allowed access to the home, as and when, while Mabila clearly argues that if she walks away, then he should be entitled to do as he pleases at his home.

Seemingly, the umphakatsi ruled that the homestead should be in Sipiwo's charge.

They also hang their dirty linen, about their private lives, with Sipiwo stating several times she no longer wished to be his wife as she no longer loves him. The born of contention and the reason for their argument seems to also stem from a trip

Sipiwo wishes to take, without Mabila's consent.

There are a couple of threats as the two slug it out and stand their ground throughout the 30-odd minute clip.

For instance, Mduduzi said if she would come at their homestead at Jubukweni, she would need to be accompanied by males, as he does not want to fight a woman, while on the other hand, Sipiwo responds by saying that she would visit the homestead and cause havoc as a sign of showing her hatred towards him.

"There is one thing you're failing to understand is that the order that was passed which says this is your marital homestead, so I must not marry or have a girlfriend visiting me over here so likewise you cannot execute that order," Mabila retorts.

Sipiwo replies by saying, "No kani wena Siswati usifundza upside down yini, phela umfati yeHlulemakhandza, ngitakuchacha kemine ngoba ngiyabona kutsi ngatsi Siswati usifundza noma bakucocela hhafu. Likhaya lemfati nomangabe

ngihambile likhaya lemfati yenabakitsi mine ke ngiworse ngobe ngitele umfana, hhaw nkhosiyami nabakitsi. Lelikhaya lelo angeke bese kutsiwa Hlulemakhandza akafake lomunye umfati," she said in vernacular before calling the other 'wives' names.

This can be summarised to, "Let me enlighten you as seemingly you know half about Siswati customs. Customs state that a homestead belong to the wife whether married or divorced, even worse, I have a boy in the wedlock. You won't be allowed to marry another wife in that homestead."

She continued to state that she was not interested in keeping the homestead under his custody so he was giving it to Mduduzi free of charge. She told Mduduzi not to stress, frustrate or lose sleep over the matter, she referred to Mduduzi as 'singani sami sakadzeni' (ex-lover). She said she would be starting to build her own life. Sipiwo stated that the only thing she was praying for was to get a divorce decree.

"Umphakatsi asked me to state one reason why I would not reside in the homestead; I said it was because I no longer love you. In actual fact I hate you, those I my words, I repeat them, umphakatsi decided to ignore my words and say I should listen to God, those are my words and that's my position and it will never change whether I'm forced by a person, umphakatsi or court that position would not change," she said, adding that even if the court would not release a decree. She continued to state that even if it means staying with the shadow of the marriage hanging over her head, she has no problem but their past would never meet as husband and wife.

Sipiwo said no-one must be forced to continue in a relationship with someone they no longer have love for.

Notably, throughout the conversation, Mabila is calm and measured in his responses, even when Sipiwo fires salvos at him.

...This is war – Sipiwo to Mduduzi

Sipiwo Mabila (born Masuku) has made it clear that the couple's fight for divorce is war between them.

Clearly demonstrating her desire to leave him, Sipiwo said to Mabila that if the two were to be forced to go back to each other, it would be more like an order for someone to be killed or poisoned.

"Which means consequently you cannot tell me what or what not to do here at Jubukweni," Mduduzi responds, while Sipiwo states that she will not tell him what or what not to do.

"If you're come out guns blazing, I will come out guns-blazing too. Listen, guns blazing to me in my opinion is you frustrating and not wanting to let me go when I am telling you that I do not love you, when I am telling you that I hate you," she explains before Mduduzi interjects.

It is when Mabila asks her how he has ever frustrated her, that the issue of the fight being war comes in.

"When have I ever threatened you (with a spear)?" Mduduzi asks.

Sipiwo responded by saying, "No,

no, this is war. We shouldn't run away from it, this is war. We went to umphakatsi and you're going through what you're going through because this is war. That we can't run away from, it's war between me and you only just you but, it's war between me and your family and our family. This is war," she said.

War

In as much as Mduduzi tried to state that there was nothing he had which amounts to war, Sipiwo insisted that they have gone all the process because they were in war.

"You rather say you're staging a war against me, I'm not in war with anyone," he said.

What Sipiwo says she is adamant about is that she wants out of the marriage.

At some point during the conversation, she says she does not even care for the Jubukweni homestead, so long as she is cut loose from the marriage.

"I don't want that homestead; you can have it, it's yours. So don't lose sleep over it, I am starting my own thing and I don't want that home.

"All I want is one thing, to be free from you – just to get a decree," she emphasises.

It is clear from their arguments that the two are miles apart from reconciling, and that they both want to stand their positions.

They often interject each other during heated moments, most of which Sipiwo stands firm.

She makes her points clearly that she is prepared to do all it takes to get her decree.

For Mabila, however, it is only about being free to do as he pleases, because Sipiwo makes it clear she wants nothing to do with the home.

Later in the conversation, Sipiwo would be prepared to visit Jubukweni to cause havoc – because she can, and as a sign to demonstrate her hatred towards him.

"Batfunywe nguwe swayini ucabanga kutsi angiboni," she says when they argue about the role of Umphakatsi in refusing to issue her the decree she craves.

Even as the conversation ends, it is clear this couple has not had its last fight.

PROVIDENCE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

June / July 2019 Intake

Cambridge International Honors Diplomas

- Occupational Health & Safety
- Business Management & Administration
- Sales & Marketing Management
- Advertising & Public Relations
- Project Management
- Accounting & Finance
- Human Resource Management
- Social Work & Community Development
- Stores & Stock Control Management
- Logistics & Supply Chain

City & Guilds

- Executive Secretarial & Administration
- Telecommunication Systems
- ICT Systems Support
- Information & Technology Skills
- Electrical & Electronics Engineering
- Software Developers
- CAT / AAT 2, 3 & 4

Aug/Sept City & Guilds practicals & theory exams registration has started
FIND US: Dianubeka House 3rd Floor, Suite 303, , Mbabane

CONTACTS

Cell: +268 3450 0130 | +268 7614 9023
Email: providencetraining1@gmail.com
Website: www.pitionline.ac.sz



Registered with the EHEC Eswatini Higher Education Council

RN 167/46

Thabo Mbeki meets King



His Majesty King Mswati III appreciating former South Africa President Thabo Mbeki who presented three cattle as a gift to the King. This was after a meeting held at Lozitha Palace on Friday evening. Mbeki and his delegation left the country yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



His Majesty in a conversation with Poppy Khoza while UNISA Chancellor Thabo Mbeki and the acting PM look on.



Protocol Officer Masiko coordinating proceedings with UNESWA Registrar Dr Salebona Simelane and Vice Chancellor Professor Justice Thwala while Acting Minister of Education Christian Ntshangase looks on.



His Majesty in a conversation with the former president who is also UNISA Chancellor while Acting PM Themba Masuku and UNISA Vice Chancellor Professor Mandla Makhanya listen.



Minister of Foreign Affairs Thuli Dladla, UNISA Vice Chancellor Professor Mandla Makhanya and Professor Zodwa Motsa among the people present.



The truck which brought the three cattle presented to the King by Mbeki.

CASH AND DISCOUNT CARRY

DISCOUNT FURNITURE

Shop No: 9 Mancishane St. Manzini, opp Liphaga Flats
Tel: 2505 7423/4/5, Call: 78657866

More in store Specials

<p>Colour box, Book Shelf, Blue & Pink E199.00</p>	<p>TV Stand E1300.00</p>	<p>Sleeper Couch (High quality). E3799.00</p>
<p>Chest of Drawers (high quality). E1399.00</p>	<p>Study Table E479.00</p>	<p>Sofa Bed, in Grey & in Yellow (BUY this & get a FREE coffee table) E1999.00</p>

Doc.19122

OUTDOOR SPECIALS

<p>Camp Chair E120.00</p>	<p>Folding table 1.8m E350.00</p>	<p>Air mattress E220.00</p>
<p>Tents E210.00</p>	<p>Air Pump E80.00</p>	<p>Sleeping bag E190.00</p>

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:
70 Nkoseluhla Street,
Manzini
P.O. Box 69, Manzini, Swaziland

Payless

CONTACT DETAILS:
Tel: 00268 2505 4370
Fax: 00268 2505 4250

MOPADO E50m case:

Threats against ex-politicians calling for probe

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI

It would seem there are already threats against members of a newly-formed Eswatini Former Politicians Association, who are pursuing the matter of over E50 million in pension money which was invested without their concern.

This was revealed on Friday during a highly charged meeting held at Sydney Williams. Former Member of Parliament for Mtfongwaneni Mjuluko Dlamini said already there are victims in this issue.

Meanwhile, former Deputy Senate President Ngomuyayona Gamedze alluded that there would be threats.

He urged his colleagues in the association not to target people in their investigations. He said members must not be vindictive. "Do not fight anybody fight the course of justice," Gamedze said.

During the meeting it surfaced that the Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg is more than willing to assist the association investigate whether procedure was followed when their pension money worth over E50 million was invested.

The former politicians formed an association with the aim to tackle the issue of the investment.

Investigating

The members are currently investigating the case of land which was purchased for E12 million and E50 million which has been invested with Eswatini Mobile. This seems to be a sensitive matter which is rubbing some the wrong way.

The draft constitution for the newly formed association was adopted by members during a meeting held at Sydney Williams Hall on Friday. The next step will be to legally register the association which will pursue the matter.

The Chairman of the association is former Mangcongco Member of Parliament Patrick 'Pha' Motsa while the Secretary General is Saladin Magagula. The association deals with issues which affect former politicians dating from the year 2013 up to 2018.

Updating the members on how the association came about, Magagula said they learnt through the media that Members of Parliament and Designated Officers (MOPADO) had invested money which is meant to benefit former politicians. However, this was done without informing them as concerned stakeholders.

Magagula said they learnt that there is over E50 million invested with Eswatini Mobile while another E12 million is alleged to be invested in the purchasing of land. Magagula said after learning about this, they had to convene a meeting to see how they deal with this issue going forward.

He said a meeting was held on May 14 where they deliberated on the issue and decided to approach MOPADO for information and were told that the board, which is supposed to address the issue, is now out of office.

Magagula said it was agreed that

a committee be established which will approach the Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg to investigate the matter.

The members also agreed that the principal officer of MOPADO shall be suspended while the investigations are ongoing so that he does not interfere with them. They further requested from the minister of finance that there shall be no board in place while investigations are ongoing. They also made a request to the minister that the old board members must not be part of the new board.

The ex-politicians said they would also consult the auditor general who will advise them on whether the proper procedures were followed when the money was invested.

Appointed

The members also pointed out that the minister would ensure that members appointed into the board are vetted.

Following their meeting with the minister, the association said despite that they were not registered the minister welcomed them and addressed their issue. Former Somntongo Member of Parliament Sandile Nxumalo, who was also part of the team that met the minister in May, said Rijkenberg did not concur with them on suspending the principal officer.

He said the minister said MOPADO operations must not be stopped due to concerns of the ex-politicians. He said the minister informed them that they could raise the issue with the board that he will appoint soon. He further said Rijkenberg asked that they be a legally registered association.

Former Manzini South Member of Parliament Owen Nxumalo said what is important is the willingness of the minister to assist them with their matter. He said the open door policy by the minister is a good thing.

The Manzini South former MP said it is clear that the minister wants to follow procedure. He said the minister wants to compile a report so that he can act on it. He said he was happy with the minister's reception.

The members said as much as the minister has promised to pursue the issue, it is up to them to ensure this happens. During yesterday's meeting, the draft constitution was officially adopted by members.

”

Updating the members on how the association came about, Magagula said they learnt through the media that Members of Parliament and Designated Officers (MOPADO) had invested money which is meant to benefit former politicians

Interpol hot on heels of

STORIES BY BODWA MBINGO

Interpol is hot on the heels of an alleged poacher, Bhekumusa 'Mawillies' Shiba, who is suspected of killing a rhinoceros at Hlane Royal National Park and removing its horns. Interpol this week launched its first 'Most Wanted' list for environmental criminals.

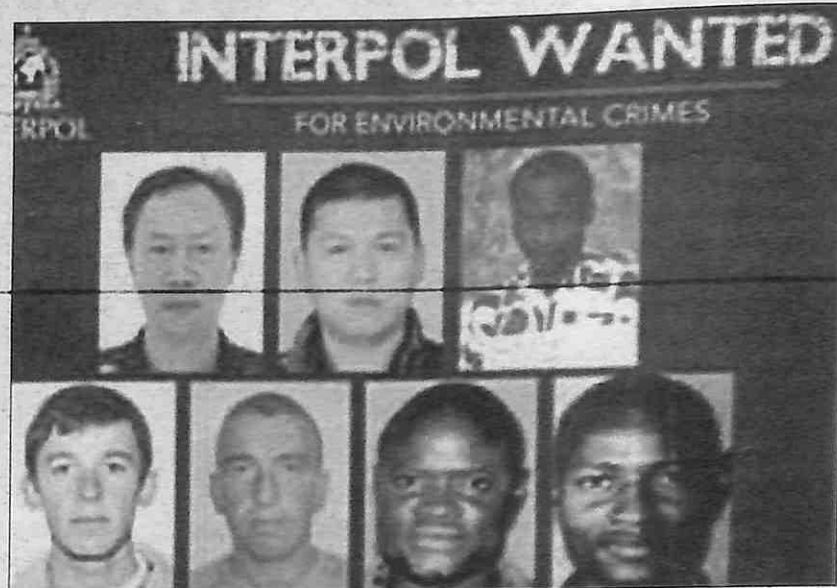
The international policing agency is targeting nine fugitives for evading charges that include illegal discharge of toxic waste, illegal logging, ivory smuggling, and trafficking live animals.

"Until recently, environmental offences were not even considered a crime by many countries, but as the years have passed, they have realised that environmental crime is a serious internal threat to our societies," Andreas Andreou, a criminal intelligence officer with Interpol's environmental security unit, told the Guardian earlier this week.

Many environmental criminals, he adds, are tied up with organised crime rings.

Interpol, the world's largest international police organisation, works with its 194 member countries to coordinate policing across the planet, notably on organised crime and counter-terrorism operations.

According to Uganda's leading pub-



The seven men in Interpol red notices for environmental crimes. (AFP/Getty Images)

lication, New Vision, Interpol on Tuesday issued 'red notices' seeking the arrest of seven fugitives wanted for "environmental crimes" from illegal logging to elephant poaching.

The rare appeal by the international police organisation based in Lyon, France, came ahead of the World Environment Day three days ago.

"We've highlighted seven criminals wanted in various countries... for environmental crimes," Interpol Executive

Director Tim Morris told AFP, adding that the crimes included illegal logging, poaching and trafficking in ivory.

"Interpol is calling on the global community: these people must live somewhere, they must travel, they must commute, they must socialise. Someone knows where they are and we're asking the public to help bring these people to justice," Morris said.

The appeal names the suspects, who are wanted variously by China, Kenya,

RHINO POACHER WANTED BY ESWATINI POLICE

Bhekumusa 'Mawillies' Shiba is wanted by Interpol for crimes against the environment and wildlife. Bhekumusa Shiba may or is possibly armed and could/will resist arrest.

Shiba may be living in your city, next door to you, within your community. It's likely he is paying locals to protect him, he could be living in a shanty town area of which he knows police rarely frequent due to violent attacks and hatred towards the police. Bhekumusa Mawillies Shiba could even be living rough or within known poaching villages in Zimbabwe, Mozambique, or Eswatini. It's possible he could also be living in South Africa. He may have

altered his appearance or changed his name.

Current information known;
Wanted for: Game Act (Prohibition of hunting and dealing in specially protected and royal game)

Wanted by: Eswatini
Date of Birth: 25 June 1979
Nationality: Liswati, South African (not confirmed)
Hair colour: Black
Eye colour: Brown
Case details: SHIBA is suspected of killing a rhinoceros on Hlane Game Reserve in Swaziland and removing its horns. Countries frequented: Mozambique (Mpumalanga Province, Nelspruit), South Africa

Caution: SHIBA may be armed.
- Know his whereabouts? Do not approach this man. Instead contact the police, anti poaching units, SANDF, your local military units or local law enforcement immediately.

We have strong reason to believe this fugitive is somewhere in Mozambique, possibly Massingir where prolific poachers and wildlife criminals remain untouchable.

Bhekumusa Mawillies Shiba knows that by bribing the local police he can stay below the radar, which is why we are offering any Mozambique national US\$600 that will lead to this criminals immediate arrest, detention and incarceration.

LCC POLICY INTERFERES WITH TRADITIONAL

BY FORTUNE NDLANGAMANDLA

Mbabane businessman Walter Bennett has heavily criticised the Mbabane Municipal Council for effecting the Local Community Committee (LCC) policy.

Bennett did not only join some Mbabane residents who accused the council of defying a resolution taken by the 10th Parliament which said the policy should be taken back to stakeholders before it could be implemented, but the businessman added that this was interference with traditional structures.

Therefore, Bennett said the administration of the Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini has to focus on the governance of councils across the country, alleging that corruption was rife within the councils.

Not dwelling on the matter, he applauded Minister of Housing and Urban Development Prince Simelane for setting up a commission of an inquiry which investigated affairs of Matsapha Town Board. However, he shared his discontentment that the commission only focused on issues dating back to November 2017.

Important

He also raised the importance of also taking principal secretaries across the ministries into account. He added that the issue of governance was extremely important in the country as it is the only link to how tax-payers' monies are used. Bennett shared the sentiments in an interview with this publication on Friday afternoon.

On the issue of the LCC policy, he said it was the worst thing to happen for the people of Mbabane.

"Now they want to change administration; Emaswati came into town at the time when the country was colonised so they khontaed in the informal settlements so they could be close to town. Those were the rates paid by Emaswati which you paid once in your lifetime and that of your children. Now they are stretching towns into Swazi Nation Land (SNL) and residents are required to pay yearly rates which are being abused by the administrators," he narrated.

He continued to add that instead of focusing on governance and integrity issues, council was now changing laid-down traditional structures of running the city and peri-urban settlements.

"Zone leaders are governing residents with dignity; they (zone leaders) administer justice and order without courts which require lawyers.

Now the latest move aims to destroy

Hlane poacher

Greece and Eswatini. "We know environmental crimes generate huge amounts of money, between US\$100 and 300 billion (about E1 480 and E4 440 billion) a year," Morris said. "There's money laundering, corruption, and also financial crime, violence and murders all associated with environmental crime."

The International police have since asked for help in tracking down the world's most wanted environmental criminals.

The seven men are subject to Interpol red notices and are wanted internationally.

They include two Albanian men alleged to have illegally logged a state forest in Greece and two Chinese men wanted for smuggling protected species.

Jürgen Stock, Interpol's Secretary General, said: "Environmental crime is occurring on an industrial scale, with transnational organised crime groups making billions in profits whilst undermining the rule of law and threatening national security."

"Environmental crimes have a global impact, which require a global response."

The seven people are:

- Guo Qin Huang, 42, and Muk Nam Wong, 62, wanted by China for smuggling protected species and products derived from them.

- Nicholas Mweri Jefwa, 44, and Samuel Bakari Jefwa, 29, wanted by Kenya for illicitly dealing in wildlife trophies and organised criminal activity.

- Albanian brothers Ergest Memo, 34, and Taulant Memo, 33, wanted by Greece for illegal logging in a protected forest. Taulant Memo is also wanted for illegally carrying a gun.

- Bhukumusa 'Mawillies' Shiba, 39, wanted by Eswatini - for wildlife offences.

Ministers at the G7 summit in April called for greater efforts to fight environmental crime through increased cooperation and information sharing with Interpol.

The agency urged the public not to directly approach the men, but to contact the local police or Interpol.



Over 2 000 want LGBTI organisation closed

STORIES BY
ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Over 2 000 parents have petitioned the Registrar of Companies Msebe Malinga to deregister the Rock of Hope organisation, which is known for advocating for the rights of the LGBTI community.

According to a letter dated 2 June 2019 directed to the registrar of companies, the parents of Eswatini used the CitizenGO petition platform to address their concerns against Rock of Hope organisation, and had others sign the petition to oppose the organisation's registration.

"According to parents of Eswatini, the Rock of Hope falsely presented themselves as a health organisation, yet it is promoting the homosexual agenda. Now, once again, they are trying to trick

It is hearsay - The Rock of Hope

The Rock of Hope Executive Director Sanele Sibiyi said the organisation had not received the petition and it was only hearsay to them. Sibiyi said The Rock of Hope would not be able to respond to it as no

formal correspondence was received either from the registrar and the concerned parents.

"I still maintain we are distancing ourselves from this until formally approached by the registrar," Sibiyi said.

government by falsely presenting themselves as a company. The parents assert that if Rock of Hope is registered it would be tantamount to saying that the people of Eswatini endorse such preferences. With this letter and attached signatures, we ask you to withdraw at once the file by Rock of Hope Eswatini seeking their registration as a legal entity," reads part of the letter. Notably, most of the signatories are not from Eswatini as they are from different countries in Africa with a few local parents.

CitizenGO is a community of active citizens who work together, using online petitions and action alerts as a resource to defend and promote life, family, and liberty. The Registrar of Companies Msebe Malinga, when questioned about the matter, confirmed that he received the letter with the signed petition. "Yes, I got that petition. But some of those people are not from Eswatini, they are from all over the world. I'm getting emails I think they are over a hundred now," he said.



Hundreds of activists who attended Eswatini's first gay pride march last year.

'We all deserve to enjoy human rights'

Eswatini Sexual and Gender Minorities Director Melusi Simelane said gays and lesbians equally deserve to enjoy all human rights like any other human being as guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

"The bottom line is, life itself is an experiment and one can never realise their full potential unless they are left to figure out who they are on their own. We would never influence, promote, or even suggest how anyone should live his or her life."

The issue of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is clear and straight-

forward. No one has ever deviated from this, and yet we are expected to be 'acted upon by the police', if CitizenGO is to have it their way," he said.

Simelane said the conversation has always been about equality for all, human rights for all and protection for all. But when it comes to homosexuals, other people feel they should be deprived part of their rights.

"No one wants gay rights. We are humans. Our sexuality is only just one aspect of our lives. The last thing is, it has become common knowledge that CitizenGo is funded by religious fanatics who are hellbent to see the progress

made on the human rights front reversed," he said.

Simelane said he doubted that there were Emaswati who signed the petition rather people from other countries because the letter had referred to the country as a republic, yet it is a kingdom.

"Not a single Liswati is responsible for that petition. Not a single person in Eswatini would sign up to a petition directed to the 'Republic of Eswatini'. In fact, what the government should do is investigate if this is not treason. We are a kingdom and we love our Monarchy," he said.

STRUCTURES - BENNETT

zone leaders," he explained.

He said the decision that zone leaders were no longer eligible to stand for elections should be addressed by the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) or a regional administrator instead of the council led by its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Gideon Mhlomo.

He said this was because zone leaders have vast knowledge about the areas they are residing on.

"The traditional formations around towns called eMangwaneni are important as there is history around them. These royal kraals were used by Kings in the past."

Which council can therefore try to eliminate zone leaders from the set up? The CEO has been told many times not to interfere with Mangwaneni," he said.

Bennett mentioned that the actions by the council was a sign of undermining traditional structures as superiors of the country ruled that boundaries of Mangwaneni and council are separate.

"Labadzala basikhiphile sijubo sekutisi ematala aseMangwaneni nematala akumasipala akangenelani," he said in vernacular, further claiming that there was a recording on this declaration.

He mentioned that Prince Simelane's action to appoint a councillor from Mangwaneni in Pigg's Peak was a sign of the importance of these royal kraals. He hoped that the minister would continue appointing councillors in all Mangwaneni royal kraals around towns.

He stated that town councils around the country were doing things willy-nilly, Bennett said, currently, city coun-

cils and town board governance was poor and it may result into fist fights.

The businessman stated that council's efforts to take over the royal kraals were a sign of greediness emanating from the fact that residents around royal kraals were benefiting from infrastructure like tarred roads.

He warned the council from trying to take over Mangwaneni as it is a heritage site so none can predict what Labadzala can decide to do with them.

Undermining

He viewed the moves to take over Mangwaneni was also an insult to the superiors of the country as it is like undermining their pronouncement.

The LCC policy aims to phase out zone leaders which have some certain powers when it comes to zone activities. There are fears that the LCC policy would accord the council too much power over its people.

Causing the uproar is the fact that the council is currently holding elec-

tions under the LCC policy. Zones that have already voted using the policy include Fonteyn and Bahai while Msunduzi has allegedly indicated that it was ready to vote under the policy.

Zone leaders have come out to attack the council over the enforcement of the policy after it was rejected by the 10th Parliament which ordered that it should be taken to stakeholders for consultations. However, according to some of the zone leaders interviewed by this publication, the consultations were not done.

Bennett continued to slam the council's mouthpiece Lucky Tsabedze for dishonesty by saying that consultations over the policy were done as per Parliament's resolution. He said Parliament must deal with the issue.

About the LCC policy

The objective of the policy is to promote development and provide an institutional framework for community participation within council struc-

tures. The policy aims to establish ward committees and LCCs and rules to regulate their establishment and operations.

It further aims to standardise the operations of ward committees and LCCs throughout the City of Mbabane. The document was prepared on April 28, 2015 and the Mbabane Municipal Council CEO signed it on May 20, 2015.

Ward Committee (WC) refers to a body duly created by the council in the 12 wards in accordance with the 2014 Local Community and Ward Committees policy to assist the councillor of each ward in effectively carrying out council duties with the optimal participation or engagement of the people of the ward.

Local Community Committee (LCC) refers to committees chosen within a ward in the formal areas (suburbs) where there are no zone leadership structures and/or Bandlancane.



Emaswati now travelling visa-free to Taiwan

BY BODWA MBINGO

It is now official as Emaswati are now allowed to travel to Taiwan visa-free.

They are also allowed to stay in that country for a maximum of 90 days after the government of that country decided to grant regular Eswatini passport holders a visa waiver for visiting Taiwan with a 90-day duration of stay as of 1st June 2019.

According to Taiwan News, such great news was relayed in that country by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) on April 26.

This year marked the 51th anniversary of official diplomatic relations between the two countries. His Majesty King Mswati III has been a frequent visitor to Taiwan as well as a couple of Cabinet ministers and high ranking government officials.

Furthermore, an estimated 200 students from Eswatini are believed to be studying in Taiwan.

A visa waiver was already in effect for holders of diplomatic and public affairs passports from Eswatini,

but the new measure expanded benefits to all citizens, the Central News Agency reported.

According to that country's requirements, visitors would have to show a passport valid for at least six months after their arrival, proof of hotel reservation and of sufficient financial means, and information about a contact person in Taiwan, MoFA said. The list of valid reasons for visiting included tourism, family visits, business, international exchanges and participation in trade fairs.

The measure would promote tourism and trade contacts between Taiwan and Eswatini following visa waivers for other allies, such as Nauru and Tuvalu in the Pacific, according to MoFA.

The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the Kingdom of Eswatini requests Swazi visitors to comply with Taiwan's laws and regulations of quarantines. They have further warned Emaswati not to carry animals, plants and related products to enter Taiwan at will as offenders will not be allowed to enter Taiwan before paying the fine of NTD200 000 (US\$ 666).

Requirements are as follows:

- A passport with remaining validity of at least six months as of the date of entry.
- Visiting Taiwan for the purpose of tourism, business, visiting family, trade fair and exchanges programmes.
- Providing a confirmed return air/sea ticket or air/sea ticket with a visa for the next destination, accommodation booking records, details of contact persons in Taiwan, and proof of financial sufficiency such as bank statements.
- Not determined by immigration officers at ports of entry in Taiwan to be otherwise ineligible.

Over 2 000 pay their last respects

STORIES BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI

The late journalist, Philile Masango was yesterday given a befitting send-off by throngs of people who came from within and outside the borders of the country as she was laid to rest at her parental home, KaLanga.

Approximately over 2 000 mourners paid their last respects to the celebrated media practitioner who was described by her family as an ambassador who represented both her family and the country in foreign media. Masango died in a car accident which occurred near Maphiveni last Friday. Her vehicle was reported to have overturned several times after it lost control while being driven by a friend.

Speaking during the vigil, her uncle Bongani Dlamini said the family likened Masango to the biblical Moses who led the Israelites out of Egypt. Dlamini said Masango worked tirelessly in ensuring that her family and the community she hailed from developed in all spheres. At the time of her demise, Masango had started a number of initiatives in the community with the aim of developing everyone who lived there.

Amongst such initiatives was a fitness team where she engaged young girls in various sporting activities. She was also a soccer player for a team based in Simunye. As if to put icing on her social projects, Masango volunteered to teach



The late Philile Masango's casket before being lowered during her funeral held at her parental home at KaLanga yesterday.

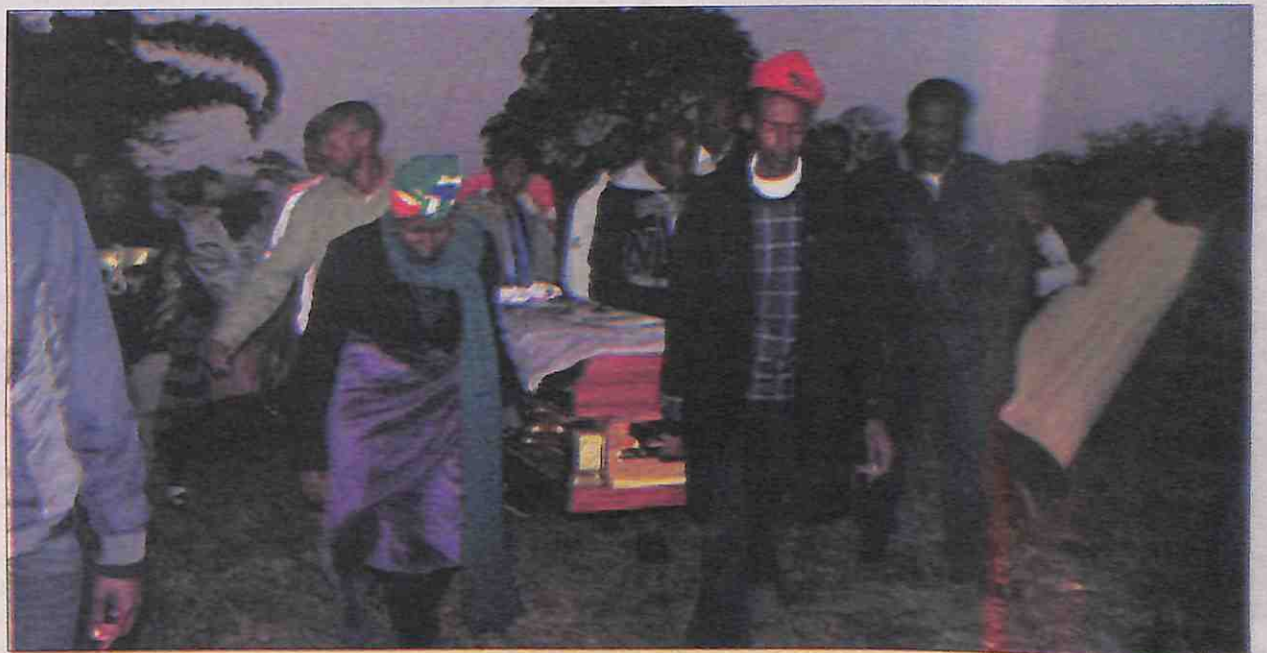
life skills at Nyambo Primary. Dlamini said his niece enjoyed leading people to their success.

Projects

"However, just like Moses, Philile was suddenly called by God before she could finish her projects," said Dlamini. He said, however, they believed that someone else will take over from where Philile left.

He was echoed by Tito Masango who stated that the family was still trying to come to terms with the sudden death of one of their own. Masango, howev-

er, thanked the community for the support they gave to the family. Meanwhile, preachers of the Word of God took turns in consoling the mourners as they shared the scripture which talked mainly about repentance. Pastor Mcebo Ntimane urged the mourners to always meditate about eternity. Ntimane said death was not a curse, but a way in which God recalled His people back to Heaven. He said the family must therefore have hope that Philile was with the Lord as she had demonstrated love to all people without discrimination.



SA political activists carrying Philile Masango's casket to the graveyard.

Political activists pay tribute to Philile

As much as Philile Masango was known for being one of the local media practitioners who have done so well in the industry, she was also known for her passion for human rights and social development.

This was also evidenced by the massive presence of political activists who came to pay their last respects to the former journalist who was described as an exceptional woman.

The political activists, distinguished by their colours, came from South Africa's African National Congress (ANC), Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) and proscribed People's United Democratic Movement (PUDEMO).

Having been recognised by the family, the activists were allowed time at the graveyard to express themselves through singing and dancing as they bid farewell

to the journalist who displayed enormous respect for human rights.

In a brief address, PUDEMO's Jabulani Malinga said Masango was an active political activist who valued integrity and advocated for equality in the society. Malinga said the late journalist braved all odds and reported fearlessly about politics and issues of human interest.

Moreover, Malinga said despite having achieved so much in her profession, Masango never had pride or looked down upon anyone who might have been lower than her.

In her obituary, Masango was described as a person who fearlessly fought for human rights and social change and worked tirelessly against stigmatisation. Her sister, Ntombikayise said Masango's commentary in these areas was widely

published in both digital media and local and international newspapers.

"She fully embraced and freely expressed the day-by-day repertoire of life's oscillating dualities; exhilaration and groaning, frustration and freedom, inspiration and uncertainty that any talent withstands," said Ntombikayise.

”

She fully embraced and freely expressed the day-by-day repertoire of life's oscillating dualities; exhilaration and groaning, frustration and freedom, inspiration and uncertainty that any talent withstands



CITEC COLLEGE

2019 JUNE INTAKE!!

in Affiliation with University of Lusaka

Department of Education
Primary Teacher's Diploma in Education

Professional Courses

- Health & Safety at Work
- Project Management
- Logistics, Supply Chain & Transport Mang..
- HIV/AIDS Management
- Executive Secretarial & Administration
- Information Communication Technology
- Business Management
- Sports Management
- Human Resource Development
- Accounting & Finance
- and many more courses...

Free study material, Sponsorship Package
WIFI on our premises

Approved by:
Eswatini Higher Education Council (ESHEC)
Ministry of Education & Training

Find us opposite FNB Main Branch Manzini

Tel: Call 2505 8574 or Whatsapp +268 7633 9481 now

P.O. Box 2177 | Email: citectraining@gmail.com
info@citecglobal.org

Follow us  www.citecglobal.org Rn167697

to Philile Masango



Tito Masango thanked the community for their support on behalf of the Masango family.



Philile's son being consoled by family members.

Philile's son inconsolable as casket lowered

The lowering of Philile Masango's casket became the saddest moment for everyone at the graveyard as her son (11) wept uncontrollably while her aunts frantically tried to console him.

The throngs of mourners who had come to pay their last respects to the former journalist also had it tough containing their emotions as they watched her son crying hysterically. The boy

had to be taken away from the graveyard immediately after he had done the customary casting of sand into the grave. When speaking during the vigil, Masango's sister, Welile said the boy had developed an exceptional relationship with his mother.

"The boy used to refer to his mother as the queen when addressing her, and her sudden passing away has left him deeply hurt," she said.



Some of the mourners who attended the funeral.



Political activists at the graveyard.

Philile's obituary

● Philile Masango was born on August 20, 1979 to Solomon Masango and Duduzile Dlamini.

● She did her high school at Sisekelo before enrolling at the University of Eswatini (UNESWA) and later at Wits University in South Africa.

● She amassed vast experience as a journalist; first with Eswatini TV, then South Africa's Kaya FM and SABC; collating numerous awards along the way.

● Also worked under the communications management at the American Embassy in South Africa for close to a decade.

● She volunteered to teach life skills at Nyambo Primary School under her home community.

● She died on May 30, 2019 in a car accident.

BODY PARTS CENTRE & SPARES

MANZINI BRANCH: Former Indali Furnitures Building, Opp. Liphaga Flats
Contact BONGANI: 7612 8851, THANDO: 7652 7264/7604 7776, or Tel/Fax: 2505 9454/2505 9002

SEDANS

- Toyota Corolla 2002-2006.....	E999.00
- Toyota Corolla 2007 -2013.....	E1250.00
- Toyota corolla 1996 - 2001.....	E899.00
- Mazda 3.....	E1450.00
- Mazda 323 -2003-2014.....	E899.00
- VW Polo.....	E999.00
- Ford Fiesta 2008 etc.....	E1299.00
- Golf 5 with beading.....	E1550.00
- Ford Focus 2000-2010.....	E1450.00
- Sentra Mkt1 1990-2001.....	E899.00
- Almera / Sunny / Primera.....	E999.00
- Mazda 6 2003 - 2014.....	E1450.00

SERVICE KITS

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

LDV'S OLD & NEW

- Hilux 1981-1998.....	E499.00
- Hilux 2000-2014.....	E899.00
- Isuzu 1984-2003.....	E799.00
- Isuzu 2004-2012.....	E999.00
- Isuzu 2014.....	E1499.00
- 1 Tonner 1994 etc.....	E899.00
- Navara all.....	E1650.00
- Toyota Hilux Gd6 2018/19.....	E1299.00
- New Ford Ranger - 2018.....	E1399.00

TRUCKS

- Truck UD80/UD60.....	E1900.00
- Truck Isuzu (all) from 1990-2009.....	E1900.00
- Isuzu / Nissan UD80/90/460.....	E2450.00
- Scania.....	E3200.00
- Mercedes Actros / HINO.....	E1900.00
- Iveco / M.A.N. F90 / M.A.N. TG/ M.A.N. F2000 /E2000.....	E2200.00

Windscreens Specials



All Prices Include VAT...
FREE FITTING

DOC:19057

Envirocom

Approved Stockist of GreenCross Shoes

GREEN CROSS

Happy Feet, Happy People

New Winter Arrivals



Contacts Tel: +268 2404 8346 / +268 2404 9175
Fax: +268 2404 5423
Email: envirocom@swazi.net

Physical Address
110 Dzelewe Street
Mbabane

Doc.19061

Mbabane Council, Mangwaneni Royal Kraal debacle:

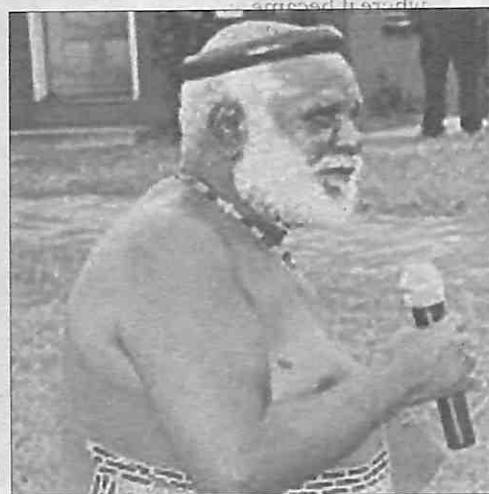
MANGWANENI DWELLERS PREPARING GIFTS FOR THEIR MAJESTIES

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

As tensions between Mbabane Municipal Council and Mangwaneni Royal Kraal over rights of governing Mangwaneni continue, the Royal kraal is allegedly preparing appreciations gifts for Their Majesties.

According to sources close to the matter, some residents are of the view that the gift would be a token of appreciation for an apparent verdict over Mangwaneni. It is said that the verdict declare that Mangwaneni is not under Mbabane Municipal Council.

The people started collecting the contributions as of last week, and by Thursday some concerned individuals reported the matter to the council. Information gathered by the Sunday Observer suggests that residents were contributing E100 each.



Acting Ludzidzini Governor
Lusendvo Fakudze.

Interestingly, the news comes in time when the issue of whether Mangwaneni belongs to the council or the Mangwaneni Royal Kraal is currently being discussed at Ludzidzini by relevant stakeholders. In the meantime, there is an on-going construction ban at the township, which has caused uproar.

A member of Mangwaneni Royal Kraal Mlungisi Dlamini confirmed in a telephonic interview that residents have held a meeting, where they agreed to make contributions towards a gift, which would be presented to Their Majesties. He said there was no specific figure; however, he stated that dwellers that were capable of making E100, were free to do so.

"We agreed to make contributions but we never stipulated that it should be E100 which means those capable would be free to contribute the E100," he said.

Therefore, he continued to add that residents

were also free to make any contributions of their own. He said the main intention is 'kuyovusela' to Their Majesties not to thank the said verdict. Dlamini mentioned that he would not like to dwell much on the said verdict, as it was a matter handled by the superiors of the land.

"All I know is that residents took a resolution to visit Their Majesties, representatives are yet to be elected. It is a normal thing to visit Their Majesties as per the Eswatini norms," Dlamini said.

He continued to add that the proposed visitation was a sign of showing love to Their Majesties. Dlamini stated that it was not for the first time residents make contributions as in previous national events they made contributions.

Dlamini expressed his disappointment the news of the contributions have been leaked to the media. He likened the leakage as pre-empting the move but not revealing any specific dates he insisted that residents would visit Their Majesties.

Mangwaneni is independent — Acting Ludzidzini governor

Acting Ludzidzini Governor Lusendvo Fakudze has firmly said the Mbabane Municipal Council does not have authority over Mangwaneni.

He mentioned that Mangwaneni Royal Kraal's existence was not something new, as it dates back to the time of Queen Mother Gwamile during the reign of King Mahlokohla.

Independent

"The Royal kraal is not new, it has always been independent. What I know is that Mangwaneni has nothing to do with the council.

The Royal kraal was used by the Queen Mother during Prince of Wales' visitations.

Refreshments

The queen mother would make a stop and get refreshments before proceeding with her journey to either Zombodze or Lobamba. Even today, when there is an event, the Queen mother makes a stop at the Mangwaneni Royal Kraal, that is all I can tell you," he narrated.

Fakudze said he was not aware of the contributions, which were being made by Mangwaneni residents.

It's a scam — Mbabane Council

Mbabane Municipal Council Information and Public Relations Officer Lucky Tsabedze viewed the collection of E100 from residents to presents gifts to Their Majesties as a scam.

"It has come to our attention that there are certain individuals who go around deceiving people, stating that they sent to collect a sum of E100 which the monies would be used to buy cattle, which would be presented to Their Majesties as a gift," he explained.

He continued to add that according to information received by the council, the appreciation gift to Their Majesties would be to thank the declaration that the council does not have powers over areas like Mangwaneni, Bahai, as well as Mvukwelitje. Tsabedze alleged that the scammers go to an extent of promising a receipt to individuals, who have contributed the E100.

The council's mouthpiece stated that the institution as an interested party has also attended talks at Ludzidzini about the issue of the areas concerned.

"As far as we know, a verdict has not been reached regarding the matter. No verdict has been made, which states that the council should no longer govern the above mentioned areas," he stated.

Therefore, Tsabedze emphasised that the individuals who were collecting the monies were defrauding the residents. He said it was not true that the council no longer administer the dwellings in question. Tsabedze viewed the on-going exercise as a scam as the council has not yet been ordered to stop administering the areas.

Furthermore, he urged residents not to make the contributions towards the initiative.

Benefits of this programme

Precious Dlamini Public Healthcare Services the National Programme Manager, said benefits are always achieved by periodic drug treatment and they surpass the side effects thus far. These include reducing the number of heavily infected people, reducing environmental contamination and risk of infection for other people. She added that reducing micronutrient loss like iron loss through intestinal bleeding in hookworm infection, improving nutritional status, reducing the lesions of the urinary tract and the liver and improving cognitive functions learning abilities.

"The benefits of deworming surpass the side effects by far. Rigorous studies have shown that deworming has a significant impact on the health, education and livelihoods of treated children and there are positive outcomes," she said.

Emergency Preparedness and Response officer Bongani Tsabedze warned the nation to consider a few things before taking deworming medicines, including making sure that one has ingested enough food before taking medicines to lessen stomach upset. He added that administration of the drug on an empty stomach might be more appropriate when intraluminal effects are desired. He warned that this medicine shouldn't be used if allergic to Albendazole or to similar drugs such as Mebendazole (Vermox).

Deworming campaign starts tomorrow

STORIES BY NOKUZOLA THWALA

The ministry of health will embark on a deworming campaign exercise, starting tomorrow in different schools throughout 23 Tinkhundla centre.

This was revealed by Vusi Lokotfwako from the epidemiology department in the ministry during a press conference aimed at sensitising the nation through the media at Emafini yesterday.

Mass Medicines Administration (MMA), commonly known as deworming, is the giving of drugs to get rid of helminths and parasites like bilharzia and intestinal worms. The drugs administered are Praziquantel which is given to treat bilharzia and Albendazole is given to treat intestinal worms. They are administered as a single dose tablet to all children regardless of weight or age.

The main aim of MMA is to reduce morbidity and mortality and prevent new cases from interrupting transmission by reducing the worm burden in the population.

"When deworming, there is elimination of worm infestation in the body. When an infected person urinates or defecates into the environment either soil and water, the eggs are released and so by deworming we reduce the risk of infecting other people.

"The World Health Organization (WHO) has set a deworming coverage of at least 75 per cent



Deworming in process in one of the primary schools during a recent campaign.

among school, going children to eliminate Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs). NTDs can cause blindness, horrible swelling of the limbs and even death.

"The dangers of not deworming include increases in the number of heavily worm infected learners, it can cause malnutrition, resulting from micronutrient deficiency, increases chances of getting anaemia. It can also affect child growth, reduces cognitive and mental and physical development, reduces appetite, physical fitness. Resistance to other infections and school absenteeism can be increased and poor pregnancy outcomes," he stated. Children with NTDs are

often too sick to attend or perform well at school and even healthy children can miss out on a chance at education if they have to care for parents or siblings who have NTDs.

MMA was launched by the then acting Prime Minister, Paul Dlamini, in 2016 and it is now in its fourth year. In 2016, 2017 and 2018, MMA was launched by the then minister of health Sibongile Simelane. In the Manzini region, it was launched at St Michael's High School in 2017 while in the Lubombo region it was at the School for the Deaf and in 2018 it was launched in the Hhohho region at Ejubukweni School. Lokotfwako revealed that the ministry was able

STORIES BY SANDILE NKAMBULE

CONTRACTORS WANT STAKEHOLDERS FORUM LAUNCH STOPPED

The Eswatini Construction Industry Council (ECIC) Stakeholder Forum slated for Wednesday, is in limbo as the Eswatini Contractors Association (ECA) wants it stopped, pending the ironing out of issues within the ECIC.

The ECA has filed an urgent application at the High Court, where it is seeking an order staying the launch of the Construction Industry Stakeholders Forum initiated by the ECIC pending determination of appointment of the Board of directors.

The association is seeking an order declaring that the Board of the ECIC is unlawfully constituted and that it be dissolved with immediate effect.

Order

Further, the association is also seeking an order interdicting the first respondent (ECIC) from implementing its decision passed by the Board pending the outcome of the present proceedings before court and that a rule nisi be issued, calling upon the respondent to show cause why the order of court should not be made final.

According to Reuben Msibi from the contractors association, in terms of Section 46 of the Construction Industry Council Act No 14 of 2013, the Council does not have regulation to date and that the regulations are defied by the ministry of public works and transport as a ministry responsible for the applicant (ECA) in terms



of the Act.

In his affidavit filed before court, Msibi submitted that it is common cause that the process started and the regulations could not be processed to finality until the present time and that there were engagements between the applicant and the first and second respondents on the issue.

Cited as the respondents in the matter is the ECIC as the first, the principal secretary in the

ministry as the second and the attorney general as the third respondent respectively.

Msibi submitted further that it is common cause that despite the non-existence of the regulations, the first respondent carried out its operations as if the regulations were in place.

Regulations

"The draft of the regulations was drawn up and has not been adopted and the applicant had a number of issues with the manner and speed at which the draft regulations were addressed, in that it felt that the interests were not properly addressed and that it did not seek to collaborate the provisions of the Act in that they were just a stand alone," Msibi submitted.

He further informed the court that the applicant having felt the need to further seek legal opinion on the draft of the regulations and wrote a to the ministry informing it of its desire to solicit the legal opinion and also hold in abeyance the exercise of proceeding to deal with the draft of the regulations.

Contractors Association received invitation to launch with shock

It has been submitted further by Reuben Msibi that they shockingly received an invitation from the first respondent (ECIC) to the launch of the Construction Industry Stakeholders Forum to be held on June 12 in terms of Section 19 of the Act.

"Again this came as a shock to the applicant (association) as it was not expecting such and not ready to deal with it on such a very short notice, it is of great importance to mention that the issue of the stakeholders forum in terms of the Act was the core concern on the existence of the first respondent (ECIC) and that the association resolved its executive committee meet-

ing to pursue same against the ECIC," Msibi submitted.

Submitted

He submitted that in the invitation for the launch, a cut-off date within which to forward a candidate for nomination was set to be June 3, 2019, when the correspondence was received on June 4, which according to Msibi is a clear demonstration of the calibre of the ECIC in as far as dealing with issues is concerned. He further accused the first respondent of always being hostile when addressing the applicant, forgetting that the applicant is the major stakeholder in the industry and should be consulted prior

to taking decisions which embarrass it at the end.

He submitted that the association responded to the invitation for the launch, requesting an extension of the launch of the Construction Industry Stakeholders Forum as per Section 19 of the Construction Industry Council Act.

Proceed

He informed the Court that the Council indicated that it shall proceed with the launch despite the request for an extension which depicts the unfavourable and unworkable environment that has been created which should not be like this, hence the present application.

'A lot has been going wrong since ECIC was established'

Represented by Lawyer Machawe Sithole, the association, according to Reuben Msibi in his 10-page affidavit stated that it became apparent that a lot had gone wrong within the Construction Industry Council (ECIC) since its inception.

Msibi submitted that the legal opinion they obtained indicated that the council could not exist without the formation of a Construction Industry Stakeholders Forum to deal with issues of regulation.

Alleged

He stated that the composition of the Board of the council was found to be in violation of Section 11 (3) (g) of the Act in that the alleged three representatives from the applicant had ceased to be in office and their offices within the council became vacant.

However, the ministry responded to a letter that had been addressed to it, where it became apparent that it holds the view that the three members were properly appointed by the minister.

"It is again worrying on how the minister of public works and transport could proceed and appoint one of the members Dumsile Shongwe despite the association's strong residence to such which was also communicated to all relevant parties," Msibi submitted.

He also stated that it is common cause that within the board are three members who are appointed by the ministry and are also officials of the ministry which leads to one conclusion that the ECIC and the ministry's principal secretary are collectively responsible for the decisions issued and consults each other frequently hence they cannot be isolated in the present proceedings.

to implement this exercise in the previous years because of multi-sectoral collaboration with the ministry of education and training, managerial support from principal secretary, directorate, financial controller, transport officer, regional health management teams and regional education offices.

He added the availability of emergency medical response and call centre 24 hours, use of qualified nurses and final year nursing students to administer the medicines and this gave the parents and caregivers confidence in the campaign. He also acknowledged technical and financial support from WHO and other partners. Public Healthcare Services National Programme Manager Precious Dlamini highlighted several challenges stating that these include inadequate transport and shortages of fuel in the regions, inadequate public awareness raising on the MMA, hence some parents or schools refuse that their children be part of the MMA. She also said there was a poor uptake of MMA by private schools, stock outs in school feeding program and lack of deworming by the adult population. She also said there was a challenge in funding sustainable methods in light of diminishing funding of the adult population because 'seyiyakhatsala WHO'.

"May I thank and acknowledge partners of this exercise including the Ministry of Education and Training, University of Eswatini (UNESWA), Southern African Nazarene University (SANU) and Good Shepherd College of Nursing, Elizabeth Glaser Paediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), International Centre for AIDS Treatment Programme (ICAP) and the ministry of health," she said.

Afreximbank to provide E2bn credit facility to Eswatini

BY BODWA MBINGO

The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) will provide a credit facility valued at up to E2 billion (about US\$140 million), to the Kingdom of Eswatini to enable the country to achieve required funding to meet trade and strategic economic goals.

This was announced by Bank President Professor Benedict Oramah during his visit in the country. Professor Oramah, who was addressing His Majesty King Mswati III on May 31, when he led an Afreximbank delegation to visit the King during a two-day state visit to the Kingdom, was briefing him on a joint declaration which Afreximbank signed earlier in the day with officials of the kingdom.

According to www.afreximbank.com, he said that the facility would also enable the kingdom to leverage its future financial flows as a tool for economic development. The King commended Afreximbank for the assistance and services it was committing to the country and welcomed the signing of the joint declaration as a key contribution toward the development of the Kingdom.

Earlier, during the signing ceremony, Neal Rijkenberg, Minister of Finance, who signed the Joint Declaration on behalf of the government, said that the facility, when finally effective, would help to address development opportunities before the kingdom. Rijkenberg said Eswatini could use Afreximbank's assistance for advisory services in converting Eswatini's agro-processing potential



Bank President Professor Benedict Oramah.

into a leading export driver. He also invited the bank to explore opportunities in the tourism and manufacturing sectors.

The delegation also met with Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini, who commended the bank's commitment and dedication to Eswatini since it became a member of the bank and said that the bank's support was invaluable to the kingdom's economic growth and expansion. Professor Oramah affirmed Afreximbank's commitment to supporting the economic growth of Eswatini, saying, "We want to be relevant to the country. This visit will help us chart a more aggressive course to support the development of the country. There are many areas in which we can assist." He identified the timber industry as a sector where Afreximbank could provide support. He noted that Eswatini had a large supply of

timber and recommended that the government should develop a policy for the processing.

The delegation also attended a breakfast meeting hosted by the prime minister, and attended by Rijkenberg; Senator Manqoba Khumalo, the Minister of Commerce; Dr Tambo Gina, the Minister of Economic Planning; and Development Andrew Le Roux, CEO of Montigny, the largest timber company in the country.

The delegation was accompanied on the visit by representatives of Elsewedy Electric, an Afreximbank Intra-African Trade Champion. The Intra-African Trade Champions programme supports companies with proven intra-African trade experience, operations, and with value chains spanning across countries, with interventions, which include financing, market access and technical assistance.

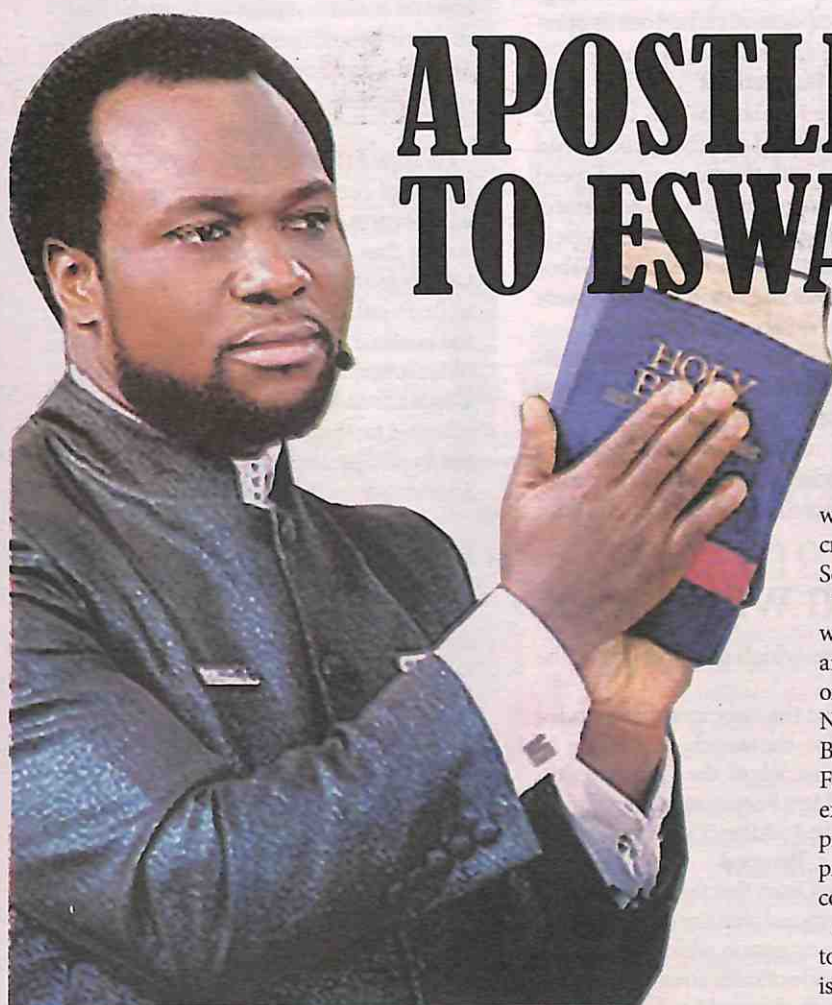
The Afreximbank delegation also participated in the launch of the End Malaria Fund hosted by His Majesty King Mswati III. The initiative seeks to end malaria in Eswatini and Africa by 2020. The King is the Chair of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance, a coalition of 49 African heads of state and government working across countries and regional borders to eliminate malaria by 2030. The Afreximbank delegation also included Rene Awambeng, Director and Global Head of Client Relations; Ekene Uzor, Special Assistant to the President on Banking and Strategy; Humphrey Nwugo, Regional Chief Operating Officer, Southern Africa; Ayman El-Zoghby, of the Intra-African Trade Initiative; Adaeze Anyaoku of the Communications and Events Department; and Yikilah Ndahne of the Office of the President.



Congregants being prayed for in one of Apostle John Chi's sermons.



Members of the organising committee Nathi Dlamini, Prophet Thabiso Nxumalo, Pastor Annah Ngwenya and Zonke Vilakati during the media briefing. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)



Apostle John Chi.

APOSTLE JOHN CHI COMING TO ESWATINI

STORIES BY SIMON SHABANGU

The Kingdom of Eswatini will be blessed, as well-known prophet; Apostle John Chi will be in the country for a three-day crusade, dubbed Eswatini Jesus on The Scene Crusade.

This report, which will be received with excitement by the locals, was announced by the Chairman of the organising Committee, Prophet Thabiso Nxumalo during a media briefing at Breath of Life Church in Moneni on Friday. The prophet said they were excited that the much sought after prophet, who has done wonders in the prophetic and healing ministry, will be coming to Eswatini.

Apostle John Chi is the spiritual son to Prophet TB Joshua of Nigeria, who is equally anointed having been mentored by the bishop for many years. He is the founder of Ark of God's Covenant Ministry (AGCOM) based in Cameroon, his native country to which he relocated after he was blessed by his spiritual father, Bishop TB Joshua.

He said the coming of the bishop is collaboration between a number of churches and they are only the organising committee tasked with facilitating everything to ensure everything runs smoothly during the crusade.

Hotels get ready

On another note Prophet Thabiso Nxumalo said hotels and hospitality service providers must be ready to receive lot of people during the visit as Apostle Chi commands a huge following from around the world, especially Africa.

He said they are already receiving enquiries from other countries, including Mozambique, South Africa, Botswana and Lesotho with people trying get more information on the service. "This will be

abusiness opportunity for the hospitality industry and vendors in general as there will be a number of people coming in just for the service.

"I encourage accommodation facility owners, especially around Manzini to get ready for an influx of people during that weekend. Vendors and small business people must also get in touch with us to get details on how they can also feature and provide service during the services," he said.

"We are excited to announce that the prophet will be in the country for three days, starting on July 25 until 27. The crusade will be held at Mavuso Trade Centre where we expect God's visitation, hence the name of the Jesus on the Scene Crusade. We urge the nation to be ready for this big crusade, where many people's lives will be changed.

Healed

"The sick will be healed of their diseases of many years. If there is anyone who has a chronic disease and any kind of disease proven by the doctors is invited the come through as the prophet will pray and get people healed during the crusade," he said.

Giving details of the crusade, the prophet said the first day will be a prophetic and impartation service. "I must stress that this will be a special service, where all who want to attend

must register by calling 78081012, so that there will be seats reserved for them.

This we are doing to avoid a stampede as the service will purely for prophecy and impartation. On Friday and Saturday it will be healing and deliverance services. The apostle will minister and pray for all the people present on the night.

All people need to do is to be ready spiritually to receive what God will impart to their lives," he added.

Prophet Nxumalo, who was joined by other members of the organising committee Nathi Dlamini, Pastor Annah Ngwenya and Zonke Vilakati told the media that the visit by the apostle is a blessing for the nation, as he has visited a number of countries and has left many people's lives changed wherever he went.

Brief history as detailed by the apostle on his website

I was born on September 26, 1976 in Esu - Wum, Menchum Division of the North West Region of Cameroon out of a union between Mr Chi Victor and his wife, Chi Lucy Ekange.

I left Primary School in 1989 and lacked funds to continue in secondary school. I then learnt motor electricity yet stopped for want of money. So, I left for the South West Region and worked with Honourable Efite Andrew as house boy. One day in Mutengene, I saw a crowd listening to a preacher and went closer. Suddenly, the preacher spotted me out and prophesied to me saying: 'God is going to use you mightily, make you a great and famous prophet that would be known all over the world'. I took him for a fake pastor.

"A few days later, our church pas-

tor from Sierra-Leone, said the same thing as above and declared a period of fasting. I accepted but broke the fast before the due date. When it ended, he asked me to accept the calling. I was perplexed. He continued saying God had asked him to take me to his country. Finally, he told me to be humble and leave the rest to God.

Ark of God's Covenant Ministry (AGCOM) came about through a revelation. I am Apostle John Chi. When God called me by His grace and used His servant Prophet TB Joshua to anoint me and entrusted the light of the Word in me, I was overwhelmed by this grace. But, I had this burden in my heart to take this light to my people. In my supplication to God about His vision, I experienced a remarkable encounter with

the Lord Jesus Christ on the second week of July 2013.

In my vision, I was on my knees praying and a voice came from heaven saying, 'Look up here' and I looked up into heaven and I saw the Lord Jesus Christ kneeling down and facing a cross. On the cross was written **Revelation 11:19** and the Lord said to me: 'This is your commission' and I woke up. It was 6am prompt. I shared this vision with my spiritual father, Prophet TB Joshua, who commended me into prayer and retreat for the interpretation of the vision. I read **Rev. 11:19** and it was clear to me that this was the platform to share His light to His people. The people of old carried the Ark of God's Covenant with them everywhere they went even into battles. Today, we carry the Ark in our hearts.

RADIO & ALARMS

NEW STOCKS HAVE ARRIVED

specials!!!

USB new radios from E495.00

MORE THAN 30 BRANDS AVAILABLE!!!

Alarms from E995.00



Including FREE fitting Immobilizer

HURRY WHILE STOCKS LAST!!

Auto City

MANZINI
Tel: 2505 9671
Fax: 2505 9673

MATSAPHA
Opp Former Broror Foods
Tel: 2518 6043, 2518 5718

MBABANE
next to Bandag & Autozone
Tel: 2404 1464

DOC:19114

▶ ▶ MTN 21 days of Y'ello Care 2019



This is how the egg hatchery at Ekwetsembeni looked like before MTN and its partners refurbished it on Friday. This initiative is part of the 21 days of Y'ello Care activities. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)



MTNers planning where to start and how to execute the duties.

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

To round off the last day of the first week of the MTN 21 days of Y'ello Care initiative, MTN staffers took on their shovels and wheelbarrows and refurbished the egg hatchery at Ekwetsembeni on Friday.

Ekwetsembeni Special School is located in the capital city and houses children with intellectual disabilities. It was established by two American Peace Corps volunteers.

Present partners on the day were Huawei Technologies as well as Macmillan who also saw their employees get their hands dirty by refurbishing the egg hatchery.

Interviewed, Ndoda Magagula, the volunteer responsible for securing help for the school with the MTN 21 Days of Y'ello Care project, thanked MTN and all her partners for the kind gesture and further mentioned that the situation faced by the children was dire, calling upon all Emaswati to play a role in improving it.

"I would like to express my gratitude to MTN and all her partners for this today. This egg hatchery wasn't a proper one anymore and remember we are dealing with intellectually disabled children, so we have to keep them safe and healthy. This is why I would like to call upon anyone who finds it in their heart

to come through and offer their help where they can; we will welcome them with both hands. These children are the future of Eswatini, and deserve to be properly taken care of albeit their condition, especially because most of their parents are poverty stricken," he said.

MTN's Evidence Ntshalintshali, on the other hand, lauded their partners for joining them and said it was a pleasure for MTN to know that the children would be filled with smiles at the end of it all.

"We thank the two partners of ours that were able to join us on the ground today for the annual work. Again, we are just happy to know that the children here will be filled with smiles and to have something to eat because of us. That is true 'youth empowerment,'" she said.

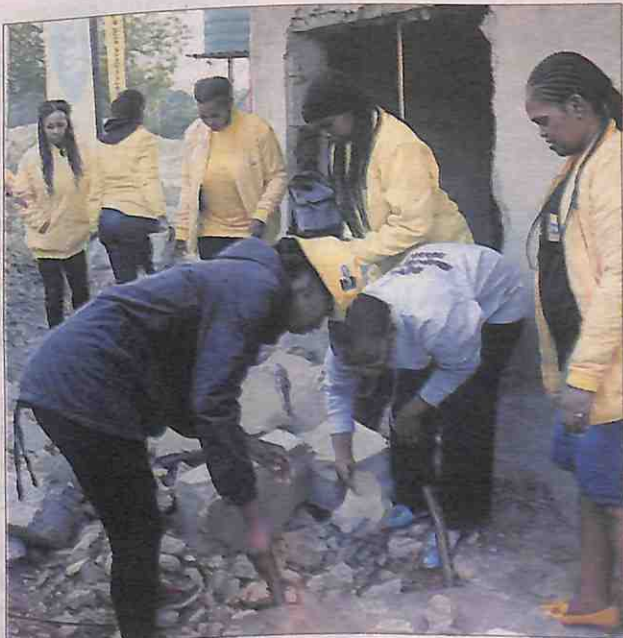
MTNers REFURBISH EKWETSEMBENI EGG HATCHERY



MTNers working hand-in-hand to clear up for the new slab.



US volunteer Ndoda Magagula, who is attached to Ekwetsembeni, also got his hands dirty.



MTNers clearing up the area after a dilapidated part of the building was destroyed.



MTN's Evidence Ntshalintshali hard at work.



MTNers contemplating their next move.

2019 21 DAYS PARTNERS



KMIII Airport shuttle company saga continues:

EX-WORKERS HIT BACK AGAINST MANAGER'S CLAIMS

“We would like to take an opportunity to clear the air in response to the company's allegations of our conduct whilst working at the airport, as stated in last week Sunday's issue.”

BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

It is a blatant lie!

Ex-employees of RECON Coaches, which offers shuttle services at KMIII International Airport, have come out to strongly dispute word by word statements made by the Director Wiseman Magagula on their welfare while attached to the company.

Disputing almost everything that Magagula said as a response to the litany of allegations levelled against his company, the ex-employees said it was not true that Magagula offered ex-workers interchangeable off-days,

deducted pensions, end-of-year packages, among other things.

The workers reduced their grievances into writing, the communiqué they emailed to the Sunday Observer.

“We would like to take an opportunity to clear the air in response to the company's allegations of our conduct whilst working at the airport, as stated in last week Sunday's issue.”

Before we begin, may we start by mentioning that, save for the E30 lunch and the open door policy, everything else that he stated in the newspaper is a blatant lie,” reads the communiqué.

On the interchangeable off-days, ex-workers mentioned that by design, the schedule is in such a way that they are all hands-on deck at all times seven days a week. “No driver was ever mentioned to us as someone who is always on stand-by and would be a fill-in whenever we needed to take a day off.

We are educated, but education aside, offering employees off-days should not be a mandate that is bestowed exclusively on the employees themselves,” reads the letter.

On the issue of deduction of pensions, the ex-employees said it was known that they worked without contracts.

Deductions

They claim that they were not aware of pensions and other benefits which are highlighted in contracts and the deductions made are shown in pay slips. “All these documents, namely contracts, terms of service and payslips, are things we never had.

We were not even paid by EFT but instead we would, on irregular days (usually beyond the official pay-day) be getting financial deposits, very much as one would deposit pocket money,” reads the letter. The workers claimed that at times they would be paid through envelopes which left them not eligible even to take bank loans.

Upon employment (which was all conducted by word of mouth – nothing signed), the ex-workers claimed they would be verbally told how much they would be earning.

“Say, ‘E3 000 is your monthly salary’; and that is all he would give you. He

would not say something like, ‘your basic salary is E3 500, but I will deduct E500 which will go to your benefits and your net salary will be E3 000’. No! He never said anything like that, let alone have it written down,” the letter continued.

On the overtime, the workers said it was not true that they would work an average of two more hours per week. They claimed that they were actually working an average of two more hours per day which they were not allegedly reimbursed for.

Letter

The ex-workers also claimed that as far as they knew none of the former workers had ever been in possession of a contract, these being the company's oldest employees and relatively new ones. On the issue of an administrator who was not paid for two months before she left, the letter states that the administrator allegedly once approached Magagula and offered to fetch the company's record book from the airport to show him that, to the best of her knowledge, she had nothing to hide. However, it is said that such move was vehemently barred by the company.

Grievances

“Even if, say, our colleague may have been careless with a few finances, which, at this point, we are convinced she never was; we are sure there must be other more systematic and more lenient means of recovering the money than just a ruthless decision of withholding someone's salary for two months,” further states the letter of grievance. Lastly, the ex-workers also disputed being given end-of-year packages.

When contacted on Tuesday, after the reporter had introduced himself and the reason for contacting him, Magagula wondered what more the ex-workers were complaining about.

He was then asked to share his email address so that the letter with the grievances could be forwarded him. However, he said he was busy, and promised to contact the publication later.

When contacted on Friday morning, Magagula's phones rang unanswered.



The two idle government houses near Ekuhlamkeni Primary School that have been turned into sex dens. (c) Christina Maseko the pre-school teacher gesturing during the interview with this publication. (r) The government houses lying idle at Mafucula; the one on the far right has been turned into a pre-school. (Pics: Fortune Ndlangamandla).

Idle govt house turned into pre-school

BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

One of the two idle government houses at Mafucula which were turned by pupils into sex dens, is now a pre-school.

The pre-school is expected to make at least E19 800 from fees, a figure derived from 22 children who enrolled in January, as per government's calendar.

Each child is charged E100 per month; children are expected to be in school for at least nine months.

The houses belong to the ministry of agriculture as they were in the past used by the veterinary and extension officers. The pre-school is operating in the veterinary house which has two rooms, a kitchen as well as a bathroom.

Worth noting, the teacher running the pre-school does not pay rent for using the government house, but only

has to deal with running costs. The Sunday Observer gathered that prior to the opening of the new pre-school, children had to travel to places like Tambankulu as well as Mhlume.

Christina Maseko told this newspaper that she opened the pre-school after some parents had approached her and sold their idea to her. She said she is a qualified pre-school teacher.

Umphakatsi

After considering the request; she approached the *umphakatsi* and asked to use one of the houses as a pre-school.

“The *umphakatsi* gave me the authority to use the house, however, the committee made it clear that the houses belonged to government not the community. So I was told to be ready to surrender the house should government wish to reclaim it,” Maseko narrated.

She added that before occupying the house, she spent close to E3 000 renovating it. She had to buy doors, window glasses as well as painting the wall.

Furthermore, she revealed that there were some residents who were troubling her over the usage of the structure. She said some individuals know that it has been refurbished so they want to hold meetings while some want to use it for accommodation.

However, she mentioned that she resisted the moves as a pre-school by nature requires that it should be treated like a private institution. Her dream is to own a building which would house the pre-school. Before the teacher, who is a resident of the area, turned one of the houses into a pre-school, the structures were looted and vandalised by some residents. The houses had broken windows and doors while some of these have been removed. The extension officer's house had its ceiling removed, allegedly because it was infested with bats, which had become a nuisance in the area.

The two houses are a stone's throw away from the primary and a few kilometres from the high school. One is

roofed with tiles while the other has corrugated galvanised iron.

As reported by the Sunday Observer early this year, the two houses have no electricity. Cow dung was also found littered on the floor which showed the houses were also being used by animals as shelter.

Issues

However, the two government workers deployed in the area vacated the houses over five years ago, with the extension officer being the first to leave and the veterinary officer following a few years later.

Since then, the houses have been used as socialising spots in the area with pupils from both primary and high school frequenting these structures.

Information gathered from street vendors near the school suggests that pupils were allegedly using the houses for sexual encounters and also to do drugs (including smoking and drinking alcohol).

The issue was so serious that early this year, the Swaziland Action Group

Against Abuse (SWAGAA) was invited by the primary school to address the pupils. This was after teachers, especially Deputy Principal Sindisiwe Matsebula, had on numerous times found the pupils engaged in illicit dealings. On the other hand, Ministry of Agriculture Principal Secretary (PS) Bongani Masuku said he could not specifically respond on the two houses.

He said the ministry has many idle houses around the country. This was caused by the reduction in the number of extension officers.

The PS said the ministry was doing an inventory to determine houses that the ministry might use in the future.

He said houses which the ministry does not need would be handed to other government institutions.

He then encouraged the principals of Ekuhlamkeni to approach his office to see if an agreement can be reached about the vacated houses.

He mentioned that his ministry in the past had handed over government houses to other departments.

'SPECIAL WARDER' RECRUITED AGED 50 RETIRES

BY BODWA MBINGO

One of the country's most special warders to be ever recruited by His Majesty's Correctional Services, Deputy Commissioner General Thomas Dlamini, who joined the department aged 50, is now due for retirement.

Exactly 10 years ago, the Correctional Services recruited the 50-year-old warder and stationed him at the Rehabilitation and Reintegration Department.

He has spent only 10 years under the department before reaching his retirement age of 60, and is expected to retire next month.

This is the man whose recruitment into the department in 2009 raised eyebrows even amongst Members of Parliament (MP) who openly criticised it.

However, his recruitment was defended by then Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Ndumiso Mamba who explained that during such recruitments, they looked at special skills.

"We look at what the recruit is coming with and this one had a special skill that the Correctional Services needed," explained Mamba then.

This was during a debate on the ministry's second quarter performance report in November 2009.

Then members of the ministry's portfolio committee said they found it hard to comprehend how a 50-year-old could be recruited as a warder when he had only 10 years to serve government.



Correctional Services PRO Superintendent Gugulethu Dlamini.

First to raise the issue was former Kubuta MP Charles Myeza who was quoted as having said: "I will not say much about the Correctional Services when even 50-year-olds are employed, I mean 50-year-olds, which means he is left with 10 years to serve government. This is one reason I want to know when the ACC (Anti-Corruption Commission) will start working and it must start here because there are certain people who saw a 50-year-old as capable of doing such a job (being a warder)."

Myeza, who had sent most of the MPs into stitches due to his continuous emphasis on the '50-year-old' said if

certain people within the Correctional Services saw the recruit capable of doing a commendable job, they should come out in the open and make it known to everyone.

Motshane MP Robert Magongo wanted to know where this man had been all his life to suddenly come up as one of the best recruits.

"Why is this man suddenly needed when he is 50 years old; where has he been? Some people have been left out because of him," submitted Magongo.

Dlamini forms part of the list of retiring officers that was confirmed by Correctional Services PRO Superintendent Gugulethu Dlamini on Friday.

She also confirmed that Senior Superintendent Bekayiphi Dlamini has also retired.

Bekayiphi is otherwise known as Chief Gasa WaNgwane of Qomintaba, whose last day at work was on May 5, having reached the mandatory 60 years retirement age.

The chief was employed as a senior officer at His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) under the Royal Guard Unit.

The two retirees are part of a list of 12 officers that will be leaving the department's employment throughout this year.

"At the turn of every year a list is released of officers that are due for retirement that particular year. We do have one at the moment of a total of 12 officers," said Superintendent Gugu Dlamini briefly.

Churches moving with the times

BY SANDZASIVE NXUMALO

Earlier this month, the appointment of Presiding Bishop Purity Malinga marked the start of the appointment of female bishops within the Methodist Church.

MCSA is the third church in the country to have females preachers. The first was the Church of the Nazarene with its appointment of Rev Grace Masilela back in the 1970s and the second was the Anglican Church when it appointed Reverend Ellinah Wamukoya.

"I am truly happy to hear this news of a new female bishop," says Reverend Grace Masilela of the Church of the Nazarene.

She noted that she did not know of the appointment of the Methodist bishop but is happy to learn about it. She further stated that all this proves that God does not discriminate between genders when it comes to calling leaders within the church. While reminiscing, she points out that when she was appointed Reverend in 1976 it was a big achievement for her because it proved to her that she had been living a good life through the Lord. She realised at this time that although it seldom occurred, there were those that looked into the



Bishop Ellinah Lina Wamukoya.

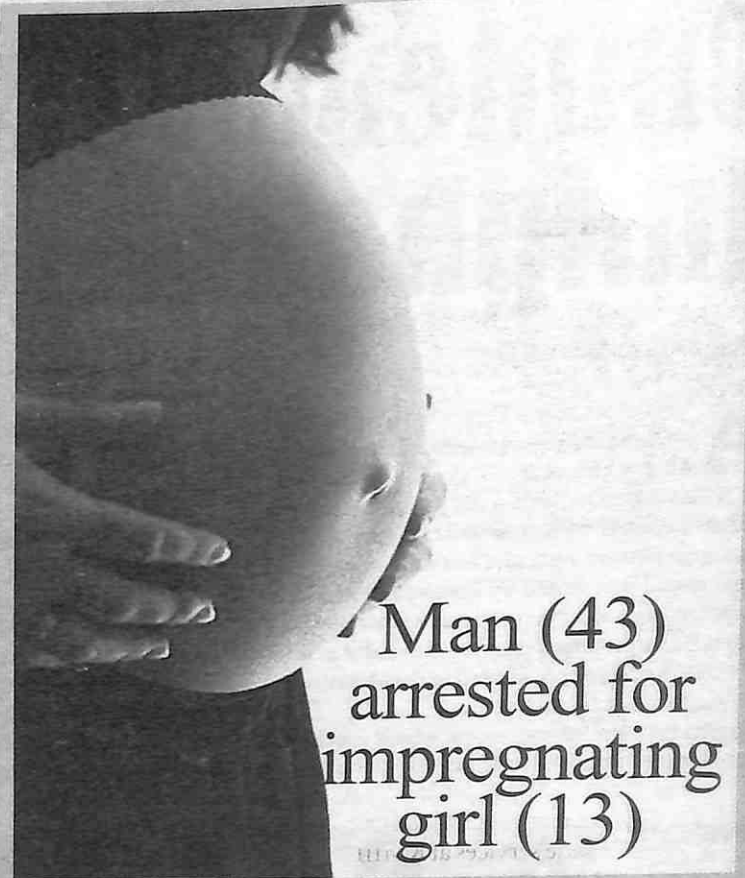
eyes of a person to see their worth rather than whether they were a male or female. "It was tough for a woman back then, let alone a woman that was a preacher and many men did not understand how it had happened," says Masilela.

She notes that it was not an easy transition as there were many that did not believe that women deserved such high positions within the church, noting that it was mostly men that had a hard time accepting her. She states that the best solution to dealing with naysayers was to simply live a clean life and continue serving the Lord.

"Jesus used women from the beginning, Paul referred to women as his co-workers and they were the first people

to bring the news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ," said Bishop Steven Masilela of the Church of God of Prophecy.

He is a firm supporter of women being assigned leadership roles within the church rather than only being permitted to be nuns and sisters. It is his belief that women being allowed to lead isn't the changing of times but rather following of the Bible and its teachings. "We are glad that many people have seen the light that women have a lot to offer the church," Masilela further noted. This appointment of women shows that the country is truly moving in the right direction with regards to gender equality. Times are truly changing, slowly but surely they are.



Man (43) arrested for impregnating girl (13)

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE

The retributive Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act continues to bite on those who contravene it as a 43-year-old man has been arrested for impregnating a 13-year-old girl.

Christopher Sibabazile Vilane is alleged to have committed the offence in January while at Lavumisa in the Shiselweni region.

According to the charge sheet, he is charged with contravening the SODV Act No 15 of 2018 in that on or upon the said date, he unlawfully had sexual intercourse with the 13-year-old female minor and as a result he impregnated her, thus contravened the Act.

Documents

Represented by Mbabane based lawyer Noncedo Ndlangamandla of Mabila Attorneys in Association with N Ndlangamandla, Vilane on Friday filed an urgent application for bail at the High Court where he appeared before Judge John Magagula.

Since the crown did not oppose his bail application, he was granted bail fixed at E50 000 by the court.

However, he was ordered to pay E5 000 in cash and E45 000 shall be in a form of surety and was further ordered to abide by all bail conditions which include, amongst others, that he should surrender his travel document or passport to the police and not apply for a new one pending finalisation of the matter.

According to Vilane in his founding affidavit, he was arrested by the Lavumisa police on May 29 and charged with contravening the said Act and is now currently booked at the Nhlanguano Correctional facility.

He averred that he is innocent of the charge and denies impregnating the minor girl as he alleged that he never had sexual intercourse with her.

"The complainant is known to me as a resident of the area I live

in and she is one of the children who live within the same community and there is nothing more between us. I am confident that when the child is born the DNA results will exonerate me," he submitted.

Security

He told the court that there is no likelihood that when admitted to bail he shall evade trial as he is born and bred in the Kingdom of Eswatini with a family rooted in the country, adding that there is no likelihood that he may interfere with the crown witnesses in the matter as they are not even known to him.

He stated that that he is a sickly person who suffers from asthma and that the conditions at the Correctional facility are not conducive for someone in the state he is in as he is made to sleep on a mat on the floor and is exposed to cold weather conditions which may aggravate his sickness.

He further submitted that there is no exceptional circumstances which may suggest that there is likelihood that his release might disturb public order or undermine the public peace and security as he is a law abiding citizen and has never been arrested for any offence in his lifetime before.

”

He was ordered to pay E5 000 in cash and E45 000 shall be in a form of a surety and was further ordered to abide by all bail condition which includes amongst others, that he should surrender his travel document or passport to the police and not apply for a new one pending finalisation of the matter.

Ummemo: Six South Africa Imiphakatsi visited so far

BY MBONO MDLULI

A total of six Royal Kraals have been visited by Emaswati in *imimemo* since the beginning of this year.

The Royal kraals visited so far include Mbhuleni, Nkhaba Lenzala, Mekemeke, Nkonjaneni, Mbuzini, Butsini, and most recently, Nikwakuyengwa. All these chiefdoms visited by Emaswati have a history of having once been situated in Eswatini back when Eswatini was bigger than what it is now. The chiefdoms are now situated in the Mpumalanga Province of South Africa.

Imimemo, is a SiSwati word, which is in plural form for *ummemo*. *Ummemo* is described as one

of the oldest traditions in the history of Emaswati and it plays an important role in keeping the Eswatini nation united. *Ummemo* is an event whereby Emaswati come together to revive their important structures in their communities, such as *umphakatsi* (Royal kraal). This is done because such structures are seen to be of great significance to the Eswatini nation.

Structures

Umphakatsi is a residence of a chief, who is the head of a chiefdom and this structure plays an important role in keeping the people of united. *Umphakatsi* is also there to ensure that every person in a chiefdom is taken care of. People who have no food in a chiefdom are supposed to be

fed by *umphakatsi*, which is, in turn, taken care of by the residents of the chiefdom.

Even if a person has no cattle to pay *lobolo* to his wife's family, he would be given cows as loan by *umphakatsi* to go and pay *lobolo*. The man would then pay back the cattle once he managed to recover them so that other people can borrow the cattle to do the same thing. That is how important *umphakatsi* can be to the lives of Emaswati.

Ummemo is called by a chief, who usually sends his servants like *Indvuna* (headman) or the runner (*umgijimi*). The chief can call *ummemo* for when there is need for people to cultivate certain crops in the fields of *umphakatsi*. *Umphakatsi* should always have food so that people can be assisted when they need food.



Acting Imbali Overseer Hlangabeza Mdluli (r) posing for a picture with Umbutfo Sigcebhe Dlamini.



Butsini Chief Teyani Nkosi on his way to make his remarks.



Ingadla Girls Group from Nikwakuyengwa showcasing their dancing skills.



Sagila saseMbhuleni displaying their Sibhaca dancing skills.



Sagila SeMnikati captain Mthunzi Dlamini seated with Sigcebhe Dlamini and Prince Bukhosi.



Indvuna yeMbali Nonduduzo Zubuko (3rd R) posing with Sijabuliso Ndzinisa from the office of Culture and Traditional Affairs. They are posing with Bongive Dlamini. (L), Nonduduzo Matsebula, Celiwe Dlamini and Calisile Dlamini. (r) Makoko Chief Isaac Mbangiswa Mdluli following proceedings during one of the events.



Nikwakuyengwa Chief Madzanga (real name Roy Abner Nkosi) delivering his speech during Ummemo at Nikwakuyengwa over the past weekend. (Pics: Samson Ncongwane)

South African chiefs happy with Ummemo

South Africa based chiefs, who are of Eswatini origin are praising His Majesty King Mswati III.

They are happy with the King because every time they had *ummemo*, the King would send a delegation to support the chiefs in Mpumalanga, South Africa. Every time the chiefs delivered their speeches, they would thank His Majesty for sending a delegation to teach them about the Eswatini culture, which would remind them that they were still Emaswati.

Mpumalanga House of Traditional Leaders (MPHTL) Chairperson Chief Hhoyi II, for example, has full of praises for Eswatini for being a country that still respects its culture. He states that as Mpumalanga chiefs, they are lucky to be adjacent to the kingdom because they can learn a lot from it and impart the importance of culture preservation to their people.

Chief Director of the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) Henry Magagula usually mentions that Eswatini is still the only country in Africa that still observes its culture. He also mentions that South Africa can learn a lot from Eswatini because many nations have lost their cultural identities.

Imimemo are seen as activities that are there to remind South African-based Emaswati not to doubt themselves as true Emaswati. The activities are also there to inform SA Emaswati that they could be separated by territorial border-lines from Eswatini, but that did not mean they no longer belonged to Eswatini. There are currently 14 chiefdoms that are visited by Emaswati living in Eswatini. Emaswati go there on invitation. That happens from March up until October in every year.

CALE'MFABANTFU PAYS LOBOLA FOR NCOBILE



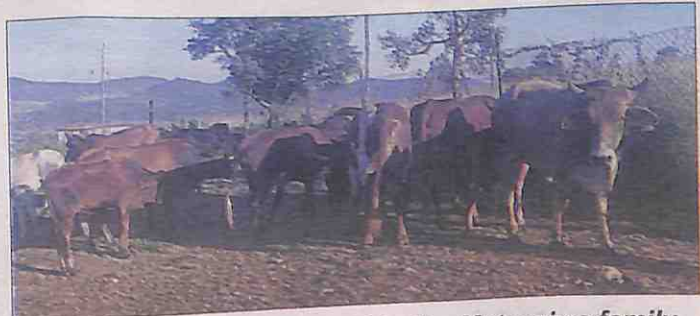
Swaziland Construction Industry Chief Executive Officer Nhlanhla Dlamini, also known as Umbutfo Cale'Mfabantfu, paid lobola for the love of his heart Ncobile, an RSTP Finance Officer, during a colourful ceremony held at the bride's maternal home at Ngcina area outside Siteki recently. Dlamini presented his in-laws with a herd of 17 cattle for the mother of his three children. (Courtesy pics)



Nhlanhla performing kujojotela inyongo session of the ceremony.



Friends Mongi Dlamini and Nhlanhla Dlamini react during the ceremony.



The herd of cattle presented to the Matsenjwa family (bride's maternal homestead), where the ceremony was held.



The couple captured after the inspection of the cattle presented to the Matsenjwa family.



The couple pictured with bafana benkhosi; Banele Shongwe, Sigodvo Motsa and Shewula, who also came through to support them.



Letshego CEO Mongi Tsatsindzawo Dlamini, Senator Chief Mphatfwa and Maswazi Go'man Vilakati also attended the ceremony.



Guests following proceedings of the ceremony.



Nhlanhla Dlamini pictured with his family on their happy day.



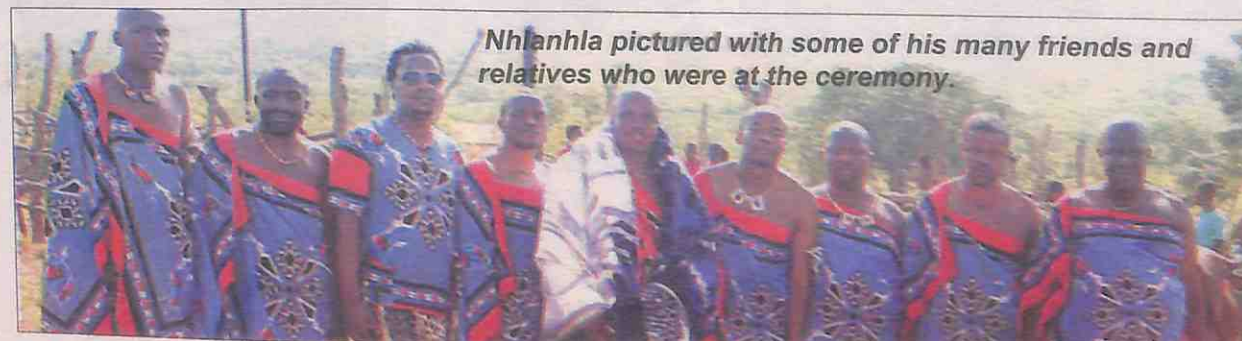
The couple pictured with family members during talks between the two families.



Business people Lucky 'Slomoos' Dlamini, Mvuzo Mamba and Isaac Magagula also came through to support the couple.



Ncobile pictured with some of her friends and colleagues who came through to share the special day with her.



Nhlanhla pictured with some of his many friends and relatives who were at the ceremony.



BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

Reclaim Africa! Eswatini breaks down borders

The Breaking Down Borders Africa Youth Summit, a pan-African annual conference for youth leaders from across the continent took place last week.

The summit was hosted under the theme 'Reclaim Africa' – which organisers described as 'a call to action for young people to work towards an Africa they desire to be a part of'.

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

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

This is what the local delegates got up to with their 17 other counterparts from the region in the summit.

Day 1. Delegates arrived and were checked in. Later, they attended the opening cocktail and award ceremony. Delegates were welcomed and change ambassadors were awarded, including Ms Nomzamo Mbatha. The guests were later treated to a rooftop fashion show for clothing brand Urban Zulu.

Day 2. Sci Bono Discovery Centre, Newtown.

The team listened to from panel discussions and went on to learn about power plenaries and networking. Eswatini was part of a panel discussion on Regional Integration and access to new markets, where Bertha Sithole shared briefly on - Ministry of Commerce's strategic road map – challenges and solutions as per the recently launched Road Map.

Topics covered through the day focused on: How the media reports on Africa (Sanelisiwe Mkhwanazi addressed the FAKE NEWS on



Eswatini), Changing Africa's brand, Facebook Workshop, Discussion on KGBQTI.

Day 3. The day started with a Power Plenary that had thought leaders like Media personality Odile Gertze (Namibia), Migrants advocate Sophie Kanza (DRC), Broadcaster William Lahong (SA), entrepreneur Cornet Mamabolo (SA), Bulelani Bala (SA), Fasiha Hassan SA and Matthew Mensah (Ghana) among others in different sessions that focused on;

- Youth, custodians of Africa's development
- Refugee discussion
- Women Empowerment
- Promoting Social Entrepreneurship
- Africa Good Governance Report

The organisers announced in March that this year's summit would be the

last one to be hosted in South Africa. This would mean that the next summit, to be hosted in 2021, would be hosted in another African country. The summit, which not only brings young people together, but also celebrates Africa day and month – by engaging in conversations which are led by and serve young people.

The Breaking Down Borders Africa Initiative is a multi-platform initiative that includes education, empowerment drives, as well as the conference. Founded by The Leaders Who Dare To Dream Foundation and led by a collective of youth social entrepreneurs, the initiative undertakes efforts to connect African youth through dialogue and conferencing, workshops and arts programmes.

Through various partnerships with

global NGOs, government and the private sector, the conference has driven robust conversation, given a platform for youth thought leadership and the building of networks among African youth in social and commercial entrepreneurship.

Testimonials:

Thabiso Mnisi - I think what was critical at this event was the engagement with other entrepreneurs and thought leaders of the communications industry.

I learnt that collaboration and skills sharing among Africans is important to continually communicate, engage on issues that affect young people, in those engagements, we can have sustainable solutions to our domestic challenges.

Noxolo Nkabinde - What I learnt also was the work of social entrepreneurs, they're critical to improving the economy, and they're more interested in growing others and creating sustainable businesses for other people. Social entrepreneurs need support from the private and the public sectors to thrive.

On another note; what I also learnt is that digital marketing for entrepreneurs and social causes is critical. I also learnt how to create content and use Facebook ads effectively to boost reach and Return on Investments (RoI) of those advertisements.

Senelisiwe Mkhwanazi: BDBAYS was a great platform for young people to talk about the issues they face and find solutions together. From my field of work there is more that needs to be done.

In most African communities' mental health is still a topic they don't talk about and the stigma attached to mental health doesn't only affects those living with mental health illnesses but their communities as well.

We need to stand up as you people and reclaim our mental strength.

The Eswatini team

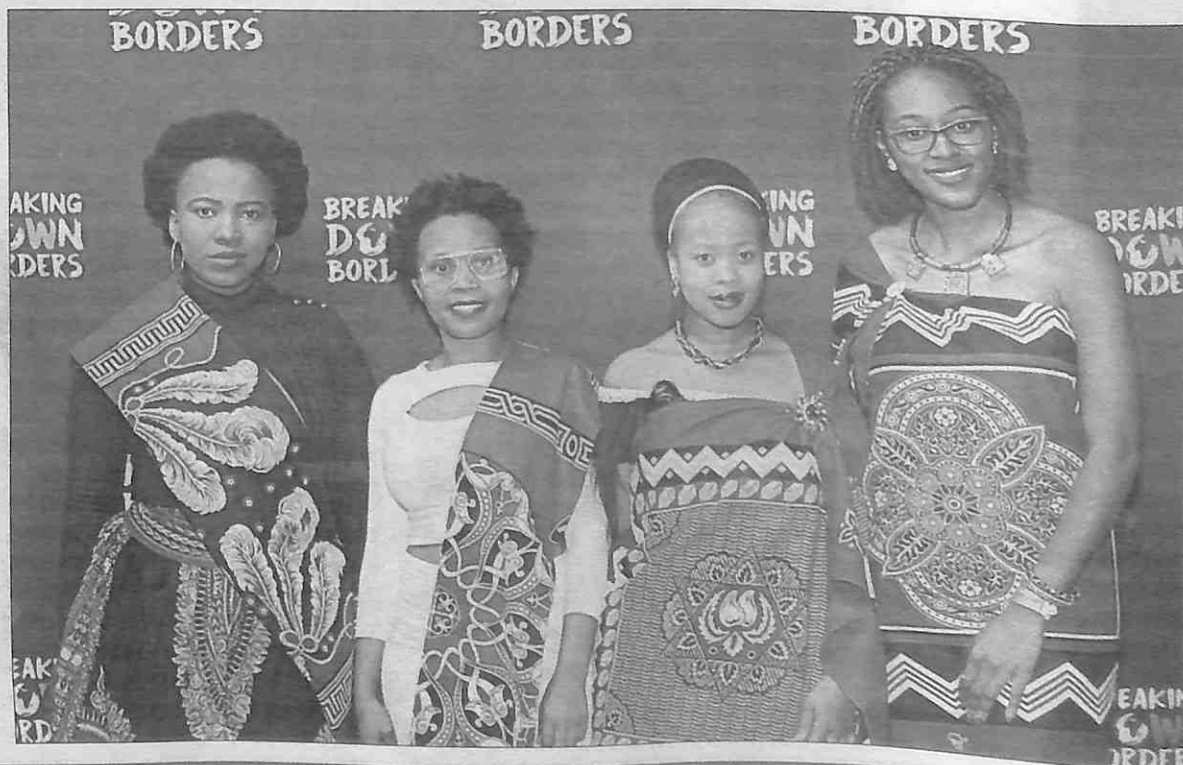
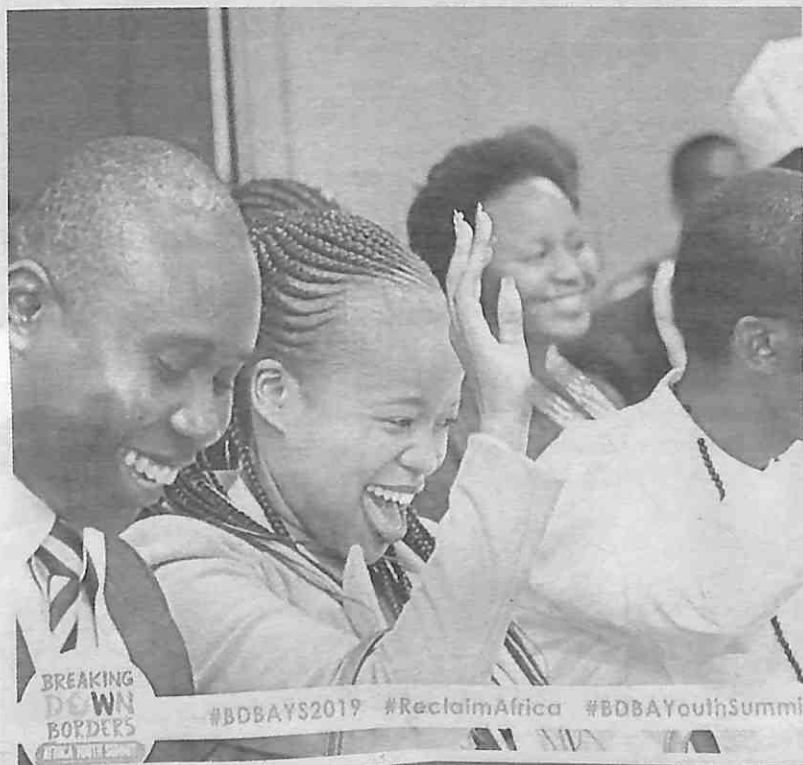
Bertha Sithole – Breaking Down Borders Eswatini Ambassador, Startup Grind Mbabane Director.

Noxolo Nkabinde – Marketing Coordinator at Happy Valley Hotel

Senelisiwe Mndlovu – Mental Health Activist

Sanelisiwe Mkhwanazi – RSTP

Thabiso Mnisi – Programmes Manager at The Knowledge Institute



MOVIE REVIEW

Love lives here – beautiful African love story

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

I would like to start by sending my sincere condolences to relatives and friends of late Journalist Philile Masango. The former Eswatini TV personality passed on last week in a car crash along the notorious Mhlume/Maphiveni Public Road at Vuvulane.

I have never met her, but I was a huge fan of her blog, Simply Philile, she had a commanding presence and passion in her words. She played a huge role in paving the way for many female journalists in the country. May her soul rest in eternal peace, and we hope that all those she has inspired will continue flourishing.

Now, let's get to the review.

Well, to be frank, had it not been for traffic in the capital city, we would be talking but to a completely different movie today.

When I had a talk with the Movie Zone manager earlier this week, the one thing I made known to her was the fact that I've never been in love, and hence I never comprehend the importance of watching the cliché movies that try to portray the illusion of 'true love'.

'They're just never for me' is what I told her, but when we happened to get to the cinema about 45 minutes late to our preferred movie, I was convinced to try it out, and my boy, Lungile Radu, has a leading role, so I wanted to see what he had



offered.

The key character is the beautiful Zinhle Malinga, played by Thando Thabethe.

Thabethe portrays Zinhle, the attractive author turned nerd, so beautifully that she is utterly believable.

She brings to the character an allure that draws viewers in.

She is an individual seeking the perfect answer to love but looking in all the wrong places.

She arrives at her apartment and discovers, to her horror, that her faithless boyfriend is in bed with another young beauty, who he has been cheating with for two years – in their three-year long relationship.

Now even for the coldest of hearts, you feel for her because she is dealing with a douchebag of a man, which

makes one understand why women scream 'man are trash' (sighs).

But as she recovers from that, she meets Nathi (Lungile Radu), a passionate struggling photographer and falls head over heels in love with her, but then a day after finally giving it up to Nathi, she discovers that Nathi swore against marriage when his baby mama dumped him for a blesser.

This completely breaks her and she ends up falling back into the arms of her cheating man who simply promises her marriage, and Nathi also goes back to her 'gold-digging' baby-mama, only for both of them to come to their senses at the end.

One thing that made the film extremely enjoyable was the comedy and the over-the-top characters to add balance, otherwise, it would

be irredeemably cheesy.

'Love Lives Here' borrows too many clichéd ideas to make it a totally original offering.

It's basically show-casing with imperfect characters going through the (e)motions without making much of a screen impact.

Stylish costumes and a commanding use of South African music are prominently featured, but they could have gone deeper into the lives of the individuals for the movie to be enjoyable, because otherwise it then tends to just be a corny African-American story.

The narrative also consists of a series of varying love stories woven together and while, admittedly, the 'twist' touches on the idea of marriage, the subject is never adequately dealt with, as well as all the other love stories are not told as wholly.

The rolling aerial shots of Durban beaches make the idea of living in eThekweni extremely appealing. It also positions itself as the typical rom com's, where the guy looks bad but is good.

There are many misfits thrown into the mix, ensuring the laughs aren't forced.

It also includes a damsel in distress and explores the stereotypical views about love.

I particularly enjoyed the inclusion of the cultural aspect in the film through the *lobola* negotiations.

It was a truthful and relatable inclusion because most cosmopolitan

young people are still quite attached to cultural practices.

In a scene where Radu's character, Nathi, performs the traditional isiZulu dance *indlamu*, it's easy to spot that for a chunk of his life he was a city boy.

He was, however, a delight to watch and that was the type of things that made this movie enjoyable. Slikour once said something that is very interesting, 'sometimes I listen to South-African music because the stories the artists tell are relatable to me, because some of the things these American artists talk about, I have never even seen.'

That's how I felt after.

The comedy makes it very relatable, but they could have been more authentic with the emotions and king of 'made it easy for people who are ignorant of our culture to understand our love stories'.

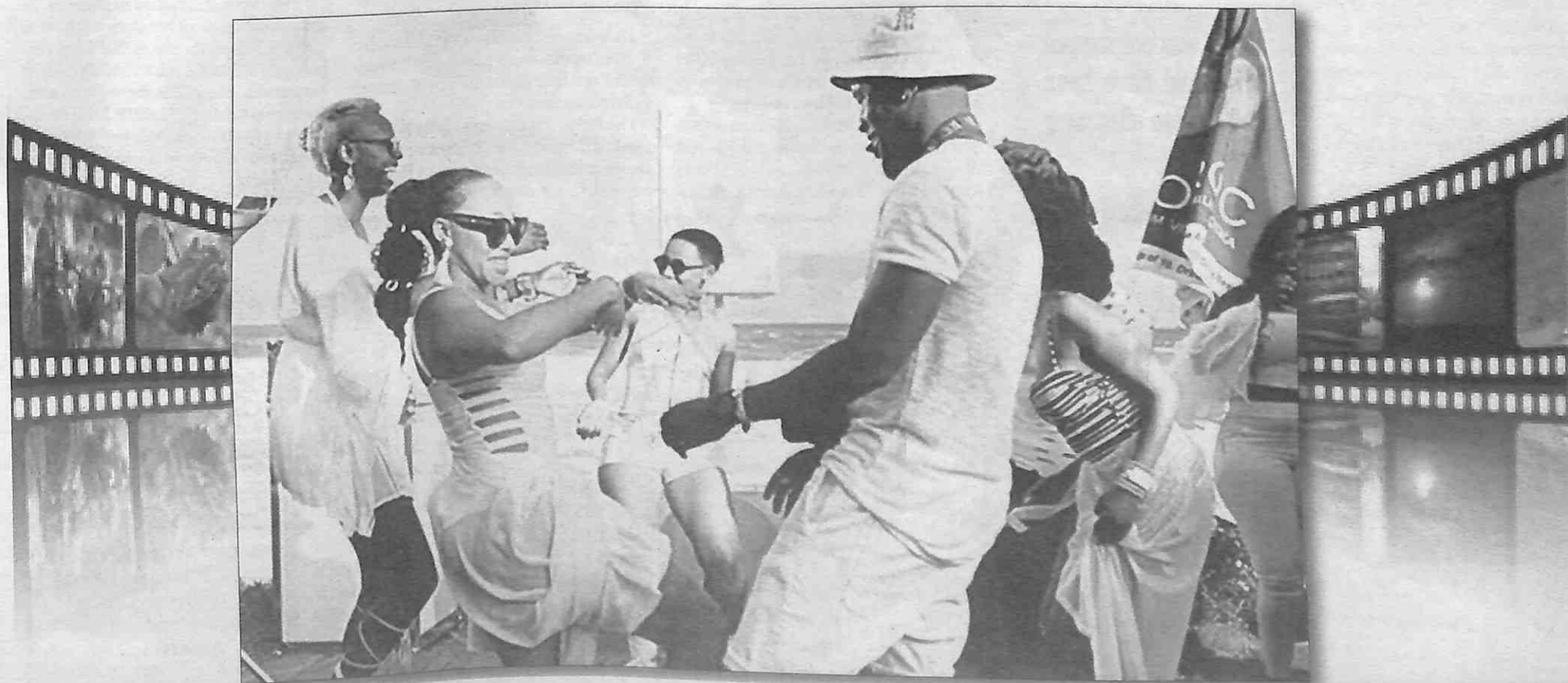
For example, Nathi is portrayed as a struggling artist, but he doesn't look like a struggling artist, I'm just saying.

I must give it to them for the steamy sex scenes though.

They tried to make them as explicitly as possible, so I can safely say it's not a movie you would like to watch with your mother (laughs).

But all in all, it's a beautiful story told in African style, it's perfect for a date night, so I would advise couples to have a watch.

Running time: 1 hr 57 minutes
Rating: 6.5/10



Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

DA presents plan for economic recovery

CAPE TOWN - The view of the DA's shadow Cabinet is that the government must not interfere with the Reserve Bank, the labour market should be deregulated and SAA must be put into business rescue.

It has been a week of economic turmoil for the country.

Gross domestic product experienced its biggest decline in a decade and unemployment continues to rise.

There was also double-speak from the ANC on the mandate of the Reserve Bank.

The DA says the economy is being strangled by bad regulation and poor policy.

DA Finance Shadow Minister, Geordin Hill-Lewis said, 'the good

news is that it's quite easy to restore investor confidence, create certainty in the mining space, cut red tape and make it easier to do business in South Africa.'

"Take a look at the amount of money (the) government is spending on public salaries.

Those things have to be done, and that's how to get the economy going."

He adds, the energy sector must be diversified, and SAA must be sold.

The DA says deregulating the labour sector is a quick-fix solution to create jobs.

Bagraim says he hopes to present his proposals to new Labour and Employment Minister Thulas Nxesi soon. **eNCA**

GUPTAS LAUNDERED R52m TO HONG KONG

JOHANNESBURG - A SA Reserve Bank (SARB) executive on Friday revealed shocking details of how a Gupta-linked company successfully moved almost R52 million from South Africa to Hong Kong and claimed it had bought goods worth about R50 000.

Shiwa Mazibuko, head of the SARB financial surveillance department, told the Commission of Inquiry into State Capture that letterbox company Homix exported R51.8m through Mercantile Bank via an intermediary in 2015 before R14.4m was blocked.

Mazibuko said Homix was used to take money out of the country illegally and committed trade-based money laundering.

"If this was not stopped, this could have been R500 million after some time," he said.

Commission Chairperson Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo asked why there was no system that prevented such large amounts of money from moving out of the country.

Mazibuko said it was difficult

to trace each and every transaction as 500 000 foreign exchange transactions worth trillions of rand were processed daily.

The Hong Kong beneficiaries were Morning Star International, to which 14 of the 16 transactions investigated were destined, and YKA International Trading Company, which received the remaining two.

Mazibuko said both companies had sole directors.

"It was a money laundering scheme," he said.

Homix was nominated by Gupta associate Salim Essa to receive payments from Transnet and Regiments Capital.

eNCA

“
If this was not stopped,
this could have been
R500 million after some
time

Mkhwebane claims only God can remove her from office

JOHANNESBURG - Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane has been slammed after she made claims in a speech to the SA Sheriff's Society in Mpumalanga on Friday night, that she was placed in her position by God and that only God can remove her.

The speech was live-tweeted on the account @PublicProtector, bringing it to the attention of the public.

In the speech which started off in congratulation to newly appointed sheriffs, Mkhwebane became increasingly vitriolic, claiming she had been subject to "the most unfair reporting in the media" and never received a 'right of reply' on stories about her.

Seemingly addressing a specific incident, Mkhwebane claimed her comments are often ignored for 'word count considerations!!!'. The Public Protector also claimed that her office was going through a testing time and was inundated with attacks on her, including that she was "a spy" and needed to be removed from office. She further lamented that the



Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane.

director-general had called her 'an idiot' and journalists had allegedly described her as being "a moron." It was, however, her claims at being divinely placed in her work that received the most attention. Commenters repeatedly pointed out to the public protector that she had

been appointed by the people of South Africa through parliament and was accountable to them rather than the higher power. Numerous people mentioned that this tweet alone showed Mkhwebane was out of touch and unsuited for office. **Citizen**

Mkhwebane rubbishes claim of targeting Gordhan

JOHANNESBURG - Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane has lamented the attacks on her office, saying her "cardinal sin" has been her bravery including her finding on the Bankorp-CIEX report.

In June 2017, Mkhwebane ordered Absa to repay R1.125bn for a lifeboat provided to Bankorp by the Reserve Bank during the apartheid era.

Absa took up ownership of the Bankorp group of banks. "It appears the cardinal sin was my bravery to touch the establishment by directing that R1.125bn lost to the people of South Africa in an illegal gift from the South African Reserve Bank to Bankorp Limited/Absa Bank be recovered," Mkhwebane told a gathering of the SA Sheriff Society at Dullstroom in Mpumalanga on Friday evening.

The North Gauteng High Court set the report aside after the Reserve Bank and Absa challenged it. Mkhwebane was ordered to pay 15 per cent of the central bank's

costs in her personal capacity.

The remainder was to be paid by her office, as Fin24 previously reported. She said the court prejudiced the people of South Africa by not dealing with the lost R1.125bn.

"To this day, no one talks about that and the fact that no less than two judges found the loan in question to have been unlawful. Where is justice?"

Mkhwebane lost the Supreme Court of Appeal against the personal costs order. She said since that case, the knives have been out for her, including malicious damage to her property and threat to her family.

Mkhwebane's wide-ranging address also focused on the uneasy relationship between herself and the Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan.

The Public Protector this year subpoenaed Gordhan to answer questions about the so-called rogue unit at the SA Revenue Service, in a move that he described as

harassment.

She has also since found that Gordhan was guilty of 'improper conduct' after he, in his capacity as Finance Minister at the time, approved then SARS deputy-commissioner Ivan Pillay's early retirement and payout.

Pillay was then subsequently re-employed on a contractual basis.

Lawyers for Gordhan have filed a review application asking the North Gauteng High Court to set aside this report, with the minister, in an affidavit, accusing Mkhwebane of exhibiting 'stunning incompetence, irrationality and negligence' in the performance of her duties. "There is also the ridiculous claim that I am targeting Minister Gordhan and President Ramaphosa," she said. "In the twelve months leading up to March 31, 2019, I had investigated 14 000 cases. Only two related to Minister Gordhan, while one concerned the president."

News24

SAA requests R4bn bailout to remain afloat

JOHANNESBURG - The South African Airways (SAA) Board has requested R4 billion to stay afloat this financial year.

Board members briefed the media on the state of affairs at the national carrier, including the abrupt resignation of CEO Vuyani Jarana.

Operations General Manager Zuks Ramasia was appointed acting CEO set to

take over tomorrow.

SAA failed to make a profit since 2011 and has been operating at a loss.

Board member Martin Kingston said that was why they requested the R4 billion.

"We are anticipating to make a profit in the year 2021/22, we are still on track with that and absolutely nothing has changed as a conse-

quence of the departure of Mr Jarana." He said the long-term turnaround strategy remained the same: "The long-term strategy which was approved by the Board and by shareholders remains on track and is indeed going to bear fruit in a number of respects. Mr Jarana has regularly updated the media on the progress made in that regard." **News24**



Sunday Observer
Scene

THE EVOLUTION
OF TRENDS ISSUE



IS NAKESKIN FAUX TAKES OVER



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Fashion is our personality, feelings or moods, a reflection of who we are and how we want people to see us, put all on display by the clothes we choose to wear. Fashion is a universal subject, a language understood and spoken by many. Decade after decade, new trends have been introduced, heavily influenced by different cultures, attitudes and inspiring style icons of the time, your Bonang Matheba, Nomzamo Mbatha, you name it. Following fashion trends is important to express your identity. We express our thoughts and lifestyle by following certain fashion trends. It has become a lifestyle.

Hence, today we are tabling this 'Evolution of Trends ISSUE'.

The very nature of fashion trends is to come and go. Jumpsuits, for example, have gone in and out of style since the '70s, and overalls have recently made a comeback since becoming popular in the '90s. Despite this constant flux, there's always at least one trend that takes over the fashion world every year.

If you've recently shopped on the internet, or looked at any celebrity on Instagram, you've probably noticed that snakeskin and snake print are kind of a big deal. This print has become this season's statement-making favourite. Read more about the snake skin print on Pages 4 and 5.

It is very important to follow trends. I also follow trends.

When any person follows a new trend of fashion, it feels very free to do anything and enjoy every moment of life. You do not feel any stress and feel very free to make anything better. You enjoy your life with friends and anyone.

When you wear new trendy clothes, you also feel very comfortable. Trust me, it makes you more confident and fashionable. Yes, you read it correct if you follow new fashion trends you can be popular in the eyes of many people. In people's eyes, you can make your better image and personality.

Enjoy this beautiful read.
Till next week.

Ayanda

EDITOR'S ALL TIME FAVOURITE:



CONVERSE CHUCK TAYLOR ALL STAR (UMTSEKANE), STYLE ICON OF ALL TIME!



There are classics in the world of sneakers, go-tos, favourites and timeless essentials.

This is the type of shoes that over the decades continue to fly off the shelves. It's difficult to imagine a higher level of footwear fame, but there's one that

has achieved it: the Converse Chuck Taylor All Star.

You like it or not, Converse Chuck Taylor All Star shoes are the future.

Trends come and go, but that's not the case with Chuck Taylors.

I've seen and worn your Chelsea, chukka, monk, brogue, oxford, brogue, espadrilles, loafers you name it. They come and go.

But nothing I've mentioned above beats my Chuck Taylors, especially the white ones.

Umtsekane has been creating a huge legacy within the sneakers world by effortlessly embedding itself in fashion trends.

You can rock your Chuck Taylors with anything and still look the part.

They are very convenient, except when you have to wash them after a crazy or fun filled night.

What more can be said about Chuck Taylors? They are the quintessential classics, timeless, adaptable, versatile and never out of style or out of place.

My favourite look with white Chuck Taylors would be the 'white low top Converse'.

Their bright colour and simple style make for an easy and light look.

To make the most of these stylish shoes,



I pair them with light coloured pants, such as white or light-wash jeans and sand-hued Chinos.

Jeans

You can get away with darker coloured jeans, but be aware that the contrast will be quite striking, so be sure to balance the look.

Keep your overall style smart casual by finishing your outfit with a crisp shirt, preferably in white, and an open, single-breasted blazer.

Some people, well including myself, have rocked Chuck Taylors with formal wear or even suits and still look dapper!

Get the memo of Chuck Taylor, your life will be easy. **By Ayanda Dlamini**

WEDGE HEELS MAKING THEIR WAY BACK

Ready or not, wedges are officially back from the dead.

Some of you may have never stopped wearing said shoe trend (and no shame if that's you) while



others of you were conditioned to ditch the style in college gradua-

tion, sorority formals, and wild nights on the town.

While making a comeback, this year the shapes are sleeker, and

THE 80S MAKING A COMEBACK!



No other decade gets dragged (rightfully so) as much as the '80s, but as the cyclical life of fashion goes, certain trends are making their way back into pop culture.

Before you buy any pleated skirt, you should keep in mind your body shape. Why? Pleats may add a bulky look that will look better on girls with thinner bodies.

Six years later, pleated skirts are making a major comeback. When I say major, I mean it. Fashion labels from Burberry to Off White are betting on the twirl-worthy skirts.

If you are apple or pear-shaped woman, then you better wear those pleated styles that prevent attention from being drawn to the bottom half of your body.

Casual

Speaking of pleats, then wide pleats are more casual, while knife-pleated styles are ideal for formal events. Of course, there are lots of other stunning pleats one can choose from, starting with accordion pleats to cartridge pleats to dramatic and polished ones.

Even if you choose skirts with wide pleats, be sure these bottoms will make you look chic. In other words, I'm saying, be creative and think of original outfits.



I love to see gals who appear on the streets wearing these bottoms styled with turtlenecks, denim jackets, tank tops, crop tops, sweaters, chambray shirt and more.

You can create Parisian chic-inspired looks, by teaming striped long-sleeve tops with black pleated skirts and black solid tights and black pumps.

Another great way to make your pleated skirts look awesome is to dress them up with sporty garments. For instance, show off your athletic vibe by adding crop tops, tennis shirts, baseball caps, sneakers and tennis shirts.

If you are one of those who want to add some edgy touch, then how about adding a leather jacket? This outerwear garment will surely make you look voguish, fashion-forward and very special.

I love the feminine and classy look of pleats and the edgy appearance of leather jacket. If you don't want your skirt to be attention-grabbing, then keep all your clothes in the same hue, so that every piece harmonises each other. If you want to wear pleated skirt to work, then be careful when pairing it with a buttoned shirt, as you can look like a real school girl.

To avoid such look, you should skip typical colours were used in your school uniform (navy, white, black, brown). Choose longer length skirts and keep your overall look classy and grown-up. Keep your outfit look ingoriginal and modern.

Look for beautiful details and prints that can make a real statement on the streets.

By Phetsile Mamba

DENIM TREND STRIKES BACK

If you think back to your childhood days, you might remember denim having a serious moment during the '90s and early 2000s.

Denim has finally risen from the style grave, and this throw-back trend is yet another thing that proves '90s fashion is back with a vengeance.

The past season; the festive season to be precise, SCENE has been invited to several parties themed, Denim on denim or Jean to Jean. Not so long ago, three months, the entertainment industry changers recently hosted a party dubbed 'Jean to Gin Affair' people came clad in jean to jean. Clearly this trend is back

with a bang.

Remember in the late 90s celebrity couple such as Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake rocked denim on red carpet like crazy. Coming back to African; South Africa, Boom Shaka would rock the stages in leather garbs or denim to denim looks. There are definitely some #tbt styles we would rather forget, but denim is certainly here to continue conquering the fashion world. So next time you are browsing your closets or old photos, remember that you probably had some serious style credibility during your childhood when rocking denim.

All the '90s trends we love and remember are thriving again in the 21st century. Chokers and crop-tops are back into style. Walking into a clothing store, be it Woollies, Edgars, Foschini or Markhams, one trend you can't miss is the matching blazer and skirt suit/ a whole suit.

By Ayanda Dlamini



the designers churning them out are cooler.

When it comes to footwear in 2019, there are two different camps. This feeling is extending into footwear too, as beige boots, pointed leather mules and classic pumps are the perfect addition to an elegant outfit.

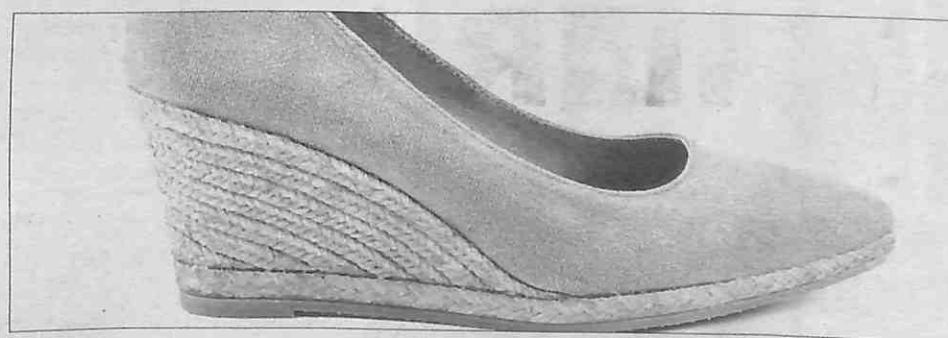
The wedge is a shoe that people love to hate. It doesn't have that dangerous, could-snap-at-any-moment attitude of a stiletto.

Nor does it have the provocative appeal of a kitten heel.

Wedges, a type of platform shoe, have been around since the 1930s.

The first wedges didn't have a distinct heel and had cellophane straps.

The wedge heel is thick and one piece with the



sole, whereas high-heeled shoes have a separate heel. Height ranges from a slight raise in the heel to several inches.

Wedge popularity fluctuates. Hundreds of new

wedge designs come out each year, depending on trends

Wedges are back and funny thing is they are sold at the best shops like Woolworths, Zara and

more.

But them coming back doesn't mean they still look the same.

There is also much change in the sense of style and look. You can mix it with a lot of outfits and it will look nice since most of them are even plastic or glass wedge heels.

The comeback came with a new trade of "naked wedge," it is stronger than ever, with many other designers following suit. What's more appealing about these new wedges is that you can even rock them in the club or any chill spot as long as you compose yourself.

Ladies, avoid the running around when rocking these wedges. They are a true definition of class!



SNAKESKIN FAUX TAKES OVER THE STREETS

Every individual these days wants to appear trendy and fashionable.

Following the latest fashion trends is a simple and easy way for a person to keep themselves updat-

ed. Following trends helps an individual in appearing visually attractive. We all know that this is one of the main reasons why people follow the fashion trends in first place. By staying in tune with the latest fashion style, it becomes easy for an individual to keep up with the pace of the modern world and appear chic and stylish.

Also, one of the best ways to create a positive first impression on people who are less familiar, is to dress according to the latest fashion style. Most strangers and lesser known people judge an individual by their sense of fashion and styling.

Dressing according to the modern fashion not only offers an individual a trendy and stylish appearance, but also makes them feel refreshed and convinced about themselves. When a person is confident and happy, their approach towards everything is positive, which yields satisfactory results.

With that being said, following trends has become a lifestyle, hence today we have tabled this beautiful ISSUE, where we share the Evolution of Trends.

Fashion is a universal subject, a language understood and spoken by many. When we look back over the decade ago, the change

SNAKE PRINT HAS TAKEN OVER THE STREETS

A natural evolution from fashion's fixation with leopard print, snakeskin faux, of course, has become this season's statement-making it a favourite.

From classic brown to maroon, white, green and even yellow, designers are out to prove that snakeskin is the thing. They are out there making sure that this fabric is tailored for both men and women.

However, it's only the brave with colourful personality can rock this print.

The comeback of this trend has slithered its way straight onto the racks and shelves of your favourite clothing stores; from Foschini to Edgars. It's nested, and it's not going anywhere anytime soon.

This print can easily still be classified as a neutral, for the most part. The typical snakeskin colour palette is a mix of greys or browns, meaning it'll pretty much go with anything else you might be wearing. It is a stylish, yet efficient way to break up an all-black outfit, something you absolutely default to, not only in the winter, but all the time.

This print, as stylists would say, works in a variety of mediums, meaning you can effortlessly incorporate it into a look as a dress, top, bottom, shoe or general accessory.

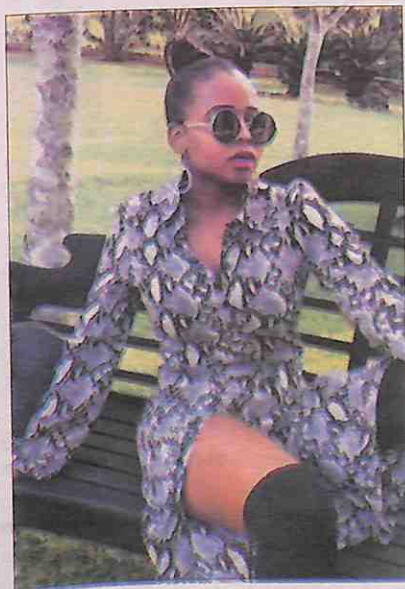
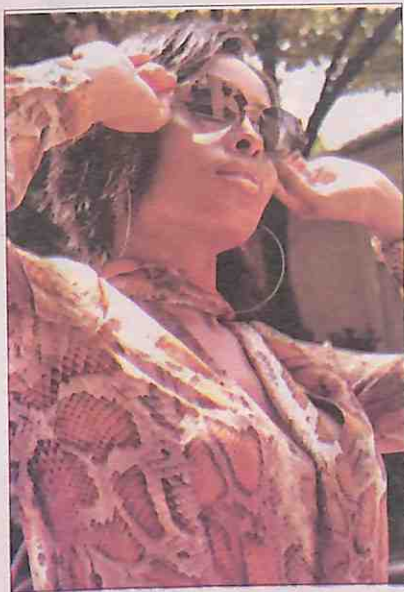
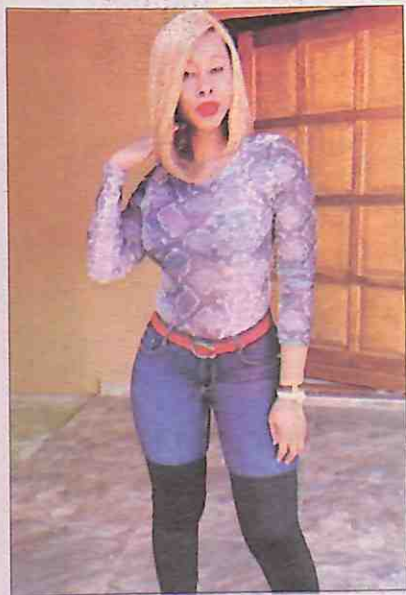
Out of all animal prints, from leopard to zebra, snake print is definitely one



of the loudest options; it summons images of the skintight dresses and awkward calf-length boots worn by your TLC, Abashante, Boom Shaka in the '90s.

And while it hasn't lost any of its unapologetic impacts, the 2019 offering is a little more varied and certainly more refined.

Slowly but surely, the fashion industry has made its way through the animal kingdom over the last couple of seasons, drawing inspiration from all manner of creatures great and small. From leopard and dalmatian to zebra, it's a diverse fashion trip out there. But 2019 sees this new addition to the lineup, and this time, it's a little more cold-blooded: Welcome to the year of the snake.



and influence fashion has been exponential. Decade after decade, new trends have been introduced, themselves heavily influenced by pop culture, political attitudes and inspiring style icons of the time.

We have seen the denim to denim trend, animal print, perms, the metallic clothing all making a comeback.



I'm sure most of you have been wondering what's up with the snakeskin faux, everyone; your celebrities or influencers are rocking this print. This fabric is not new, it was trend a decade ago. Celebrities like Abashante, Lebo Mathosa, Thembi Seeti (during her youthful days), and TLC would rock this print on red carpet and even on stage. The trend is back.



'GIVE ME ANY PRINT, METALLIC CLOTHING'

Certain things we thought would never come back from our childhood '90s chokers, off the shoulder shirts, crop tops, and more are all the rage this year.

Hlelokuhle Mndvoti believes styles from the '70s and '80s have found new market, too.

"I, personally, am delighted by the return of overalls. And while I am not surprised because of my mother's lesson of holding on to what might seem obsolete, there are some things I wish would stay in the annals of history and not come back to the public.

"First of all, fashion is always being recycled. I remember years ago when colourful stalking made a comeback my mom screamed when she saw me wearing a pair. So I'm for it," Hlelo shares with SCENE.

Her favourite trend is the leopard print. She says this print has swayed in so many different directions because it's open to interpretations.

"Leopard print's reputation has gone through a number of iterations since.

It has been deemed low-brow, provocative, tacky and dangerous. It has been worn by starlets and associated with cheap

clothing. In pop culture, from movies to music, leopard-clad women have been identified as mean."

As it is well-known that trends come and go. The ever gorgeous Hlelokuhle says the gold teeth trend must never come back.

"It must just stay where it started.

It ruined out peeps teeth trying to look cool. Also sheer clothing, you guys just look wrong in those see through tops."

"Not everything will suit you. Let some things skip you. No offense but not everyone looks good in sheer clothing," she adds.

Fashion trends do recycle, but they don't necessarily bring back the exact items from before.

There are usually new tweaks or adaptations from the preceding trends that more often than not, take away the original beauty that formerly made them favored for recycling.

"My personal peeve is today's restyling of the stiletto from the appearance similar to the image of a tall stemmed wine glass that physically looks like it supports the heel of the foot and now such heels seem more like nails or blades with sloped triangular heads that hold up the back of the shoe instead of supporting the heel of the foot. It actually makes me so happy."

ANIMAL PRINT WILL FOREVER BE CHIC

Animal prints might have been yesterday's overdone and not so suitable look by

times even associated to the lower and higher edges of socio-economic spectrums, but they are making a fun and youthful return.

Trends come and go (and come and go), but there are some things that never come out of style. They may be more popular one season than another but, on the whole, they are forever pieces that form the cornerstones of our wardrobes.

And this season, amid all the ideas that will have their five minutes of fame, we saw the return of the leopard-print coat, Bonang Matheba has rocked it and your favourite celebrity Taraji P Henson.

It's a piece your mother and grandmother probably wore before you, and yet it still feels relevant. If you buy one now, we bet you'll be wearing it for years to come (and maybe your child will nick it from you, too).

Fashion trend changes every day. One of the most prominent fashion trends is the animal print dress. In the fashion industry, only a number of patterns could be worn both as casual and dressy. Today if a woman is going out with her boyfriend or husband, an animal print dress will be a stylish and attractive item to wear.

It has this exotic feel. As we have mentioned, following trends it's only for the brave with colourful personality.

The many types of prints on animal print dresses are very similar to the animal skin that they embody.

We have seen Zebra print dresses; these dresses have alternating long, black and white stripes. If a girl wants to look sexier and top of the latest fashion trend, then zebra print dresses would be the right choice for her. These are one of the most accepted and fashionable animal print dresses nowadays.

The giraffe print dresses; giraffe



print includes rectangular, medium-sized spots that are brown in colour. For dresses, these spots are printed on beige-colored fabric.

Also leopard print dresses; leopard print is considered the most popular animal print. Dresses with leopard prints have small tan and brown spots.

Not to mention the Tiger print dresses, tiger prints are considered to be daring and bold. Dresses with tiger prints have black spots printed on orange-coloured fabric.

Inexpensive and Fashionable trend

Animal print dresses are considered as highly fashionable and trendy. In fact, these dresses come in a wide range of different styles and patterns to choose from. Many popular brands are available that also offers inexpensive versions of these dresses making them easily accessible for anyone.

The appearances of animal print dress are very special and they can be worn in any kind of occasions, parties or events. Many accessories are

also available that can add more features to your dresses. They can help you appear more stylish, elegant and attracts the attention of the peoples around you, especially men.

Animal print dresses would be perfect for an individual who wants to get the attention of others and stands out from the crowd. Any women having a wild side and wants to be in upfront, an animal print dress is an ideal choice.

Compiled by Ayanda Dlamini and Phetsile Mamba



TENGILANDI, THE TRENDSETTER!

...I LOVE VINTAGE, I'M A THRIFT ADDICT

trouser suits or blazers? I mean, that's the future.

"We cannot be without flannel, bamboo or straw handbags, dungarees/boiler suits, lavender/mint will be popular this season."

Fashion is something which isn't constant. It changes with time. Like history repeats, fashion does too.

Fashion is a concept which is too vast for anyone to comprehend completely. Being classic is the appropriate word which describes a fashionista or trendsetter.

Fashionistas prefer to look beautiful yet simple. They start being a trend-follower and end up being a trend-setter as they become so acquainted with the technicalities of fashion. They may not be ostentatious but they always look good. They exhibit some peculiar traits and that's what we talking about here.

Tengilandi believes the biggest mistake people can make is to decide against a particular trend because no one else is wearing it.

"I mean, trend-setters, by virtue, never wear what anyone else is wearing because they're always a few steps ahead of the curve."

"So my advice to trendsetters is, if you like something, then go for it. That truly is the best advice I can ever offer. Just be different and bold because. We only live once."

"My younger sister always says when some of these trends make a rage, but you have been wearing this and she laughs at me sometimes that she could never rock some of the garbs I wear but then they dominate the runways."

For instance the vintage shirts, school kids tease, laugh and stare at me mercilessly about the way I dress sometimes. I don't care though.

"I will never advocate buying and wearing something just because it's FLAMES and then sending it to the back of your closet when it's not."



F

ashion trends are always catching. There are many trends that have taken

the fashion space by storm by individuals and celebrities.

Trendsetters are not afraid to take risks. They are willing to try and embrace new ideas and options, and not be afraid of receiving criticism.

They celebrate their creativity, and okay with being different.

So, SCENE caught up with the flamboyant and very bubble Tengilandi Khumalo. She is a trendsetter.

She has the confidence to showcase her personality; be it opposite of what's in style right now, but she oozes confidence in whatever she wears.

"I'm not really big on trends because I like to be different and trends tend to make us look the same, but I do follow and play around with trends."

"I mix vintage with fresh pieces and come up with dope ensembles. I like creating my own style because I'm creative and unique. I love vintage and I'm a thrift addict," she shares with SCENE.

"Coming to what's trendy, I've seen so many different iterations of the animal print craze. From the explosion of snakeskin print to the zebra stripes and leopard spots. I've been trying to find snakeprint bootleg or wide leg pants."

"Who may not like the stylish leather, comfortable jeans, colorful hair shawls, beautiful



If you legit love something, notwithstanding its 'trend' status, then I am all for wearing it.

"Also scout for unknown designers and stock up on vintage goodies, forget about designer labels that you can't afford because I see replica from a mile away."

Trendsetters are knowledgeable to the minute details of quality fabrics, good stitches, service quality and aspire for uncompromising top class finished products.

They are ever conscious of their image, new fashion trends and are ever adapting something new in their

wardrobe for their defining style.

If you want to be someone who's admired and always ahead of the game, then you have to put in the time and energy it takes to become a trendsetter. It's all about letting your true self shine through and not worrying about what other people think.

If this is your goal, then you have to be willing to feel uncomfortable once in a while and be open to trying new fashions and experiences. It's not only about how you look, but what you do and how you carry yourself.



BEAT ON BEATS WITH MDUBASA

DJ FACT FILE

Album Artist: Brito Narix Mohammed
Album Title: First Impression
Year: 2019
Genre: House, Gqom
Composer / Producer: Brito Narix Mohammed
Record Label: PowerShot Music
Distributed by: Jiva Ngwane Entertainment
Marketed by: PowerShot Music and Candy Sounds entertainment.

Tracklist:

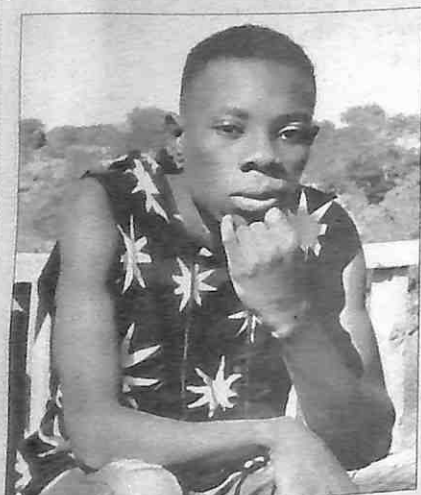
1. First Impression (Intro)
2. Pray Ft. Newzy (Botswana)
3. Nix Mapha Ft. Eimsofly
4. Yini Ft. Mshimaro RSA & Glass
5. Kokoda
6. Woza ft Dj Njebza
7. Mina Nawe ft Mazanga (SA) & Funky Finest (SA)
8. Ngizwile Ft. Minnie
9. Touch Go ft LeeBae, Dj Xivo (SA) & WozaCardo (SA)
10. Ngithe
11. Bambeka
12. Bhenga

Release Date: May 28 2019

ABOUT ARTIST

Real Name: Brito Mohammed, born in June 16, 1996. His love for music started at the tender age of 9. Brito has worked and produced a number of artists from across the globe (Bharati Samari (Nepal), Mickey Smith (USA), Sean Jaye (Jamaica) & Foster (Nigeria) and a few locals which include Immortal 7, Umfana Webhejisa, Umfana Webhejisa, Zolani & Size 38, Blaq Soul and more. He has shared the stage with Professor, DJ Siso, Mampintsha, King Ginger

Related Artists: DJ Krazee G, Heart Breakers, Dj Charm, DynaFAM, Mahlindza



Currently Eswatini's best export to date, Sooks on Friday released his much anticipated debut album



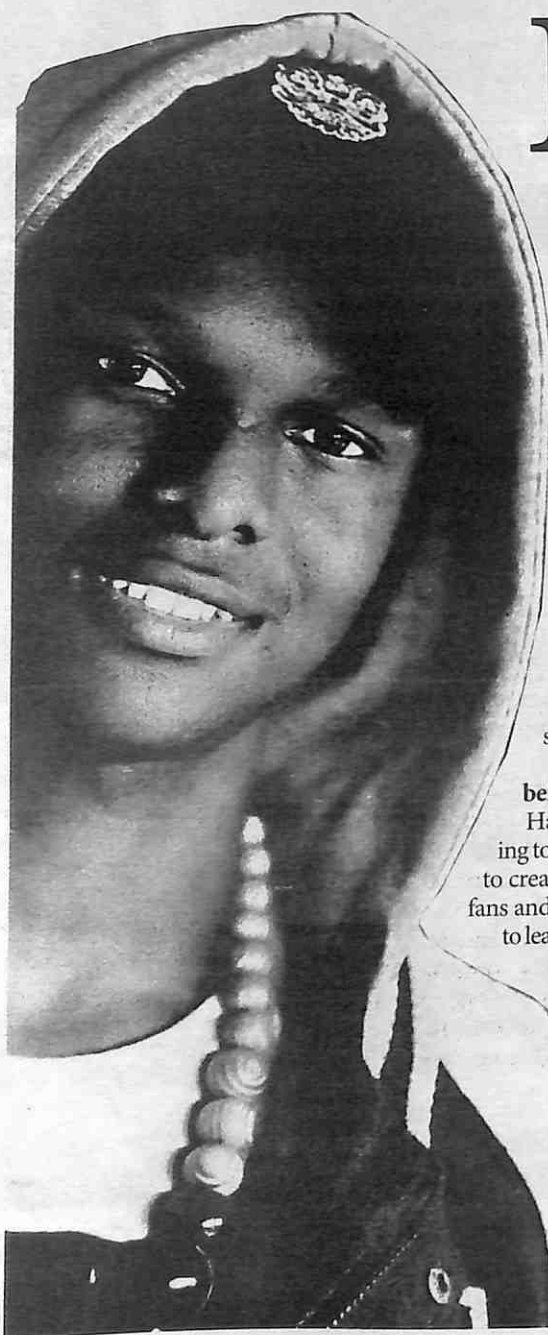
titles Symmetry.

Fresh from performing at The MTN Bushfire, the talented spinner has proved that, whether you think you can, or you think you can't - you're right. But there is simply no substitute for hard work when it comes to achieving success. Suku is the first ever Liswati to release an album on the legendary HOUSE AFRIKA, which

is one of the biggest house music record label in Africa. In the 10 track album Suku collaborates with some of Mzansi's finest in the house music scene, the like of Pierre Johnson, Krippsoulisc and local group the Secret Souls. I'd love to encourage everyone who supports and follows the movement to purchase this 4 disc album, which comes highly recommended.



THE HUSTLE NEVER STOPS - OSBORNE



Briefly tell us about yourself

I'm Wandile Osborne Mhlanga, and I was born in July 26, 1996 in the small town of Siteki.

In 2001, I moved to Ludzeldudze and grew up there and attended my school at Lechwehligh High. My love for music started with a bit of hip hop and pop but over the years I've developed an ear for the different genres

How did you get started in the music and entertainment industry?

I began to develop myself as an artist at high school. My first track was 'Owiwo'. I released it on Sound Cloud in 2014 under the name Black Tea. I recorded my first tracks on a cellphone, uploading them to Sound Cloud in a sophomore year. I then name changed from Black Tear to Os Bipo, a name inspired by affection and EDM DJ Diplo because it 'represents taking over the world.'

What has kept you going and constantly being able to perfect your craft?

Hard work. I dedicated a lot of my time trying to perfect the talent I have. I have always tried to create a unique sound that would indulge my fans and family. Lastly, I think being always eager to learn and know something different on a daily basis has helped me a lot.

What are some of the biggest differences you've seen in this business?

I think Eswatini music production has definitely improved over the years.

Producers have over the past few years given us high quality work in terms of production. I also believe that The MTN SWAMA awards and Beat On Beats awards will encourage artists to work even harder to ensure that their work is recognised

What would be one's major reasons to go into a professional studio over a home recording set-up?

Personally, I do not believe there is much of a difference. I think a professional studio will give you the best when it comes to equipment, but most of us upcoming artists have managed to produce good music with the little we have.. The wise one Ziyawa Kazitha, who told me that it's not about using expensive digital mixer but if you have everything on your laptop the programmes, then you can produce quality music.

Do artists benefit from networking? What networks have you been able to build over the years?

Yes, that is one major platform used by lot of musicians, because nowadays artist are able to collaborate. Networking also helps artists grown their brand and also share knowledge with those who have been in the game longer.

What have been your highlights and downfalls as a DJ?

I think being made director of Eswatini Theatre Club, being booked and performing at different venues across the country. I do not have much in terms of downfalls, but for me, one thing that is always a downfall is event's organisers not keeping their word. We as artists deserve a little bit of respect.

What are your views on the entertainment and the house music scene?

A lot has changed over the years. We are learning so much from the legends. We need more house music festival where we can showcase our talents. There are quite a number of good producers in the country and they have done well in showcasing what we are capable of as a nation locally and internationally.

What do you feel are some of the elements an artist needs to have as part of their product to go out there and pitch it?

Have a strong brand and baseline fans. Also have a unique sound style different from everyone else

In your opinion what classifies a good mix and a good master?

Not distorted, sound overwhelming to the ear and it must bring a good vibe.

Advise to people in the industry and those looking to become a part of it

If you follow your dreams and believe in your craft you will make it and be patient. They say the hustle never stops.

#DINEOTURNS30

Khetsiwe 'Dineo' Dlamini celebrated her 30th birthday in style.

Known for loving herself, and throwing a lavish birthday party is exactly how she chose to express that love.

Khets hosted her 30th birthday at the MTN Golf Park, at Ezulwini last weekend Saturday with those she calls near and dear.

During the day, the ever gorgeous Khets celebrated her birthday with her family as they were clad in colourful garbs.

Later that day, her friends joined the party as they came dressed to the nines in all-black and gold as they danced the night away with the birthday girl.

It is well documented that Khets loves class, so it is no surprise that the decor was stunning and out of this world.

One of the main attractions for the evening were the performances from an A-list of

artists such as KrTC, Mozaik and spinners such as Zulu D, DJ MBO, Master P and Supa CDQ.

Known for being a hip hop fanatic, Khets did the most by inviting South Africa's seasoned hip hop entertainer DJ PH. He graced the party and ushered birthday girl's friends into a fun-filled night.

By Ayanda Dlamini



Birthday girl Khets captured with her mother during the lunch session of the birthday celebration.



It's a selfie moment for Nozi Bee, Fisiwe Vilane, DJ MBO and Phelele Fakudze.



Lindokuhle 'Leendor M' Mthupha, Khosi Shabalala and Lunga flawlessly pose for the lenses.



Phinda, TBK and Sane share a light moment at the party.



The decor was a true definition of class.



There was a selfie moment with friends.



Khetsiwe 'Dineo' Dlamini celebrated her birthday party with South Africa's seasoned hip hop spinner DJ PH last weekend at MTN Golf Park, Ezulwini. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini and courtesy of Ekhaya Kusekhaya)



Fisiwe Vilane speaks on behalf of Khets' friends as she looks radiant.



Analysis & opinion

COMMENT

Judiciary needs scrutiny

During the question and answer session at the editors breakfast meeting with the PM, the Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini mentioned three times the phrase 'separation of powers', independence of the three arms and confidence in the Judiciary.

He could not have been spot on, for a country can never survive without these three things, certainly a country fighting to resuscitate its economy. It is comforting, therefore, that the prime minister can speak with ease on this ideal. But, this on its own is telling.

Firstly, that there is such rampant corruption in this country is an indictment, not on the people of this country, but on the Judiciary itself. Whenever there is a free, independent and transparent Judiciary, the anti-corruption fight will be thriving. In a sense, there can't be so much corruption without there being a blot on the Judiciary. Equally, the fact that the prime minister has to convince the nation about its independence and his confidence, could also just be saying a lot.

Instead, we could be referring to the Judiciary as already demonstrating its transparency, or its integrity in its functions, instead of having to listen to authorities being hopeful about its role in this rebuilding of Eswatini. So, we should therefore, loudly ask this question of where our Judiciary is, at this point, amid all the hush-tones about the goings on that have been forcing us to defend its independence.

We must too ask the Judiciary to come to the party and demonstrate that it is a major player in the separation of powers, not by its ability to bully, but to make this our beautiful country as vibrant and attractive to anyone looking to invest and visit, or those of us who call this country home having the confidence that when we take our matters to court we are doing so in the confidence that justice will be served.

Handling

On Thursday, the PM told editors that he hoped that the Judiciary would take the right decision or do the right thing in handling a case that has not been heard since the chief justice delivered his ruling on it in 2016. This must concern all of us who believe in the integrity of the courts.

In fact, we should be worried where there is a lack of scrutiny in the Judiciary and its administration of the jurisprudence. We should be worried when a judge recuses himself from a case having already spent two days ceased with it, and doing so without any party making such an application.

We should be worried with the silence coming from the High Court.

We should be worried when we make hopeful wishes that the Judiciary will play its part, because then it shows we are yet to see it.

The chief justice should be worried when the public has reason to see a tainted Judiciary. He should know that our hopes can never be built on a captured Judiciary. It failed to work under a certain Michael Ramodibedi.



Mbongeni Mbingo

In its current issue, The Economist has a brilliant piece on Theresa May, titled 'The bitter end'.

In it, the weekly publication writes of Theresa May's dramatic departure from the office they call No.10; 'On May 22, the prime minister dutifully read out the 10 points of her revised EU Withdrawal Bill to the House of Commons. The front bench next to her was half empty, because several members of her Cabinet were holed-up somewhere else discussing what to do next. The benches behind her emptied as she spoke. This was not just a prime minister without authority, but a prime minister without audience'.

Inevitably, May stepped down, bitterly, and grudgingly, her premature departure owed to her (mis)handling of the Brexit issue that has divided the British people on how to approach it. Leaving the European Union by the British was always going to be a thorny issue; one that could decide political careers—even that of a prime minister.

May inherited this problem of handling the exit from the European Union, and she left hurriedly without having made true her promise, not least living up to the billing that she was capable of leading the Brits into an era out of the EU.

Inherited

There are similarities that can be drawn between this issue and that of our Prime Minister, Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini, who has inherited a wobbly economy that needs not just steely determination, but a combination of private sector experience and political nous to turn Eswatini into an African Singapore that the prime minister envisions.

Our prime minister has entered the political domain in much a similar way to Theresa May; with a lot of promise and expectation to drive the nation into a new era of economic prosperity. The stakes couldn't be higher, and the pressure immense.

Prime Minister Mandvulo inherited much more than a bad economy; the political atmosphere not as clean, with corruption so rife par-

PM has sidestepped the first hurdle

liamentarians ganged up to inadvertently kick out the Anti-Corruption commissioner Thandwa Mngwengwe, while unemployment shot up due to job losses and government failing to pay contractors for years.

But, that also does not compare to the air of disgruntlement that faced him upon stepping into Hospital Hill; the public sector unions and their quest to get a cost of living adjustment has been quite the biggest challenge facing the prime minister and his newly-formed government.

This was the one big issue in the in-tray of the prime minister, soon after his swearing-in. The public sector unions did not waste time making that known, taking their demand for the cost of living adjustment to court and making it clear they are prepared to fight till the bitter end, even if this meant the country's collapse, to get what they deserve.

Public servants have not had a cost of living adjustment for two years now, and it is understandable the resolve they adopted in tackling this issue.

On the other hand, the prime minister and his Cabinet have made it clear that while they feel for the civil servants, the economy could never survive an adjust of the nature. To this end, Cabinet could only beg for

understanding, patience, and a bit of time to lay the foundation for such expenditure in the future.

That stalemate, if it can be described as such – or the stay of execution on the cost of living adjustment – is a significant point in Ambrose's almost seven-month tenure. It is decidedly a victory too, the reprieve that he needed so badly.

For Ambrose needs a bit of time; to breathe; plan; make significant progress in his plans; spread the belief that he needs to sway all of those thousands of civil servants who must now buy into this paradigm shift that can bring about the change that the country is desperate to achieve.

Struggling

It cannot be understated how bad the state of the economy is, and trust me it is. There have been many stories about how serious the situation is, such as government struggling to pay salaries, such as government borrowing to pay salaries, such as government failing to fulfil its financial obligations.

All of us have seen this; we have seen the social grants delayed; the government suppliers have stories to tell, many of whose businesses have collapsed. It is not an open secret any longer, our economy is in serious danger, and we need a man of Ambrose's stature and passion to captain this sinking ship out of the direction of the iceberg we have been so long headed for.

It is not an easy task, for we have not just woken up here, and realised we are about to hit an iceberg. We have been on this course for probably longer than a decade, and were just sitting by as the music played while the Titanic moved slowly ever closer to it.

The finance minister made a reference to this situation on Thursday during the Editors Forum breakfast meeting with the prime minister. He said that the 'bucket has a lot of gaping holes, and every time you throw money in it goes straight down'.

So, if we consider that the prime minister and Cabinet had to find the money for the cost of living adjust-

ment among the first tasks in office, we can pretty much agree that Ambrose's reign would have ended even before it began.

It would have collapsed, fatly. He would have had a challenge even coming up with the impressive roadmap that he has now been able to launch, and which is the direction that now determines our path to prosperity.

But he would have not had the luxury to even conceptualise this turnaround strategy, or launching the appeal for patience, for we all know that this would have been a major distraction.

Crucially, the PM has managed to calm the squall, despite the consternation, or the desperate fight by the unions – or, of course, the need for the cost of living adjustment.

What this has allowed the PM is to get into stride. He has had the six months to work out his plan, to review others and to quieten the noise from outside. He has had the time he needed to sell his idea, which has appealed to quite a lot of the local and international organisations and given him the assurance that he is on the right path.

It is true this may be temporary and however short that is, but you get the sense this was the kind of breathing space he needed, as soon as his name was called out at Sibaya back in October, 2018.

It is therefore notable that the prime minister has taken huge strides to set the tone and has achieved one significant milestone – so early in the term, too – being able to stall on the CoLA.

"What was important for us was being able to come in and stabilise the situation," he told editors on Thursday.

Since then, the PM has looked every bit of a shoe-in; calm, assured and determined.

Perhaps the country has a chance of not hitting that iceberg after all.

Unlike Theresa May, Ambrose Dlamini has the luxury of time and the audience, and he is just getting started.



What was important for us was being able to come in and stabilise the situation





By Comfort Mabuza

One of the greatest debate

that arose this week was on a very debatable and human rights theme—should people be allowed to go for euthanasia if suffering from an incurable and painful disease or cannot cope with anxiety as a result of past terrible experiences?

Surely such life's choices and ethics can be challenging as there are no easy straight answers. In this time of respecting people's human rights and fundamental freedoms, how do we reason with people to deal with issues and not opt for escapism by taking away life because they have choices and rights to do so?

POTHOVEN'S DEATH THIS WEEK

A 17-year-old girl in Netherlands, who survived rape in her childhood, died after being assisted by the state to end her life because of her unbearable psychological suffering and long struggle with depression.

Noa Pothoven, who penned an award-winning book on her battle with depression, wrote a last Instagram post on Saturday. The post that said "I will die within a maximum of 10 days" was read by her 10 000 followers. A day after the post, Noa breathed her last. She was assisted to kill herself by a state-authorised clinic that helps with euthanasia. The process is legal in Netherlands under the Termination of Life on Request and Assisted Suicide Act of 2001.

POTHOVEN'S LAST MESSAGE

In her last post on the private account, Noa wrote in her native language, "After years of fighting and fighting it is finished. I have now stopped eating and drinking for a while and after many conversations

EUTHANASIA

WHEN TROUBLED PERSONS HEALTHWISE ARE ASSISTED CLINICALLY TO TERMINATE THEIR LIVES!

● A 17-year-old girl in Netherlands, who survived rape in her childhood, died after being assisted by the state to end her life because of her unbearable psychological suffering and long struggle with depression.

and reviews, it has been decided that I will be released because my suffering is unbearable. It's finished."

While she decided not to eat and kill herself eventually, the state decided not to force feed her, thus indirectly assisting her in the process. Her death and the last Instagram post have triggered a debate on social media over whether she was mature enough to take such an extreme step, some have also criticised the Dutch laws that allow assisted suicides like in Noa's case.

SHOULD EUTHANASIA BE ENCOURAGED?

Come to think of it, one's life can be uphill and a struggle when there are untold hurts and illusions in their private life.

When we consider what people are going through individually, and there are no support mechanisms and help forthcoming, then we will discover that some people do come to a point where life is not worth a living.

How do we surround people with love and support and still be seen turning the tide?

How do people face their cold nights and agonies that runs so deep at times? While we see people face those moments where the pain becomes unbearable, do we ever grasp that life can become a nightmare and somehow if there is no support mechanism, one fears the 'aloneness' moments?

Are we not too busy minding our own lives and not having time to be there for the multitudes that suffer alone even though they live in our very midst?

I am beginning to doubt if we do

make time to offer support to those struggling as we seem to be more concerned about our own issues instead

LIFE IS SACRED AND GIFT FROM THE SUPREME GOD

While we embrace respect for human rights and the fundamental freedoms, people should still be taught and given clear exposure to the sacredness of life itself.

In the midst of all the struggles, we should still be able to reach out to affirm people and ensure they are made to cope with life's struggles and challenges. It is for this very reason that we should be ensuring that people have support mechanisms to cope, so that they overcome whatsoever challenge they come across. We must become a support system for our fellow humanity. No person should suffer and feel all alone in this life. There should be support mechanisms aimed at helping people cope with challenges they come across. We should be available for each other, and that is what should give our people reason to live in a community of other people. Hence it is a very important thing to have that support system around one's life.

The fact that we are becoming individualistic, we certainly are exposing ourselves, because sooner than later we will need people in this life's journey.

No human being is an island, you will sooner than later discover there must be bridges established that connect humanity as part of supporting each other.

SHOULD HUMAN BEINGS BE ASSISTED TO TERMINATE THEIR LIVES?

Let me categorically state that I am a Cristian and my approach to such a sensitive theme is influenced by my core values based on my beliefs. I still view life as sacred and a gift from God. And I hold the view that life should be valued and respected and no human being has power to choose to end life voluntarily and willingly clinically. We must be accountable to the Supreme God the great giver of life itself, who calls us to live responsibly. It, therefore, does not add any value if one is faced with life's challenges then they must escape through euthanasia. We still must be assisted how to cope.

COPING MECHANISMS NEEDED

At the end of the day, we should all become aware that there are high levels of expectations from different fronts, which at times we are unable to live up to. I am thinking of the trauma of living with this guilt and feeling dirty of having been sexually molested where you were so helpless and vulnerable. How many people live with deep hurts and no professional help and support readily available for such survivors? When one thinks of the aftermath impact and effects, then we should be thinking more of support mechanisms within our very communities.

Unless we begin to think seriously how such people are assisted to cope, we certainly do not even grasp what they go through alone in the midst of their fearful cold nights. We better work hard in ensuring there is support and people are assured of professional help that is availed right at grassroots. Let us be real, people are faced with numer-

ous challenges and because of our failure to reach out with love and compassion, many tend to give up easily in life as it throws greater punches and challenges.

FAMILY SUPPORT - A NEEDED COPING STRATEGY

The fact that human beings are born within families, we must ensure that this provides support as part of helping us cope when life throws tons of bricks upon each one of us individually.

Those who have been though punches that life has hit them with, they still must be affirmed by their own family. Well perhaps we need to ensure that those who go through challenges in life are encouraged to stay in touch with their relatives and friends. Don't withdraw from life because it is such isolation that tends to make one think they would rather end their lives. Become more active and seek things that could keep you busy and dealing with life's challenges.

There must be support mechanisms that would help people face their fears and not avoid the things that cause so much anxiety and depression. Of course some things will be hard to deal with individually, but that is why we live with people who should become our shock-absorbers as part of a coping mechanism. At the end of the day, human beings are born to relate to and support each other. It becomes quite a challenge when one does not have family for support.

FREEDOM WITH LIMITS

In this very age of human rights and fundamental freedoms, let us also advance the notion that life is sacred and a gift. We cannot afford so much freedom without some form of ensuring people take responsibility.

Life, even though meant to be lived fully, humanity must take full responsibility to live it right. Even if we face some challenges, surely there must be solutions sought and found as we offer human support. At the end of the day, we should be there for each other, and that's what make us so special and in need of each other. We should, therefore, begin becoming more accountable to each other because that is what makes us unique and special.



By Lisa Mongelli

A CHILDHOOD LOST



Couples in marital crisis often become so caught up in their power struggle they forget to ask themselves, how is this conflict affecting our children?

Often children become so accustomed to domestic problems and violence that they psychologically contain the trauma only

showing signs of being disturbed long after the crisis is over. These children suffer the loss of innocence. They are robbed of that carefree time of make believe a time of joy and laughter all children have the right to experience. They are flung head first into an adult world of conflict that they

didn't create nor are they emotionally equipped to handle. These children suffer from a lost childhood and the people professing to love them are the very ones robbing them of what should be the most wondrous time of their lives. Childhood!

I have counselled men and women

in partnerships that were in deep crisis only to be told they are staying in the marriage for "The Children". Meanwhile, their home is a battlefield with the poor children as the innocent casualties of a hopeless situation. It is in these cases that separating the children from the conflict would be a far

better option than keeping them captives of an adult power struggle. There are times when separation is best for the children.

Many couples in the face of seeing their dream of Happy Family fall apart forget about the family they already have. Couples wanting to save their partnership often complicate an already difficult situation by having more children. This attempt to fix an already deteriorating situation puts more strain on a family that is already labouring under too much conflict. While this incompatible couple once again make an attempt at Happy Family,



JOY
NDWANDWE'S
LEADERSHIP
ZONE

W

ith this year's theme for international albinism awareness day being, 'Still Standing Strong', am joining the chorus in raising awareness before the official day June 13th.

Recalling my closed mindedness, when still a rude young girl from Sichelwini, when my mother was a public health nurse at King Sobhuza II Clinic.

Her physical appearance would upset my appetite not eating the whole day after seeing her and looking into her eyes, this memory has stayed within my psyche throughout my life. Later was educated whilst living in Coates Valley, next door to an incredible young woman, my sister and comrade Stukie Motsa whilst at St Theresa's High School. Who taught us through her confidence how her world is as good as our world, particularly during university years where she used her voice. Stukie Motsa led contentious political dialogues during university days; her voice became a source of consciousness within the political discourse of that era. I congratulate her for setting up the Stukie Motsa Foundation, I can attest, she was born to lead nurtured with confidence by the Motsa family of Lobamba.

SCARED COMMUNITIES

Albinism has always been a part of our scared communities, today it has taken centre stage, back then communities were dealing with skin identity politics.

We emerge from scared communities, having spent most of post-colonial era asserting skin identity, which had and continued to be systemically battered as sources of imperfection. Thus, we feared skin identity emerging from scared communities; this eroded confidence and dignity such that we wished we were 'white' or 'coloured.' To further instil this fear of blackness, 'beauty' products were flooding the market and elders were humiliated into using them to assimilate into civilisation. This civilised society rooted in the missionary and colonial concept of beauty, as they feared rejection and wished to par-

INTERNATIONAL ALBINISM AWARENESS DAY 2019

Albinism has always been a part of our scared communities, today it has taken centre stage, back then communities were dealing with skin identity politics. We emerge from scared communities, having spent most of post-colonial era asserting skin identity, which had and continued to be systemically battered as sources of imperfection.

ticipate in civilised public spaces with confidence, so they bleached their dark skins.

In the meantime, they were birthing children with albinism, and this became an added trauma, which eroded confidence. As we being 'civilised' therefore, unable to contextualise traditional logic of dealing with the taboo of children with albinism.

Whether it is true or not that these births were considered with negative connotation becomes secondary as they were occurring in scared communities. Seeking acceptance with their skin identity baggage and now these children were escalating, rubbing salt to injury on dominate identity crises manifesting during post-colonial era. I have not found evidence in pre-historical and historical epochs on the elimination or eradication of children with albinism, but will continue searching.

What I do understand is that African communities have been undergoing fearful decades, as skin identity politics stripped them their dignity.

Whilst conducting research I found an advertisement for snow white for perfect skin, thus insinuating dark skin is imperfect. To achieve perfection we must remove the melanin and fit into society, yet God was teaching us through the birthing of children with albinism. How God has created them and they are perfect as they are, our

responsibility is embracing these children and ourselves as gift from God. However, we are too scared to look at ourselves in the mirror, how could we embrace the beautiful children with albinism when living in skin identity crises mode.

SCARRED COMMUNITIES

This unfortunate skin identity contemporary history has left us scarred for life, with blemishes from those 'beauty' products that corroded our skins.

Scarred from insecurity that has left us struggling with skin identity issues and challenges, and yet God has placed beautiful children in our mist. Through these children, God is teaching us how our skin identity crisis was a ploy from a system that had its own skin identity issues. Hence, the most contentious academic and public discourse is that Africa is the cradle of humanity.

Thus by design or default there could have been darker than what is known as the western skin colour be it white or pink. The research of the evolution has created several negative connotations on our dark skin, as in my view we are not black but dark skinned, *bantfu labasundvu*.

In my research on African mythology Knappert (1990:137): "The Woman of Waters, whose name was Nchieng, lived in the east. She gave birth to a son, Woto, and a daughter, Labama. Woto became

the first king of the Bushogo (Bakuba) and moved westward with his children, who were still white. He dyed their skins black because they had to live in the forest as hunters and white men are too visible for the game. He put a medicine on their tongues so that they could suddenly speak the Kuba language." This myth evokes the sacredness of origin that speaks to why we are scarred communities dying our skins from 'white' into dark to acclimatise to environmental or skin identity crises. In relation to children with albinism this myths evokes the thoughts on whether this 'white' skin could have been albinism in prehistoric times.

This line of thought raises my eyebrows in trying to understand the current skin identity crisis that is leading our scarred communities to believe there is medicinal luck in children with albinism. Which in my view reflects the birthing by woman of waters, possibly misrepresented by scarred communities to believe there is medicinal luck from children with albinism.

As scarred communities are conflicted and problematic, in that, their indigenous knowledge is frail and yet they are desperate. To the point where killing our gifts from God, children with albinism becomes a potential source of enrichment as we have an indigenous knowledge void.

That teaches on cosmic debt, in

the event of killing humans there will always be the debt to avenge this death, invasion by *emandza* - we foreign spirits that are not family ancestors.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, children with albinism, keep on standing for you are born within scared and scarred communities requiring intergenerational and healing to accept their skin identity before they can accept yours. At the same time, children with albinism brought into scared and scarred communities to heal from pre-historical and contemporary historical facts. Whether the children of woman of waters were 'white' or children with albinism, this awareness is that God has been teaching us about diversity since birthing of mother earth. One problematic issue that is surfacing in my research is that the cosmic journey of scared faces is manifesting cosmic journey of scarred faces.

Scarred by dying from 'white' into dark in pre-historic and dark to 'white' in contemporary history, instead of learning from children with albinism that acclimatising into an environment is what is critical. We are scarred communities that corroded dark skins evident in blemishes and unfortunately, we are still not 'white.' Another attempt in becoming 'white' manifests in aggressive participation in money economy such that we are prepared to kill God's children with the promise of enrichment. We are scared and scarred of our dark skins to the point of losing souls to the money economy, such that how we get the money is inconsequential.

As we hope, money will heal the scars and fear of rejection as the skin identity crises linked to our bank balances or lack thereof.

God teaches us through children with albinism His diversity in creation and skin colour evident in this African mythology bringing awareness of the diversity in God's creation.

The sacred origins are still standing strong so our responsibility is to ensure children with albinism acclimatise to environment conditions.

their other children stand sidelined waiting for the temporary excitement of a new baby to fade and the parental conflict to once again resume. When conflict between the couple once again reaches fevered agitation, there is usually little or no nurturing going to their children. The two adults become caught up in the conflict between themselves, and the children are then frequently left to nurture one another; this is a very poor substitute for good parenting.

Couples submerged in crisis too often look to their own devices to fix a partnership that needs professional help. Repeatedly, I have seen couples wait until they no longer have the willingness to work on the marriage at any cost so they want out. The situation has psychologically depleted them until they have no more to give. This is where couples

split and families fall apart. I will ask a client have you had couples counselling, and so often I get a resounding No. The lack of professional intervention is usually death to a partnership in trouble. Intervention is a necessary step to healing a wounded partnership, without it there is little or no hope of recovery.

There are too many divorces because one or both parties won't accept professional counselling.

So my question now is what about the children? They are really the most important. When your partner and you are fortunate enough to have children it is absolutely essential that their health and happiness comes first. Children maybe little people but what parents mustn't forget is that one day they grow into adults. Clients have come to me over a problem with a grown child; these peo-

ple often express deep despair over a relationship having gone terribly wrong. My first question is always how was your child's childhood? This is when reports of conflict in the home during childhood come to light; stories of domestic violence, or an unresolved ongoing history of dysfunction and anger in the family with one or both parents. These people were unhappy children and have grown into unhappy adults. No one can stay emotionally healthy let alone develop into a healthy adult under constant duress, and yet legions of children grow up under constant stress due to domestic conflict, abuse and violence. The statistics are shocking, and that is only the reported cases; what about the silent cry or the silent scream that no one hears?

If we want a better world, it is important that we protect our children from

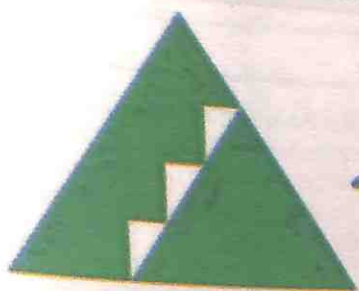
abuse and domestic violence so they can grow to be happy mature souls and add value to our world. Remember, the healthiest partnerships are challenged when you bring children into the equation. So before you make a decision of such colossal consequence, please think about the person you bring into this world and be prepared to give them the absolute best of yourself.

Love, humility and the willingness to seek help is the key to transforming any dysfunctional domestic situation. Attracting the right partner always has to do with who is coming into the relationship, and I am not speaking about your partner but I am speaking about you. What you have denied in yourself will always reflect itself back to you through your partner, and through your relationship with your children. The ability

to receive love has so much to do with you and how you feel about yourself. Being able to love your children has everything to do with your capacity to love and nurture yourself. If you were the victim of domestic violence as a child or abuse, I urge you to seek help. Choosing to embrace the deepest part of you and heal has a way of bringing about wondrous life changes.

The miraculous power of a love attraction between two people is the most creative power on our planet. It is mankind's gift from the Creator; the holy essence that ensures our survival. The wonders of life really do belong to the children who are the best of us, and they deserve our protection. God Bless, enjoy your Sunday.

Please talk to me at lisamongeli30@gmail.com and share your thoughts.



JA Eswatini
A Member of JA Worldwide

Junior Achievement Eswatini
Impumelelo Building, Trelawney Park
P.O. Box 2187, Manzini
Tel: 2505 6504/8259/6045
Fax: 2505 8216
Mobile: 7605 2296
Email: siphesihle@jaswaziland.org

T

he Government of Eswatini has launched its strategic

roadmap for the country showing its plans for the next five years.

This plan features some very interesting points which spell positive things ahead for young people. Though not too explicit in terms of defining the role of the youth in the plan, the various action items do show a role that the young people of the country can play in making it a reality.

One of these is what Junior Achievement Eswatini advocates for, which is financial literacy.

Government plans to promote financial literacy amongst all citizens in partnership with the bankers' association.

By stating that this will involve all citizens it means the youth will not be left out of this very important plan. The government also notes a concern on the low ranking on Ease of Doing Business.

It states that our Ease of Doing Business Ranking deteriorated to 117 out of 190 countries. Our goal now is to be ranked in the Top 10 countries in Africa to attract meaningful investment to grow the economy. This will, therefore, translate to opportunities for young people as well who would like to venture into business.

JA Eswatini exists for the purpose of equipping the youth with the much-needed financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship skills, enabling the youth to contribute and succeed in the local and global economy.

YOUTH'S ROLE IN GOVT ROADMAP

● The Strategic Roadmap notes areas of improvement that need to be addressed as the country repositions itself for growth. These include human capital and diversity. The plan states that there is a need to conduct a skills audit to determine human capital development needs. Government is also looking towards employment creation seeing a need to identify skills requirements in areas that will drive job creation outside government.

Today we take a closer look at the roadmap and what we view as its message to the youth.

BUSINESSES KEY TO COUNTRY'S GROWTH

The Strategic Roadmap notes areas of improvement that need to be addressed as the country repositions itself for growth.

These include human capital and diversity.

The plan states that there is a need to conduct a skills audit to determine human capital development needs. Government is also looking towards employment creation seeing a need to identify skills requirements in areas that will drive job creation outside government. This is something that JA Eswatini

supports as we go into schools to train young people to have a business mindset from a young age so that they too can be job creators rather than job seekers. Government also notes a need for more to be done to improve gender diversity.

Where the youth is specifically mentioned is in the issue of having a need to do more to address needs for special needs groups. Government notes these special needs groups as the youth and the disabled among others.

Still on the business front we are pleased to see that government notes that improving Eswatini's business environment is crucial to facilitating the private-sector led recovery envisaged in the Strategic Roadmap.

This entails improvements in access to markets and resources for individuals and improvements in all indicators under the Ease of Doing Business Index.

Under the ministry of commerce industry and trade, there are reforms to look forward to on the medium terms which include reductions in Eswatini's corporate income tax along with an enabling institutional environment to attract FDI. A reduction in corporate tax means that young people venturing into business will be able to have more to reinvest into their businesses over time.

We are pleased to also learn that government is planning to facilitate export driven growth and increase SME participation in the

economy. At JA Eswatini, we talk about business day in and day out and that the government recognises SME means the youth will indeed play a meaningful role in the development of the country as well as themselves.

Government also plans to develop an integrated land use strategy and expedite rollout of Special Economic Zones, improve effectiveness of investment promotion agencies and relaunch the Investor roadmap programme.

With youth quite good on innovation, they will be pleased to hear that government will implement e-Government to centralise data and systems into a single solution. This will enable us to do more within a short space of time.

Evang. Wilton Mamba



C

olossians 3:23; 'Whatever you do, work at it

with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.' (NIV).

This scripture was the driving force behind my every effort at whatever I put my mind or laid my hands on this week. This is about ministering to others through our work as if we are serving God.

God gives me inspiration to do creatives in my work space, and I can do so much more if I honour God for this. Does the Bible not say we can do all things through God who gives us strength?

In Mark 10:43-45, Jesus Christ says, "... whoever wants to become great among you

SERVING OTHERS IS OBEDIENCE TO GOD



must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did

not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (NIV). Jesus was talking

about serving people so that we would be exalted by God at the end, determining to receive a reward

from God and not from people. Jesus washed the feet of His disciples to demonstrate to them that they should serve one another, and that is service unto God. In 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12, it is written; 'and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.' This verse is very profound. The NIV translation does sound a bit offhand, particularly on the phrase 'mind your own business', but if you verify with other translations, you will realise that they use pretty much the same expression. You get the feeling that the usage of the phrase is a bit worldly, but that's exactly what Apostle Paul is saying. Minding your own business does not mean you become arrogant and ignore other people as no man is an island. Serving God is not limited to worshipping Him. In fact it is hardly that, when you

Government has also stated that it will ensure inclusive growth that includes young people in the process as well as an effective social safety net to protect vulnerable citizens. Government also wants to ensure no liSwati is left behind, that effectively means the youth are also moving in this map.

One of the biggest hindrances of starting businesses in Eswatini has been the registering of companies process. Government will look into establishing a One Stop Shop for all business registrations which means a single point of interaction for company registration, trading licence, work permits, labour, health inspection, tax registration and revenue office.

The Strategic Roadmap is not exhaustive in its well-meaning plans to improve the lives of everyone, including the youth. We encourage you to get a copy of the plan on the government roadmap on this link <http://www.gov.sz/images/CabinetMinisters/STRATEGIC-ROADMAP-2018-2023-MAY-2019.pdf>

Getting a hold of the plan is free and will empower you with much knowledge that will help you be strategically positioned and knowledgeable of the systems that the country is using to develop you and those around us.

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH JA

For more information on JA activities, do contact us on the number that appears in the logo of this feature.

To stay updated on our activities, follow us on various media. Junior Achievement Eswatini hosts a radio programme on the local radio station; both on SiSwati Channel 88.5 FM every Friday 4pm and the English Channel on 96.1 FM every Wednesday 5pm. Catch us live at these times as we interact with our guests with regards to financial literacy; youth entrepreneurship and job readiness. You can Live Stream us also on EBIS 1 & 2. Our twitter handle is @JASwaziland. Our Instagram handle is JASwaziland. Also catch us on the big screen. Believe It! Achieve It! That is our entrepreneurship TV programme every Saturday at 10am on Eswatini TV. Get to see our young entrepreneurs doing what they know best.

come to think of it; serving God is about serving His people, both friends and foes – that's our sacrifice. Only this way do we qualify for heavenly rewards. The first thing that **Colossians 3:23** does is – it blesses the work of our hands. Among the first things that the devil attacks to compromise our service to God is our businesses. Among the front runners of his many demons that he unleashes on businesses is 'laziness', especially on the part of the owners themselves and vision bearers. This is because Satan knows too well that if he deals fatally with the head, the body will fall.

When people patronise your business, they exercise a spiritual truth – they 'know' that your business will solve their problems. If they are disappointed, the business falls. It only makes sense that there should be some spirituality in our businesses. The reason is simple – **Colossians 3:23**.

When we disappoint our clients, relatives, friends and foes, we are not only disappointing men; we are disappointing Him who sits on the highest throne in heaven, the Father of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who died so that we would live and prosper at every station of life right here on earth forevermore. If we fail others, we are guilty of disobedience to Him who gave us the talent. These are the

things that we should be talking about in church.

It is wrong that the people of the world do greater things than we who claim to be in Christ do.

This hurts Jesus so much because He has given us all power that gives us ability to do all things; to meet every need. Some of us get to Jesus, who by His very nature is all things, and then ignore our talents, and let them rot.

This hurts Jesus. I have seen very talented footballers quit football because they claim to have received Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. I have seen people who claim to have

been called by the Lord quit work and move to full time ministry – only to pilfer from the offering box when the going gets tough.

These people do not realise that when they quit work, it is victory to the Kingdom of Satan. It is the very reason why our economy is sagging under the weight of corruption today. People who have been born again have moved from their ordained positions. We get born again so that we are restored to the image of God.

And when we do, God gives us the instruments of independence, among which is to have dominion

over all things right here on earth, as it is written in **Genesis 1:26-28**: 'And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.' (KJV).

It is time that all born again Christians wake up and smell the coffee. We all know we have a responsibility to do something to God's glory. Whatever we do we must do it heartily. When you do things heartily, you are doing them with-

Wilton Mamba is an Evangelist and founder of David Goliath Spiritual Solutions, a sanctuary that provides spiritual solutions to practical problems, counselling and life coaching, cutting-edge Bible study and spiritual exercises through works of faith.

If you have been blessed by reading this article, or seek clarification on some of the issues raised here, contact Evang. Wilton Mamba on 7677 9312 or 7977 0952 or 2404 5284.

You can send an email to mambawilton.multimedia@gmail.com. Fellowship with us today at 10am at Multimedia, Corner Somhlolo Road and Mbhilibhi Street in Mbabane opposite ICAP.

out complaining; we are doing them with love and excellence. Till we talk again, blessings.



TOURISM & TRAVEL

BONGANI DLAMINI

ETA Marketing Manager

Email: mm@tourismauthority.org.sz



TOURISM COMES OF AGE



T

he government recently launched its strategic roadmap, a turnaround plan that hopes to bring quick, yet sustainable solutions to the country's ailing economy.

The Prime Minister Mandvulo Dlamini announced that tourism had been identified among the five key priority themes as focal interventions to drive the economic recovery plan. The Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA), as government's destination marketing arm, will have to be on its 'A' game to drive growth in the sector. Observer on Sunday speaks to Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini in a bid to understand the scenario back in the early 2000s and today's demands on the marketing office of the ETA.

What sort of strategies or programmes existed to drive the tourism agenda when the Swaziland Tourism Authority (now Eswatini Tourism Authority) started out in the early 2000s?

There was nothing. We had to pull all of those things together through a lot of hard work, which included a lot of reading, research, and literally spending sleepless nights.

However, I also consulted with very brilliant people in the industry, and one of those is Themba Khumalo, who was Chief Marketing Officer of South Africa Tourism.

He would come to Eswatini where we would work throughout the night and he would invite me to South Africa where he would expose me to tourism documents that they had used to establish that organisation. At the time, the Tourism Authority was led by a woman of massive experience in the name of *Make Poppy Khoza*. She was an amazing leader of people and she had beautiful leadership and social skills, which brought out the best in us; *Make Khoza* also had a very strong board that she worked with.

Marketing a country is not the same as marketing an everyday product. What are the first few things that needed to be done at that stage?

As I had just finished a Masters Degree in Tourism, which I did in very reputable institutions in Cape Town and the United Kingdom, I had a very strong understanding of what happens in a tourism environment. But I also had to bring up to speed a lot of stakeholders in terms of what the STA should represent; and it was very difficult to come to common ground because people had their own ideas about how things had to be done. But I had to stand my ground. However, the people in the board at the time, the likes of Musa Mdluli, Darron Raw and others challenged my office to address the tourism issues of the time.

What were the issues that needed ETA's urgent attention at the time?

It was a question of what it was that we were supposed to do.

I was new and they had been in the field for a long time, and had to win their trust. They were willing to give me an opportunity to convince them that I could take them somewhere. They brought out the best in me as I tried to set up the marketing department. I got to appreciate that tourism is too big a brand to be left in the hands of one person. So the convergence of ideas is what made tourism what is today. It was a beautiful time where you had to work hard; otherwise you would have no job security. I had to do a lot of hard work to rise to the occasion. My principals and stakeholders taught me that I had to earn the industry's respect.

I am glad to say that I am good with industry players today because we have had a lot of debates and arguments about tourism. And this was for a good course. That's how we ended up where we

are today. The good thing about the ETA is that it has not seen a lot of evolution in terms of human resources. Most of the people we started with are still there today, and these helped in terms of helping us reframe our minds about what is expected of us. The underlying factor that we all appreciated was that we were expected to work hard, and work hard we did.

Eswatini Tourism Authority right now is the central figure in terms of marketing the country and getting tourists to come. Has this always been the case as far back as you remember?

The one thing that has always driven us was the appreciation that tourism is private sector-driven. We had to understand that if establishments did not receive people to use their facilities and a lot of our Swazi compatriots would lose their jobs. So it was always a motivation that, while I would still be paid even if I did not do my job that well, these people who worked in the establishments would lose their jobs.

We had to take the views and opinions of establishment owners seriously because if we failed, it would hurt them in the pocket. At the same time, it was important to be careful not to lose the leadership and coordinating responsibility that is part of the ETA mandate – our very reason for existence.

Did establishment owners appreciate the view that you needed each other at the time?

I think we had to persuade each other to that position. Tourism, particularly in Eswatini, has been very fragmented for some time; and to lead a fragmented industry can be very difficult. Incidentally, the industry predated the existence of STA (ETA); and this gave them some kind of right to call the shots in some way – and for a good reason because they had good information and experience. It is for this reason that we had to listen to the industry players, but had to have some way to integrate what they were saying, with what we knew and what the country needed.

● This interview continues in the next issue.



It takes Eswatini to end sexual violence against children

WE ARE NOT SMALL PEOPLE, BUT PEOPLE!

In one of the media interviews that I have had the past week, I was asked that, what makes this World Vision-led campaign different from possibly many other child protection campaigns the country has had?

This was one question I was looking forward to addressing since indeed, It Takes Eswatini To End Sexual Violence Campaign is surely going to be a unique campaign. Child participation and children's voices will be the strength of this campaign. It is the time that children's issues are articulated by them.

WHY CHILD PARTICIPATION

Child participation serves to protect children. The right to express views and have them taken seriously is a powerful tool through which to challenge situations of sexual violence.

Children traditionally have been denied both the knowledge that they are entitled to protection from violence, and the instruments through which to challenge this situation. The consequent silencing of children and the abuse they experience has had the effect of protecting abusers rather than children.

However, if they are encouraged to voice what is happening to them, and provided with the necessary mechanisms through which they can raise concerns, it is much easier for violations of rights to be exposed. Furthermore, adults can act to protect children only if they are informed about what is happening in children's lives, and often it is only children themselves who can provide that information. And in all honesty, how will we know what experiences our children are exposed to if as a society we do not encourage that they have a voice

in matters that affect them? Violence against children in families, schools and Eswatini as a whole will be tackled more effectively if children themselves are enabled to tell their stories to those people with the authority to take appropriate action. It is for this reason that children will soon be seen engaging police commissioners, media, prosecution unit and other key stakeholders in this campaign. It is from hearing their experiences that all the key stakeholders will make informed decisions and of course deal with the challenges and gaps presented to them.

Imagine if it was the children themselves who made their views known in their own language and urged parliamentarians to pass legislation in order to improve the situation of Eswatini children. Imagine the beauty of having children invited to sit in the galleries of both Houses during the debate and consideration of the bills involving them.

LEARNING FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

I have over time appreciated countries like Serbia where child participation has led to greater awareness of children's rights among Members of Parliament.

Regular meetings take place between MPs and children so that their voices are heard. This helps to build children's trust in Parliament,

and contributes to building a culture of democracy and understanding issues of children from their perspective and very much raw on how they are affected. This brings me into pausing and thinking about the recent uproar of having the SODV Act reviewed; do those people have children? Do you even read this law with understanding? When will you ever learn that anything that harms us as children kills the country, are you aware of the effects of growing up in a world that has taken all your dignity and sense of being? It is then that I took off to the streets to also get a voice of children on what they feel about sexual violence as well. Below are the sentiments they shared:

"To sexually abuse a child is the most brutal thing an adult can do. It leaves us with wounded souls that takes many years to heal. Sometimes it does not heal, which will give you mental damage that you have to live with for the rest of your life! (13-year-old girl)

"What happened during those years is so hard to describe, and that in itself has been a major problem. I can never be able to prove what happened. I wished many times that he could beat me instead so that I would be able to demonstrate to my mother how he really was. What happened was that it started gradually and then it increased.

I was the only one who knew. (Rape survivor

now 17, raped between ages 6-12 years)

"The reason I never told anyone about the sexual abuse is because I was ashamed. I was convinced that I did something wrong. It took me many years to realise that this was not the case. Now it's too late. My secret." (18-year-old survivor)

"I was abused as a child by a person I called an uncle in the community. The police said it was not worthwhile to report. So we never did. When I was 15, I was sexually abused by another one and I decided to report it. In a way, I regret that now. The interrogations of prosecutors and police were extremely insulting. They humiliated me and were very insensitive. (19-year-old survivor)

I believe that this is the time where all interventions driving towards protecting children should be inclusive of them, surely they are not Small People but People!

It Takes Eswatini To End Sexual Violence Against Children Campaign is a national Campaign led by World Vision Eswatini. To part and play a role contact, Nontobeko_mbuyane@wvi.org

Report Sexual Violence Today On

Police: 999

SWAGAA: 951

MoET: 9664

SMS U-REPORT: 8500

'PIGGS'S PEAK CAN WAIT'

A TRIBUTE TO A FRIEND

He took his own twist on the 1962 Tony Bennet hit-song, 'I left my heart in San Francisco.'

Dini Sobukwe frequently joked that his youthful blood pump lay hidden somewhere in the majestic highlands of Pigg's Peak. He would always end our long-distance telephonic conversations with a plea, that when he returned to visit Eswatini someday, I should assist him in relocating it.

He was his father's son, highly protective of Mangaliso Robert Sobukwe's name and legacy. At his best temperament, the smooth avant garde jazz saxophone of the late John Coltrane soothed his soul. At his worst, he would explode: "Uamazelaphi utata? Umazelaphi?" (Where does he know my father from?)

As a student at Howard University, in Washington DC, I had excitedly bought Benjamin Pogrand's 1990 book about one of Africa's legendary socio-political thinkers, who in March 1960, led the defiance campaign against apartheid South Africa's brutal pass laws, which restricted the movement of Africans and migrant

workers. This resulted in the shooting of 69 protesters at Sharpeville, re-defined South African history, and would later influence Dini's arrival at Salesian High School in Manzini. Following the massacre in May, his father received a three-year prison sentence for 'inciting Africans'.

Deemed dangerous for his pro-African views, the apartheid state subsequently passed the 'General Law Amendment Act', (known as the 'Sobukwe Clause') which allowed for the annual renewal of the imprisonment of the founder of the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), at the discretion of the minister for justice. "Utata (my father) could have been a comfortably rich man, had he focussed on his academic prowess," Dini would reminisce, "and our family situation would have taken a different turn." He did not condemn

him, but yearned for the opportunity to retrace his father's footsteps and to accord him his rightful place in history. Dini decided to join me on a weekend school project to document an exhibition of African-American inventors in Washington. He already anticipated that videography experience would set him on course. We partnered on a series of other productions. His passion for classical jazz was eternal. We enjoyed a summertime performance one Friday evening by a youthful band from the Duke Ellington School of Music, at Malcom X-Park (also known as Meridian Hill).

It was a soulful setting of composers as young as 15, who performed their own originals, and ably acquitted themselves on some Ellington classics. Poised and quiet, with his cigarette smoke slowly rolling into

the atmosphere, Dini lay flat on his belly, and drew it all in.

His young son Tsietsie, mothered by Nomvula Qhubeka, was my favourite. Almost every other weekend I would pick him up together with another four-year-old girl, whose mother worked at the Embassy of Botswana, and spoil them. Twenty-eight years later, the funeral of his 91-year-old mother Zondeni Veronica Sobukwe, in August 2018, brought us together again.

It's a lonely three-hour drive from Port Elizabeth Airport to Graaf-Reinet, the birthplace of Dini's father, through the thicket of open dwarf shrub land of the Karoo. South Africa's fourth oldest town, Graaf (pronounced 'hyraf') was the starting point of the so-called 'Great Trek' inland by Hendrik Potgieter, Piet Retief and others.

Ironically, it was also during the presidency of another son of Graaf, D.F. Malan, that the apartheid policies which Sobukwe opposed, were implemented by the National Party.

Dini Sobukwe delivered on his wishes. He created the Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe Trust, which partnered with the Blackhouse Collective to re-launch two previously under-circulated biographies about his father in 2018. Alongside Wits Chancellor, Justice Dikgang Moseneke, he unveiled a plaque renaming the university's central block after his father, who was a lecturer in African Studies at the school.

He also produced a TV documentary about his father, who had graduated from the South African Native College of Fort Hare. Together with the founding Vice-Chancellor of the former University of Swaziland (now Eswatini), Professor Sam Guma, they were members of the Student Representative Council (SRC).

RIP Mkhaya! Pigg's Peak can wait. (Dinilezwe Sobukwe passed away at a Port Elizabeth hospital on Wednesday)

EBIS Director, Martin Dlamini writes in his personal capacity.

There are many reasons for promoting increased levels of women's representation in positions of leadership, decision-making and influence.

A basic one is that it is only fair: females generally tend to be in the majority in populations, as they are in Eswatini. Therefore, since they too have been endowed with the same talents as the opposite sex, it does not make sense that they would be deprived of opportunities to exercise those talents where qualified, solely because of their sex. At a deeper level of engagement, inclusion means they can lend their voices at the table where issues are raised and decisions are made. Women's presence would ensure that the discussions and eventual decisions take cognisance of other perspectives that might not be understood, or even known by males, and hence would otherwise be left out of the agenda, thus perpetuating women's exclusion and lack of advancement.

A 'Win' In Women's Representation: The Maternity Leave Demand

The famous '27 demands' provide a good example. Accounts of the issue-identification process claim that the maternity leave-related demand had not even occurred to the male leaders, despite it being key for the majority of their members. It is said that even when the issue was brought forward by the women leaders of the time, they had to work hard at convincing their male colleagues that it was worthy enough to be on the list. It might seem strange that something so central to a working woman's decision-making about pursuing a career and/or establishing a family, can be a non-issue for a man. And that is not to blame men either - the fact is that because of our gendered experiences as dictated by society, there are things that men will simply have no experiential knowledge of, and hence will not even cross their minds.

Calls For Greater Women's Representation In Leadership Are About Adding Value

Therefore, the main motivation behind calling for women's greater inclusion at leadership levels is that it is an opportunity to add value. This motivation also underscores the importance of understanding that this increased representation is not just about numbers. The real issue is quality - will the person be able to hold their ground in what still essentially remains a 'boy's club.' Will they be able to raise these per-

GENDER EQUALITY - MAKING THE PROMISE A REALITY

THE SILENCE OF WOMEN LEGISLATORS IN THE SODV ACT DEBATE IS JUST TOO LOUD

(A HURISWA initiative supported by UNESCO to promote gender equality in Eswatini)

ceived 'non-issues' and ensure that they are not only placed on the agenda, but that they are addressed seriously?

The call for more women leaders has been made the most often and loudest in the case of national government, including both the Legislature and Cabinet. And when elections come, one of the main concerns, not only from civil society, but even officially from governments and election observers, is how many women participated and how many were successful. The Kingdom of Eswatini has continued to disappoint in this regard, and in turn continues to miss out on the benefits that women would bring to national development.

WE EXPECT WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS TO SPEAK IN THE SODV ACT DEBATE

Nonetheless, we do expect to hear the voices of those who do make it in to express themselves on issues of national importance.

The rates of gender-based violence and the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act, 2018 are national issues and are being debated left, right and centre. But from the Legislature, the noise made has mainly been from men, ripping the law to shreds and

wanting a review of a law the very same institution passed just 'yesterday.' Alarmingly, women are being vilified as part of these objections. As male MPs misguidedly fuel the fire of resistance and hostility to this law, women members of Parliament - both the Lower and Upper House - are just too quiet.

A 'Critical Minority': Being Less In Numbers Need Not Mean Less In Impact

The full complement of Parliament is 104 members. Of these, there are only 21 women: nine in the House of Assembly 12 in Senate. It might be argued that even if they all spoke in one accord on issues, they would find it difficult to make an impact.

What makes it worse in this case is that there does not seem to be any unity. From the outside there seems to be too many things that divide them.

Of course, there is no expectation of perfect agreement on all issues at all times. But surely something like concern about violence and doing something about it, would not be difficult for them to converge around.

Should they not want, for whatever reason, to take individual stands on the issue, they have the structure

of the Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC) through which they could take a collective approach to opposition to the SODV Act. Once an active structure, the WPC was so quiet during the last term that many thought it had ceased to exist; this could be a chance to revive it early enough for it to be more effective during this term of office.

Elected Women Have No Choice But To Speak

It might be difficult to pin the appointed women down on this - after all, they have a constituency of one and only they know their mandate. Nonetheless, with an issue such as gender-based violence, one would think they too would have something to say.

Maybe it is the claims that the law is contrary to the customs or culture of Emaswati that is keeping them quiet. But with the elected women, there is no excuse.

First at inkhundla level, the constituents of Manzini South and Mafutseni face serious issues of gender-based violence, and in most of the cases that have been reported in the media from these two areas, women have been the survivors.

So, in playing their representative

role, Hon. Thandi Nxumalo and Hon. Lady Howard-Mabuza cannot be silent on an issue that affects those who voted for them.

Then there are the four women elected from the regions. From media reports of their lobbying MPs for votes, it seems they presented themselves as assuring the males that they would be no threat to them and would be happily go along with whatever direction the males would decide. But the constitution is quite clear, these four MPs are there to represent women.

The question is how will they do so? Have they engaged women from the different sectors in society? If not when and how do they plan to do so, so that the opinions they raise in parliamentary discussions are informed by their constituency?

While we wait for that engagement to happen, here is a ready-made issue: violence against women and the SODV Act that seeks to help, but seems to be under threat from the very Parliament that passed it last year.

The silence of these representatives is too loud. As per their constitutional mandate, we would like to see and hear them stand up for women in this debate!

By Seb Patrick

Game of Thrones petitions and Star Wars trolls?

FANS HAVE BECOME FAR TOO ENTITLED

It's a common refrain from franchise movie directors when a film fails to set the critical world on fire that they have, in fact, not made it for those elitist critics in their metropolitan bubble of exclusive screenings and free canapes, but "for the fans".

But what happens when the fans decide they don't want a particular project either?

Ron Howard, the Director of Solo: A Star Wars Story, recently suggested that a fan backlash against the Star Wars saga as a whole, primarily driven by negative reaction to the preceding film "The Last Jedi", was responsible for his own movie's mediocre performance at the box office. Howard pointed to a concerted campaign to drive down "audience reaction" scores on sites such as Rotten Tomatoes and Metacritic, arguing that Solo may have earned more than its \$393m box office take had such "aggressive trolling" not occurred.

The director may have a point, but to blame angry internet fans alone for the film's performance overlooks a number of other factors that will probably have contributed to its underwhelming reception. The critical press reaction was hardly much more enthusiastic (indeed, while Solo's audience score on Rotten Tomatoes sits at 64 per cent, the critical consensus only puts it marginally high-

er at 70 per cent); Howard himself, while undoubtedly a talented filmmaker, was parachuted in to rework the film after the original team of Phil Lord and Christopher Miller were let go due to "creative differences"; and Disney's Chief Executive Bob Iger has even admitted that yet another Star Wars release so soon after the previous instalment may have contributed to audience fatigue with the saga.

Fans, particularly the ones more inclined to get aggrieved at the slightest hint of a property not being made in the exact way they want it, would certainly like to believe that they have that kind of power over the mass cinema-going audience. But you only have to look at 'Captain Marvel', which earned well over \$1bn despite concerted boycott campaigning from "anti-social justice warrior" figureheads on YouTube and social media, to see that a good film is perfectly capable of rising above such petty trolling.

Whether successful or not, what these campaigns had in common was that they weren't based on

the quality of the products themselves - but on pre-emptive assumptions made by fans who had already decided they weren't going to like it. It's been a different story in the aftermath of the final season of 'Game of Thrones', where a widespread sense of disappointment with the quality and character direction - one that, it should be stressed, wasn't universally shared by all the fans - manifested itself, in the most extreme quarters, in the shape of petitions for HBO to actually remake the episodes in a fashion more in line with fan expectations.

What's at the root of these types of campaigns?

In recent years we've seen a growth in entitled attitudes among some fans - a feeling that has always bubbled under the surface, but which has risen as the internet has given more and more amplification to their voices.

As far as these fans are concerned, their beloved characters and universes are not "owned" by their makers - but by those who spend their hard-

earned on going to watch them. And so criticism moves out of the realm of simply being a reaction, into something that drives a cause - the injustice will not stand, the wrong must be addressed.

But just as an author cannot claim complete ownership of a work once it's been given to the world, so too an audience has no right to claim ownership while it's being created. The only duty that a filmmaker has is to deliver the work as they see fit - and to deliver commercial success, of course, if that's what they've been hired to do. In general, if the work is good, it has a chance of succeeding - even if it might make decisions that not every viewer would have made in the process.

Fandom has, and always will have, an important role to play in art and culture. To consume, to engage, to enjoy, to criticise, to analyse, to adapt. But demanding to have a say in the work itself isn't part of the deal.

It fails to take into account that not every other fan may even agree with one's criticisms; not to mention that, frankly, fans don't always know best what they actually want. And the time and effort that some groups expend campaigning against works they don't like would surely be better spent encouraging, or even creating more of, ones that they do.

THE CLASSIFIEDS OBSERVER

2404 8699 / 2404 3807 / 2505 2320

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Clients are advised to please check their adverts on the first publication day, for we will not be held responsible for any errors after the first day of publication. If it happens that you note any errors, please call 2404 3807 / 8671 immediately and it will be corrected as soon as possible. Failure to adhere to these terms, we assume no financial responsibility. Thanking you in advance for we assure satisfactory services.

INDEX

1. NOTICES
 - General Notices
 - Legal Notices
 - Church Notices
 - Announcements
 - Change of Surname
 - Sales & Foreclosure
 - General Items
 - Auctions
2. BUSINESS SERVICES
 - Special Services
 - Businesses Opportunities
 - Restaurant, Catering & Office
 - Equipment
 - Garage sale
 - Other Business Items
 - Maintenance & Construction
 - Motoring and Transport
3. JOBS or VACANCIES
4. MISCELLANEOUS
 - Medical & Natural Healing
 - Tuition & Courses
5. HEALTH & BEAUTY
6. PETS & PET ACCESSORIES
 - Pets & Adoptions
 - Cats & Kittens
 - Dogs & Puppies
 - Birds & Poultry
 - Fish & Aquarium
 - Other Pet & Accessories
7. ELECTRONICS
 - TV's, DVD Players, Decoders & Satellites
 - Household Appliances
 - Music Equipment, Amplifiers, Equalizers & Speakers
 - Mobile Devices, Smart Phones & Tablets
 - Computers, Laptops, Cameras & Optics
 - Games, Gaming Consoles & Software
8. HOUSEHOLD
 - Domestic
 - Clothing
 - Baby and Kids
 - Furniture
 - Hobbies, Model Toys, Handcraft
 - Wanted
10. BUILDING, GARDENING & DIY
 - Woodworking
 - Machinery & Tools
 - Plumbing & Electrical
 - Other Building & DIY
 - Plants, Trees & Flowers
 - Garden Furniture & Appliances
 - Other Gardening
11. FARMING EQUIPMENT & SPARES
 - Car Spares or Parts
 - Bike Spares
 - Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares
 - Stripping for Spares
 - Farming Equipment & Machinery
 - Livestock
 - Other Farming
12. LEISURE, SPORT & EVENTS
 - Fitness
 - Tennis & squash
 - Watersport
 - Karate, Boxing & Judo
 - Angling & Cycling
 - Other Sport
 - Caravans, Campers and Trailers
 - Leisure, Community and Events
 - Music and Instruments
 - Camping and Outdoor
13. PROPERTY
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Farms and Vacant Plots
 - Holiday & Accommodation
 - Apartments / Flats / Houses to Rent
14. VEHICLES
 - Cars
 - Bikes
 - Classics and Custom Builds
 - Trucks
 - Buses Farming
 - Trailers
 - Aircraft
15. DEATH NOTICES

WINDSCREEN specials

YEAR	NAME	MODEL	PRICE
2001+	Audi	A4	1195.00
92-96	BMW	E36	1195.00
2001&08	HONDA	Fit Jazz (1395)	1195.00
1999+	Altezza	IS 200	995.00
2007+	Mazda	BT 50	995.00
2004+	Toyota	Hilux	995.00
2004&05	Toyota	Quantum	799.00
2005+	Toyota	Quantum	899.00
2003+	Mazda	Demio	1495.00
2001+	Nissan	XTrail	1395.00
2004&09	Mazda 3	Axcela	1395.00
1998+	Golf (4)	Golf 4	1295.00
2000+	Mitsubishi	Pajero 3D SD	995.00
1982&83	BMW	E30 (Kush)	795.00
2000	Toyota	Corolla (KE120)/RunX	995.00
2005&06	Toyota	Yaris I & II (LK20&LK30)	1195.00
2003+	Isuzu	Fleet side (DMAX)	995.00
2011+	Ford	Ranger	1195.00
2004+	BMW	1 Series(E87-2004 & F20new)	1195.00
2008+	Nissan	NP200	1195.00
2005+	BMW	E90 (330)	1295.00
2005+	Toyota	Mark X	1395.00
2008+	Toyota	Alphard	1595.00
2005+	Nissan	TIDA	1195.00
2008+	Hyundai	Tucson/1x35	1495.00
2010+	KIA	Sportage	1395.00

ALL PRICES INCLUDE FITTING



MANZINI Tel: 2505 9671 Fax: 2505 9673
 MATSAPHA Opp Former Bronor Foods Tel: 2518 6043, 2518 5718
 MBABANE next to Bandag & Autozone Tel: 2404 1464
 DOC:19113 Dx 11/06/19

Mahle Emantungwa Transport

AVAILABLE
FOR HIRE
ACROSS SADC REGION



15,16, 22 Seater

FOR BOOKINGS
CALL KHUMALO @ 76034157
email: mahleemantungwa13@gmail.com

mm Dx 12/06/19

FIRE your boss & start a salon with E0.00 Capital by renting Beauty work station

We looking for

- Barbers
- Makeup artist
- Hairdressers
- Nails specialist
- Therapist

Contact : 76376839/ 76341494

FRIDGE MASTERS & ELECTRICAL
Keeping you cool and bright
WE DO

- Car Aircon Service & Repair.
- Electrical Installation and Maintenance.
- Cold Rooms & Fridge Repairs.

Find us on F

Call: 78267750 / 79267751 / 79170299

Shining Star Glassworks

SPECIALS!!

Windscreens from E899 for Isuzu, Hilux, Nissan & Imports

Glass, Aluminium sliding shower doors, Klingshield & Tinting.

Quality Guaranteed

Tel: 2404 4787 | Cell: 7611 0341 / 7612 6974

BATTERY CLINIC

Manzini next to Freedom Motor Spares opposite Cashbuild

WINTER SPECIALS!

20W50 Multigrade 5L ...	E180.00
15W40 5L	E185.00
SAE 40 5L	E180.00
10W40 MAGNATIC.....	E300.00

Reconditioned batteries start from E500.00
 Battery service start from E250.00
 E180 SCRAP DISCOUNT

Contact: 2505 4890/7819 079

Longrich Products

Specials

Toothpaste E100
 White Tea
 Soap E90
 Pantyliners/Pads E70
 Brown tea E130
 Plus many more while stock lasts

Contact 7619 0612

www.observer.org.sz

DEAF UPHOLSTERY EXPERT



Trained in South Africa
CHEAP, FAST & VERY NEAT

7844 5984 - whatsapp / 7655 6850 - voice



Car alarms from E995.00

MANZINI Tel: 2505 9671 Fax: 2505 9673
 MATSAPHA Opp Former Bronor Foods Tel: 2518 6043, 2518 5718
 MBABANE next to Bandag & Autozone Tel: 2404 1464
 DOC:19120 Dx 24/06/19

Electrical & Electronics (Pty) Ltd

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER IN:

HOME ENTERTAINMENT (TV, HI-FI, ETC) & HOME APPLIANCES (FRIDGE, W/MACHINE, M/WAVE, ETC).
 INSTALLATIONS OF SATELITE DISHES & TV's

TV, FRIDGE & STOVE SPARES AVAILABLE

CONTACT: 24047449 - 76216784
 CARTER'S MALL BUILDING BEHIND HI-FI CORP - MBABANE



This day spa is nestled inside the scenic Sibane Hotel.

Packages available on request for: COUPLES | GROUPS | WEDDING

BEAUTY TREATMENTS OFFERED

Operating Hours
 Mon - Fri 0900 HRS - 1800 HRS
 SATURDAY 0900 HRS - 1600 HRS
 SUN 1000 AM - 1400 HRS
 /PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (STRICTLY BY APPOINTMENT)



Find us @ Sibane Hotel Ezulwini
 Tel: 2417 1009
 Cell: 76718348/76127203

Swazi OBSERVER

Swazi Observer
Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699

Advertiser

KUSILE KITCHEN HOSPITALITY SCHOOL

REGISTRATION FOR 2019 ON-GOING DAY, EVENING & WEEKEND CLASSES

- FULL CATERING COURSE
(Now with Deaf Interpreter)
(Include Waiting & Décor)
- DÉCOR AND VENUE SET-UP
- GENERAL OFFICE CLEANING
- HOUSE HELPERS AND NANNIES
- HOUSE KEEPING FOR HOTELS
- GARDENERS & JANITORS
- KIDDIES COURSE
(Basic Cooking & House Cleaning)

MBABANE
2404 7750/1
2404 2832

MANZINI
2505 9689
7614 8564

YADAH TECHNOLOGIES

CHEBLE YADAH INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD
T/A Yadah Technologies, #34 Lot 384
Somhlolo RD, LM Building Mbabane
Tel: +268-34020462/78333589/76675123
Email: info@yadahtechnologies.com
www.yadahtechnologies.com



HIK Vision-all CCTV products with remote access capable



D5 Evo gate motor kit
include 4m steel rack,
12v 7AH battery,
2x4 button remote, oil,
steel brackets with
commax Audio 1:1
intercom.



All types of printers

All chargers available

CLASSIFIEDS ADS

TO ADVERTISE ON
THE CLASSIFIEDS
FOR ANY PRODUCT

CONTACT 2404 8699/3807



Revived Reliable Read

Swazi
OBSERVER

OBSERVER
ON SATURDAY

SUNDAY
OBSERVER

NXUMZA SCRAPEYARD

Services offered

Stainless Steel	E9.00 Per Kg
Allu Cooper Red	E22.00 Per Kg
Copper Red	E28.00 Per Kg
Copper Braizal	E45.00 Per Kg
Brass Light	E25.00 Per Kg
Brass Heavy	E32.00 Per Kg
Allu Red	E6.00 Per Kg
Allu Cast	E10.00 Per Kg
Allu Rims	E12.00 Per Kg
Battery	E7.00 Per Kg
Lead	E10.00 Per Kg
Zinke	E 5.00 Per Kg
Oldro	E8.00 Per Kg
Steel	E2.00 Per Kg
Sub Grade	E1.00 Per Kg

Contact 76076438/76672455
Matsapha Industrial Site

Kashyan Investment (pty) Ltd

Jp Spare Parts for: Honda, BMW,
Mazda, Toyota etc.

Waseem Haider
Cell: (+268) 7862 8028
M. Kamran Mehmood
Cell: (+268) 7860 8558
M. Kamran Mehmood
Cell: (+268) 7865 8493



Email: jpsoaresswaziland@gmail.com
Plot No.93 1st Avenue Matsapha,
Next to Cash Build Next Opposite A.D Enterprise

SWAZI OBSERVER

Send us your **Classified Adverts**

1. Send your Classified Ad via Whatsapp.
2. Get a Quotation via same platform.
3. Send Payment via Mobile Money.

MTN
Mobile Money
7872 1620

EASY AS
1 2 3
Convenience
at your finger tips!

NOTICES
Death
Vacancies
Job Search

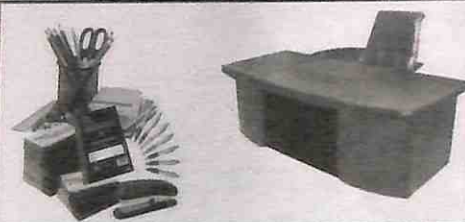
BUSINESSES
Property
Auctions
Hair salons

FOR SALE
Property
Vehicles
Livestock
Appliances
etc

REACH US FROM ANY
WHERE ESWATINI

Swazi
OBSERVER

CALL OUR OFFICE
MBABANE TEL: 2404 8699 / 2404 3807
MANZINI TEL: 2505 2320
NHLANGANO TEL: 2207 5159
PIGGS PEAK TEL: 2437 1083
SITEKI TEL: 7643 6549
email: advertising@observer.org.sz
adverts@observer.org.sz



Baobab ExpressPrinters and Stationery
and Baobab Express Furniture Supply.

Office/School Desks, Chairs, Typek, Stationery,
Receipts/ Invoice Books, Business cards.
Call: 2404 0491 / 7637 2858 / 7615 7325

R/N 167119 Dx 16 SEPT 2019

PARK HOTEL

Manzini

Special @ **E450** Per night
Bed & Breakfast

Longer stay is available
from as little as

E299.00 per night (It's & C's) apply.

Contact: 2505 4723

Dx 250619

Classifieds



ADVERTISE WITH US.
COME TO YOUR NEAREST OBSERVER OFFICES
FOR ALL YOUR ADVERTISING NEEDS.

Tel: 2404 3807 / 2404 8671
email: advertising@observer.org.sz
www.observer.org.sz

REVIVED

RELIABLE

READ

www.observer.org.sz

Swazi Observer
Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699



ESWATINI HOMES, LAND & ESTATES

Eswatini is where the Heart is, Let us help you find your permanent home today!

ANDILE 7851 3212

SIPHESIHLE - 76232188



Whatsapp 7606 5512 to get group link

Swazi
OBSERVER

THEMBELIHLE IS PROVIDING YOU WITH YOUR DREAM FLATS TODAY!

- TURNKEY FLATS -

Turnkey flats are readily available at the well-established suburbs in Mbabane. The well secured flats with 24hour security and landscaping services ready to cater for you anytime are truly every persons dream. The flats come with three bedrooms two bathrooms (Master enSuite) and a fitted kitchen that accommodates dishwashing and laundry machines. As if that was not enough, the flats also provide a cozy lounge, dining room and a spacious entertaining area that will accommodate your guests. Unlike most regular flats, these flats also provide a private backyard perfect for kids to play in or have an outdoor chilling session with friends and family.

All this is waiting for the small price of E12 000p/m. Call 7607 4433/7907 4433

Building is also on Sale. We are taking offers.



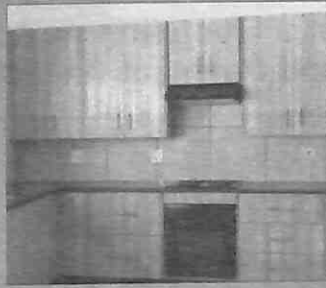
Struggling to know which area you want your permanent residence to be in? Here are some tricks to help you choose your permanent location today!

Location- you can live with almost any imperfection in a home if you love the neighbourhood. The ambience of a place really says it all. This is the most important factor to look into. It is therefore imperative that you give much thought into this aspect. When choosing your location look into:

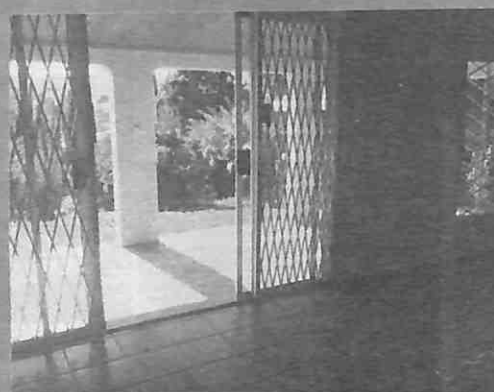
- The proximity of your workplace- it is best to choose a home that is nearer to your place of work.
- Charm of the neighbourhood
- Security- is the neighbourhood safe? Have there been any cases of extreme violence or high crime rates? If yes, put your money back into your pocket and hunt for another location.
- Access to shopping centres- An ideal area should have shops nearby for your convenience
- Schools- if your looking for a family home and have children who have started to attend school, it is best to look for an area with schools nearby. Nothing is more frustrating than having to travel over 60kilometres just to drop off your child at kindergarten
- Public transportation- even if you have a car it is wise to consider both modes of transport.

The site - this goes beyond location; it is the actual situation of the home. Is it on a hill? How is the scenery? Is it easily accessible to water? Are the soils fertile?

Neighbourhood- this is a facet most people ignore yet it is very significant. Look at your neighbours and how they carry themselves in the neighbourhood. Do the neighbours keep their yards clean and tidy? Is there any old trash lying around carelessly? Is it safe enough for people to walk in it?

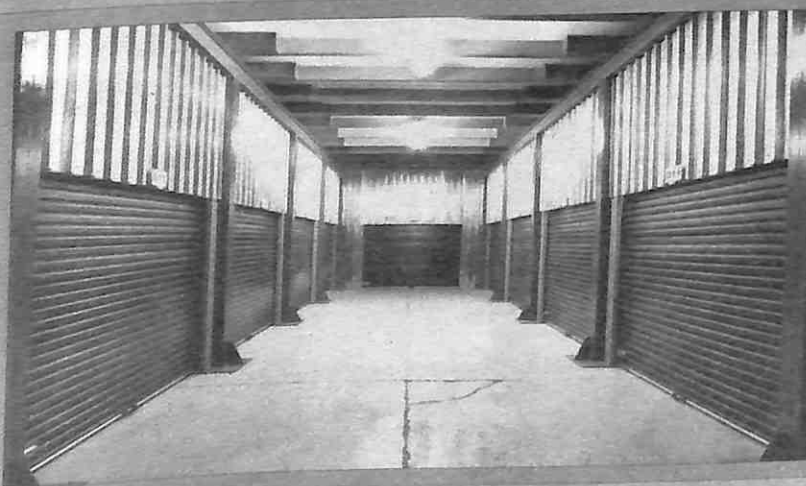


TRANQUIL HOUSE TO LET - ST MARKS



"3 bedroom, 2 bathroom house opposite St. Marks Primary School available immediately. Ideal as offices. It has ample parking, a large lounge with fire place and dining room plus large fitted kitchen. Secure with electric gate and boundary wall set in a spacious and beautiful garden"

STORAGE TO LET



Secure storage units available to let at Sidwashini Industrial site, Mbabane. Safe, affordable and accessible anytime 76074433 / 79074433

CALL US TO PLACE YOUR AD:

76065512

ANDILE 7851 3212

SIPHESIHLE - 76232188

ESWATINI USED CARS

CALL US TO PLACE YOUR AD:

ANDILE 7851 3212

SIPHESIHLE - 76232188

Whatsapp 7606 5512 to get group link

Swazi
OBSERVER



E35,000.00 neg

HONDA CRV 2002, very good, fresh & low on fuel
Call: 76862022



E35,000.00 neg

ISUZU 2.5 Diesel Lwb
Call: 7688864



E45,000.00 neg

HONDA CRV 2006
Very good. Call: 76862022



E85,000.00 neg

MAHINDRA Bolero 2016 model with canopy
and new tyres. Call: 7672 9604



E43,000.00 neg

Mercedes C200 1999 2Lt
Call: 76115321 / 76074896



E139,000.00

Mercedes Benz 2008 model, C220, Cdi, AMG Kit
Call: 76117697 / 79117697



TRANSPORT For Hire

to all SADC Countries. 15,16,22 Seater.
Call: 76034157
email: mahleemantungwa13@gmail.com



E48,000.00

SUBARU Forrester Model 2004 model
Call: 78451695



E78,000.00 neg

ISUZU KB 280 Diesel with canopy,
new tyres
Call: 76729604



E80,000.00 neg

2008 BMW 320i Manual, local
Call: 76179553



E60,000.00

MAHINDRA SC Bolero, Mileage 129521km, 2008 model
2.5D, Call: 76246757



E98,000.00 neg

Isuzu 2.5 DTC 2014 Call: 7689 4800



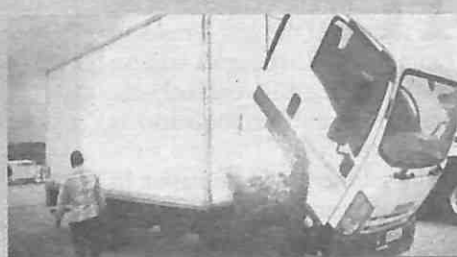
E88,000.00

TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 2009, Clean
Call: 76131064 / 79022533



E45,000.00

URGENT FOR SALE!
3Y Engine
Call: 76436709



Make an offer

DAMAGED 2014 Isuzu Truck, F-Series FSR 800 for sale
Call: 78041866 / 76022133



E170,000.00 neg

Mitsubishi Triton, 2.4 Diesel, Turbo
Call: 78676848



E378,000.00

TOYOTA Hilux 4x4 Gd6 2.4, Double Cab + Canopy,
2017 model, 130km 6 forward, Accident FREE,
Full Service and new tyres from Leites Motors
Call: 76042444



E1,400.00 neg

TOYOTA Etios 2017 Bumper
Call: 79183826



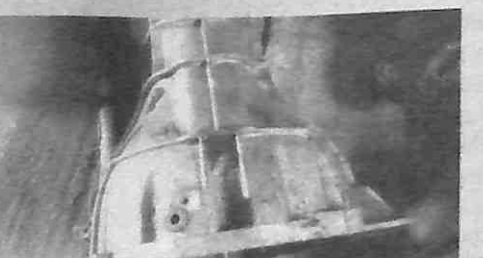
E135,000.00

TOYOTA QUANTUM 2.7 Petrol, 14 seated,
2012 model. Call: 76582399



Call: 76894800 / 79055201

ISUZU 2.5D 4X4. Selling bodyparts.



E8,500.00

ISUZU Gear Box,
Call: 76894800 / 76055201



E165,000.00

NISSAN NT 300 2017 model.
Call: 76023761



E40,000.00 neg

TOYOTA IPSUM 2005 model. Very low km 79,000.00
Fresh, Extra 2 tyres. Call: 76862022



Negotiable

TOYOTA Hilux 6 Cylinder Engine
Call: 76036405



SUNDAY OBSERVER AFRICA NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

Malawi president accuses opposition

BLANTYRE - Malawi President Peter Mutharika on Thursday accused the opposition which has rejected the outcome of last month's election of wanting to "overthrow the government by force". Backers of the opposition Malawi Congress Party (MCP) allege their leader Lazarus Chakwera was robbed of victory in the May 21 election, which an official count showed he lost by just 159 000 votes.

"We have seen the Reverend Lazarus Chakwera... call for violence and a blood bath to plunge this country into chaos," Mutharika said in a national television address.

"The real objective of the Reverend Chakwera is to overthrow the government by violence and force," he added. Chakwera has rejected the outcome of the presidential election as "daylight robbery" and launched a court battle to have the result annulled on the grounds of fraud.

Hurriedly

Earlier on Thursday, the US ambassador to Malawi was forced to hurriedly leave the MCP's headquarters as police fired teargas at protesters. MCP supporters had gathered in the capital Lilongwe as part of ongoing street protests.

US Ambassador Virginia Palmer told AFP she was making a farewell call at the opposition party headquarters.

"Just as we finished the meeting, apparently rocks were thrown and the police responded with teargas," she said.

"There was teargas flying around but my security people came and we proceeded out without incident."

The US embassy is located next to the MCP building in Lilongwe.

"I just call on all parties in Malawi to exercise restraint and proceed peacefully while the MCP court case is going forward," said Palmer, who is due to leave her Malawi posting shortly.

"This is a peaceful country and a democratic country and we all need to respect these norms." Eyewitness Jones Chinkhwangwa told AFP: "As the police continued firing (teargas) we saw the US ambassador's vehicle rushing out of the party headquarters."

Reuters

LESOTHO MPs CONDEMN SPEAKER

JOHANNESBURG - Lesotho MPs from the governing and opposition benches, who wanted Prime Minister Tom Thabane out, said they would not allow the speaker to change the rules for them to have their vote of no confidence.

A member of Thabane's All Basotho Convention (ABC) filed the motion on Wednesday and was backed by an MP of opposition party, the Democratic Congress.

They expected the motion to be debated and put to a vote on Thursday, but that did not happen.

The MPs presented a united front as they condemned the speaker and the deputy speaker in a joint media briefing.

The country remained in suspense as the debate continued around whether a vote of no confidence in Thabane would happen.

But government and opposition put up a united front to condemn, what they called, a flouting of the rules by the speaker to delay the vote.

Motlalentsoa Letsosa of the Democratic Congress said: "Them



Lesotho Prime Minister Thomas Thabane.

saying the mover of the motion should not be a government MP is nonsense. They are also saying the name of the person who is nominated to take over should not be Sam Rapapa because he is still the member of the ABC, is another nonsense. The third one is that they say Rapapa is not eligible for that position because he is not a leader of a particular party or a coalition of a

particular party - that is nonsense."

The MPs said they were strategising together and would not allow Parliament to be misdirected.

Their united front was a clear indication that the governing coalition had lost a significant share of the support that put it in power, but exactly how much, only the vote will tell.

News24

But government and opposition put up a united front to condemn, what they called, a flouting of the rules by the speaker to delay the vote

NEW CURRENCY A MUST BY YEAR-END - MNANGAGWA

HARARE - Zimbabwe must have a new currency by the end of the year, President Emmerson Mnangagwa said on Friday, arguing this would help stabilise prices and inflation, which is at a 10-year high.

The southern African nation in February removed an unrealistic peg for its electronic dollars and surrogate bond notes and merged them into a transitional currency called the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) dollar. In January, Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube said Zimbabwe, in the grip of a severe dollar crunch that has caused shortages of fuel and medicines, would have a new currency in the next 12 months.



Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

"As a country we must have a our currency by the end of this year, we have started that journey," Mnangagwa said at an event south of the capi-

tal Harare.

Prices of basic goods from sugar to maize meal have spiked in the last month as the RTGS dollar has lost value.

Mnangagwa said the price hikes were unjustified.

Zimbabwe abandoned its own currency in 2009 after it was wrecked by hyperinflation and adopted the greenback and other currencies, such as sterling and the South African rand. As physical dollar supplies started dwindling, the central bank introduced the bond note in 2016 at par to the dollar while the amount of electronic dollars increased, plunging the financial system into disarray.

Reuters

BRIEFS

Algerians rally for change

ALGIERS - Thousands of people have gathered in the Algerian capital calling on interim President Abdelkader Bensalah to quit after he vowed to stay in power until a new head of state was elected. Carrying banners reading "You all go" and "We need new figures," protesters packed central Algiers on Friday for the 16th consecutive week demanding the removal of the ruling elite. Bensalah, Speaker of the upper house, was elected by Parliament to lead the North African country when President Abdelaziz Bouteflika quit on April 2 in the face of widespread protests against his 20-year rule.

Al Jazeera

Zim fires entire energy board

HARARE - Zimbabwe has fired the board of its energy supplier ZESA, accusing it of concentrating on peripheral issues amid a national power crisis. Zimbabwe has been going through a crippling power crisis that claimed the former minister of energy Joram Gumbo who was last month reassigned and replaced by Minister Fortune Chasi.

Chasi is, however, not taking chances and has fired the board.

"Upon reviewing the minutes of the board, I was convinced that it was in the national interest that I take the action I took," said Chasi.

News24

Nigeria shuts down private TV, radio stations

ABUJA - Nigeria's broadcasting authority shut down private radio and television stations owned by a key opposition figure who hours earlier said his media operations were being targeted in a crackdown. The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) said on Thursday it suspended the licence of Daar Communications Plc, owner of the African Independent Television (AIT) and RayPower FM for breach of broadcast codes. NBC said in a statement it summoned the management of the stations to address alleged bias in their broadcasts and for failing to meet financial obligations to the regulatory authority.

AFP

Security forces arrest 2 opposition leaders

KHARTOUM - Sudanese security forces have arrested two opposition leaders shortly after they met with Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed during reconciliation talks in Sudan's capital, Khartoum. Abiy, who has emerged as a key regional leader, met representatives of both sides on Friday in a bid to revive talks between Sudan's ruling generals and protest leaders after the military launched a brutal crackdown on protesters that killed dozens of people this week. Among the protest movement delegates he met were opposition politician Mohamed Esmat and a leader of the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), Ismail Jalab.

Al Jazeera



SUNDAY OBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

'US reaches agreement with Mexico to avert tariffs'

WASHINGTON - US President Donald Trump said on Friday night that his country has reached a signed agreement with Mexico to avert the threat of tariffs on all Mexican imports next week.

"The Tariffs scheduled to be implemented by the US on Monday, against Mexico, are hereby indefinitely suspended," Trump tweeted.

"Mexico, in turn, has agreed to take strong measures to stem the tide of Migration through Mexico, and to our Southern Border. This is being done to greatly reduce, or eliminate, Illegal Immigration coming from Mexico and into the United States," he said.

Last week, Trump threatened to impose a 5-percent tariff on all imported Mexican goods beginning on June 10 to pressure the country to stop the flow of undocumented migrants crossing the border, and to gradually increase tariffs until the problem is remedied, drawing extensive criticism both at home and abroad.

A high-level Mexican delegation led by Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard is in Washington this week to hold talks with US officials on tariffs and immigration.

According to the US-Mexico Joint Declaration released by the State Department, Mexico will 'take unprecedented steps' to increase enforcement to curb irregular migration, to include



US President Donald Trump.

the deployment of its National Guard throughout Mexico, giving priority to its southern border.

The United States will immediately expand the implementation of the existing Migrant Protection Protocols across its entire southern border, said the joint declaration, adding that those crossing the US southern border to seek asylum will be rapidly returned to Mexico where they may await the adjudication of their asylum claims.

Ebrard said the resolution was fair and balanced and that the United States originally made more sweeping demands than were part of the final deal, according to Bloomberg. "We reached some middle point," Ebrard was quoted as saying.

"No tariffs on Mexico. Mexico came through," tweeted Republican senator Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee who opposed the tariffs. Reuters

SUSPENDING PARLIAMENT REMAINS A BREXIT OPTION

LONDON - Suspending Parliament remains an option to ensure Britain leaves the European Union on October 31, former Brexit secretary Dominic Raab said yesterday, rejecting criticism of the measure from other Conservative leadership candidates. Raab, who draws support from the most pro-Brexit wing of the Conservative Party, has refused to rule out suspending parliament until the Brexit deadline, if needed to prevent lawmakers from stopping a no-deal Brexit.

However he said he thought it unlikely, as parliamentary rules would make it harder for lawmakers to continue to oppose a no-deal Brexit as they had under Prime Minister Theresa May, who formally resigned as Conservative Party leader on Friday.

"I think it is very unlikely that it would be necessary," he said in a BBC interview. "It is much more difficult this time for parliament to engage in the sort of guerrilla warfare sabotage of a government that is resolved ... to leave by the end of October," he added.

Most lawmakers oppose leaving the EU without some kind of deal, and Finance Minister Philip Hammond told US broadcaster CNBC yesterday that he thought the chance of a no-deal Brexit was "very small".

However, there is significant pressure on leadership contenders from

Conservative Party members to leave the EU by October 31, after the party suffered heavy losses in European Parliament elections when voters deserted it in favour of the new Brexit Party led by veteran anti-EU campaigner Nigel Farage.

The leading contender to succeed May, former foreign secretary Boris Johnson, has ruled out proroguing or suspending parliament, and environment minister Michael Gove has said he is open to a further delay if agreement could not be reached with Brussels.

Raab said he wanted to keep all constitutional options on the table in order to pressure the EU to agree a time limit for a so-called 'back-stop', that prevents border controls between Ireland and the British province of Northern Ireland.

Reuters

”

I think it is very unlikely that it would be necessary," he said in a BBC interview. "It is much more difficult this time for parliament to engage in the sort of guerrilla warfare sabotage of a government that is resolved to leave by the end of October

Boris Johnson wins court challenge over misconduct summons

LONDON - Former foreign minister Boris Johnson, the frontrunner to replace Theresa May as Britain's prime minister, on Friday won his bid to block a lawsuit accusing him of knowingly lying during the Brexit referendum campaign.

The decision removes a hurdle for Johnson in his leadership bid, with his lawyers persuading a London court that the private prosecution was 'polit-

ically motivated and vexatious.'

They asked the High Court to throw out a judge's decision last month to allow a summons ordering Johnson to appear in court over allegations of misconduct in public office, arguing the decision had "erred in law".

"We are quashing the decision of the district judge to issue the summonses," Michael Supperstone, one of two High Court judges hearing the case,

said following a hearing on Friday, at which Johnson was not present. The case, brought by businessman Marcus Ball in a crowd-funded initiative, concerned Johnson's claim that Britain sends 350 million (US\$440m, 400m Euros) a week to the European Union.

While this was Britain's gross contribution, the net figure accounts for a budget rebate from the EU as well as payments to Britain's public sector

from the EU budget, and is substantially less. The official Leave campaign emblazoned the controversial figure on the side of its touring bus during the 2016 EU referendum, while Johnson and other Brexiters repeatedly trumpeted it campaigning.

Ball, 29, who has crowd-funded more than 300 000 through an online campaign to bring the case, told reporters ahead of the hearing he believed in

'the merits of it.' In a written ruling on May 29 district judge Margot Coleman had agreed that was there was a proper case to issue a summons.

But Adrian Darbishire, Johnson's lawyer, asked the High Court on Friday to throw out the prosecution because it was political in nature.

"The only rational conclusion which could be reached was that the prosecution was politically motivated and, therefore, vexatious," he said.

Daily Mail

BRIEFS

Trump says no to LGBT flag

BERLIN - The Trump administration denied multiple United State embassies permission to fly the rainbow pride flag from their flagpoles to commemorate LGBT pride month.

State Department officials said embassies are required to get permission from them when flying anything besides the American flag on their main flagpoles.

An email from the state management was sent to the US embassy in Berlin denying it permission to fly the flag this year, despite it being a yearly routine.

AFP

Estonia, Niger, Vietnam among 5 elected

GENEVA - Estonia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia and Vietnam were elected to the United Nations (UN) Security Council for the period of 2020 to 2021 by the UN General Assembly.

The five states will replace Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Poland and Peru from January for a two-year term.

The election came at a time of diplomatic deadlock at the council, which had been unable to agree on a response to several crises from Syria to Myanmar, Venezuela or Sudan.

Reuters

Philippines slams 'unpardonable intrusions'

MANILA - The Philippine Government attacked United Nations human rights experts yesterday for 'unpardonable intrusions,' after a call for an international investigation into killings linked to President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs. The experts on Friday urged the UN Human Rights Council, whose 47 member states begin a three-week session on June 24, to launch an independent inquiry into what they said was a sharp deterioration in human rights across the country. The 11 experts said they 'have recorded a staggering number of unlawful deaths and police killings in the context of the so-called war on drugs, as well as killings of human rights defenders.' Reuters

China condemns US 'arrogance'

BEIJING - China has voiced its 'strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition' towards comments by the United States on the 30th anniversary of the Chinese government's violent response to student-led protests in Beijing's Tiananmen Square.

In a statement on Monday, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo urged Beijing to mark the June 4 anniversary by providing a full account of the bloody crackdown and releasing all prisoners jailed for fighting human rights abuses.

AFP

Portugal rely on Ronaldo to get better of Van Dijk



LISBON - Portugal's meeting with the Netherlands to decide the first ever winners of the Nations League today sees the unstoppable force of Cristiano Ronaldo face the immovable object in Virgil van Dijk. Ronaldo sat out the early stages of UEFA's new competition to save his 34-year-old legs for his first season at Juventus, but returned in time to ride to the host nation's rescue once more in Wednesday's semi-final against Switzerland. The Swiss enjoyed the better of the game in Porto, but the five-time world player of the year was lethal in scoring his 53rd career hat-trick with three exquisite finishes. "It's the preparation - my work ethic. I still feel good despite being 34 years of age," Ronaldo told Uefa.com.

"The most important thing is your head, to feel motivated and happy, and to follow my path as a player, because I think I still have a lot to give."

Portugal's run to the last four without their all-time record top goalscorer showed why hopes are high the European champions will remain a force even when Ronaldo does eventually depart the international scene. The talent of Bernardo Silva, Joao Felix, Ruben Neves and Bruno Fernandes among others promises much, but Ronaldo remains Portugal's X-factor. "We know sometimes it is impossible to have good defending against Cristiano Ronaldo," said the Netherlands coach Koeman. "I think the best that we can do is keeping the ball, to have good ball possession because when we have the ball he can do nothing in attack." However, Koeman is blessed with the man most capable of keeping Ronaldo quiet in world foot-

ball at the moment in Van Dijk.

The world's most expensive defender has more than justified his €75 million (US\$95 million) price tag since swapping Southampton for Liverpool 18 months ago.

His transformative effect has brought back the glory days at Anfield, capped by winning the Champions League last weekend.

And now Van Dijk is also leading his country back to where they belong as a European powerhouse after failing to even qualify for the last two major tournaments. Koeman

boasted about having the best central defensive partnership in Europe even before the tournament with Ajax captain Matthijs de Ligt lining up alongside Van Dijk.

Yet, while the 19-year-old may well succeed his skipper as the world's most expensive defender in the coming weeks, Holland's 3-1 semi-final victory over England showed why he is not yet the finished article. De Ligt's error in conceding a first half penalty could have cost his side a place in the final. Van Dijk was first to console his young teammate and that assurance helped De Ligt to atone in perfect fashion as he scored the Dutch's equaliser before easing past an error-strewn England in extra-time. Ronaldo may be keen for revenge against De Ligt as he also scored the winner when Ajax shocked Juventus in the Champions League quarterfinals this season.

Despite the Italian champions' elimination, Ronaldo scored his side's two goals in that tie. But he is yet to net when faced with the more imposing and composed figure of Van Dijk. In their only two previous meetings, Real Madrid beat Liverpool in last season's Champions League final thanks to two calamitous goalkeeping errors from Loris Karius and a wonder goal from Gareth Bale in what proved to be Ronaldo's last ever game for the Spanish giants. **Goal**



Konta accuses French Open of sexism as scheduling row escalates

PARIS - Johanna Konta has slammed French Open organisers for their decision to move her semi-final match against Marketa Vondrousova at Roland Garros.

The British number one threw away a break advantage in both sets en-route to 7-5, 7-6 (7-2) defeat to the Czech teenager, but it was change in scheduling that seemed to really attract her ire.

Due to rain washing out Wednesday's play, all four semi-finals were played on Friday, but the men were given Court Philippe Chatrier while the women were bumped onto the outside arenas. "I think more than anything, what is tiring and what is really unfortunate in this more than anything is that women - athletes, female athletes - have to sit in different positions and have to justify their scheduling or their involvement in an event or their salary or their opportunities," Konta said.

"And I think to give time to that is even more of a sad situation than what we found ourselves in today in terms of the scheduling."

"I don't want to sit here and justify where I'm scheduled. That's not my job. My job is to come here and entertain people, and I feel I did that. And I feel I gave people who paid tickets every opportunity to enjoy their French Open experience. And if the organisers do not feel that that is something that can be promoted and celebrated, then I think it's the organisers you need to have a conversation with, not me, because I did my job and I did my job well." **AFP**



Johanna Konta.

Woman who accuses Brazil's Neymar of rape gives police statement

Sao Paulo - The Brazilian woman at the centre of an alleged rape scandal involving star striker Neymar gave a statement on Friday to police investigating the sexual assault allegation that has gripped the soccer-mad country.

Najila Trindade Mendes de Souza has accused the football megastar of raping her in a Paris hotel in May, a charge which he denies. Trindade arrived at the Sao

Paulo Police Station at midday, her face covered by a black jacket as she was escorted by officers through a media scrum outside. She emerged after six hours of testimony, which the UOL website said was videotaped in a room with three female police officers present. Trindade was carried out of the police station in her lawyer's arms, and did not speak to journalists. Her dramatic appearance came a day after Neymar went to a Rio de Janeiro police station sitting in a wheelchair after injuring his ankle in Wednesday's

pre-Copa America friendly against Qatar. He gave a statement in an investigation into his publication of intimate WhatsApp messages and photos of Trindade on social media without her consent. Neymar told police that an assistant and a technician were responsible for sharing the messages and photos, TV Globo reported. In the latest twist in the drama dominating headlines and conversations in Brazil, previously unseen WhatsApp messages allegedly between the pair were broadcast on Thursday by TV Globo and Record.

These exchanges dated May 16, a day after Trindade said she was raped featured a photo of Trindade's buttocks covered with bruises. Neymar wrote: "For these marks you are also guilty, ha ha ha, you asked for more." Trindade replied: "You are mad, I asked you to stop and you even apologized!" In extracts of an interview with SBT TV network aired shortly before Wednesday's game, Trindade described suffering 'aggression together with rape' at the hands of the player. **AFP**

Hazard joins Real for Zidane re-build

MADRID - Eden Hazard completed his long-awaited move from Chelsea to Real Madrid on Friday and could become the Spanish club's most expensive signing in their history.

Real said Hazard, 28, had signed a five-year contract.

His contract at the Premier League club was due to expire next year but the Blues drove a hard bargain for the forward, who will reportedly cost Madrid an initial €100

million with another €45 million in potential add-ons. The full amount would trump the €101 million Madrid paid Tottenham for Gareth Bale and the €91 million they spent to sign Cristiano Ronaldo from Manchester United.

An unveiling at the Santiago Bernabeu is expected next week, once Hazard returns from international duty with Belgium, who play Euro 2020 qualifiers against Kazakhstan yesterday and Scotland on Tuesday. It means Madrid's spending spree is picking up pace following the arrivals of defender Eder Militao and striker Luka Jovic from Porto and Eintracht Frankfurt respectively. **Goal**

Baroka FC sign Gerald Phiri Jr

JOHANNESBURG - Baroka FC have announced the signing of former Bidvest Wits winger Gerald Phiri Jr.

The Malawi international was on the books of National First Division (NFD) side Ajax Cape Town during this past season.

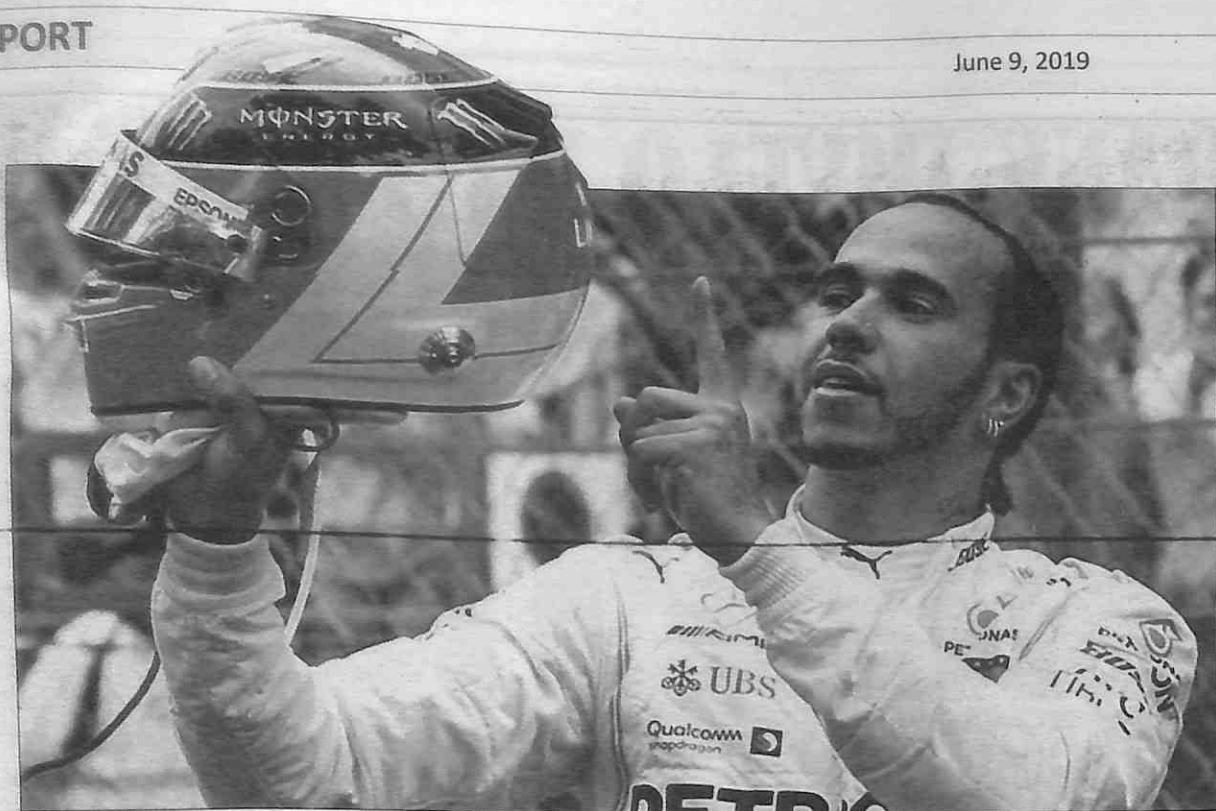
Phiri recently parted ways with the Urban Warriors after the team failed to secure promotion back to the Premier Soccer League (PSL). Baroka have since snapped up the skillful player and the club made the announcement on its Twitter page on Saturday: "Baroka FC? we have signed Gerald

Phiri Malawian International on 3 years Contract. It's his birthday today," a club statement read. Phiri, who turned 26 yesterday, is making his return to the PSL having turned out for Wits and Platinum Stars (now defunct) in the South African top flight league.

The left-footed player had two spells with Stars - making 26 appearances in the league and he hit the back of the four times. However, the former Mighty Wanderers player attacker made only six appearances in the league for Wits and he scored once in the process. **Goal**

Brazilian superstar Neymar.





Ferrari tops Canada practice after Hamilton hits wall

MONTREAL — Charles Leclerc posted the fastest time in practice for the Canadian Grand Prix on Friday as Ferrari took advantage of some Mercedes misfortune with world champion Lewis Hamilton watching from the pits after clipping the wall.

Leclerc lapped the island circuit in the day's best time of one minute 12.177 seconds, 0.074 ahead of his team mate, four-times world champion Sebastian Vettel.

That provided Ferrari with a much-needed boost as they look to revive their challenge to Mercedes in Canada.

Mercedes have dominated this season so far with Hamilton and team mate Valtteri Bottas winning all six races, crossing one-two in five of them.

Hamilton is 17 points clear of Bottas at the top of the standings with a fading Vettel 55 adrift of the Briton.

"I still believe Mercedes is very strong and I expect them to be very hard to beat in qualifying tomorrow," said

Leclerc.

"We did a good performance from free practice one to free practice two; the car felt better but we shall do another step to try to challenge Mercedes tomorrow."

"It has been a positive day." With Hamilton, fastest in the morning session, on the sidelines, his Finnish team mate Bottas was third quickest for Mercedes in the afternoon, followed by McLaren's Spaniard Carlos Sainz and Dane Kevin Magnussen for Haas.

It was a wild, dusty day on the island circuit with several cars brushing the walls, including Hamilton's, bringing a premature end to the five-times world champion's day.

After dominating the opening practice, Mercedes, using an upgraded engine, were flexing their muscles again in the second until a rare mistake by Hamilton sent him into the wall and then the pits.

With an hour left in the session the Briton, pushing too hard coming

through a chicane, clipped the barrier, puncturing the right rear tyre.

After limping back to the garage, Hamilton offered a sheepish apology to his team telling them: "Sorry about that." Having sustained damage to the floor of his car, he did not reappear on the track.

"I don't remember the last time I missed a whole session before," said Hamilton. "It's definitely not great to watch the session from the garage; it feels like sitting in the headmaster's office, wishing to be back in class."

"It was an innocent mistake, I was doing multiple laps on the medium tyre and was really trying to find the limit."

"Obviously I went slightly over." Red Bull's Max Verstappen, who complained to his team during the morning session that the track was "insanely dirty", introduced himself to the infamous "Wall of Champions" in the second, slapping the barrier with his left front tyre. *Daily Mail*

Arsenal confirm Welbeck exit

LONDON - Arsenal forward Danny Welbeck has left the club at the end of his contract along with veteran goalkeeper Petr Cech and experienced defender Stephan Lichtsteiner.

Welbeck's exit was expected after the England international's injury-ravaged spell at the Emirates Stadium, while Czech 'keeper Cech and Swiss international Lichtsteiner had previously hinted they would be leaving once their contracts expired.

Arsenal also announced youngsters Cohen Bramall, Charlie Gilmour, and Julio

gave little away when asked.

However, following the Gunners' final home match of the Premier League season against Brighton, Welbeck was honoured with

a memento from Arsenal chairman Chips Keswick.

Cech, 37, is widely rumoured to be returning to his former club Chelsea in a coaching role.

Daily Mail



Arsenal forward Danny Welbeck.

Pleguezuelo will leave the Gunners.

A brief statement on Arsenal's website said: "We thank them all for their contributions to the club and we wish them every future success."

Welbeck, 28, joined Arsenal from Manchester United during 2014 and went on to win the FA Cup under Arsene Wenger.

Often utilised as an attacking option off the bench, Welbeck suffered a string of injury setbacks, the latest being a broken ankle against Sporting Lisbon in a Europa League tie on November 8.

Despite the striker's long-term future being in doubt, the club had not made any official comment, while Arsenal manager Unai Emery

Bakayoko makes decision on Chelsea future

LONDON - Chelsea midfielder Tiemoue Bakayoko will stay with next season and will not complete a permanent move to AC Milan, according to his agent.

The Frenchman moved to the Rossoneri last summer in a season-long loan deal, with Milan having the option to buy him outright for €35million this summer. Bakayoko, who was a £40million signing from Monaco in July 2017, was boot-

ed out at Stamford Bridge last summer without even playing for Maurizio Sarri and the Italian's impending departure has probably played a role in the return of the 24-year-old.

Bakayoko struggled to begin with at Milan, even being publicly criticised by manager Gennaro Gattuso, but then became one of the most important players in the team.

It seemed as though a permanent deal would follow, how-

ever missing out on the Champions League on the final day of the season has likely forced Milan to re-evaluate their summer transfer plans, plus incoming boss Marco Giampaolo will have had a huge say on the business done.

Now, Bakayoko's agent has revealed that the former Monaco man will be playing at Stamford Bridge next season despite reports linking him with a move to rivals Inter. *Team Talk*

Thiem ends Djokovic bid, faces Nadal in final

PARIS - Novak Djokovic's dream of becoming just the second man in history to hold all Grand Slam titles at the same time twice was crushed by Dominic Thiem at Roland Garros on Saturday.

Thiem downed the world num-

ber one 6-2, 3-6, 7-5, 5-7, 7-5 to set up a repeat of last year's final against 11-time winner and defending champion Rafael Nadal Djokovic, who was second best to Thiem when it came to mastering the gloom, wind and damp of Paris, was bidding

to join Rod Laver in the Grand Slam history books. However, it's 25-year-old Austrian fourth seed Thiem who goes on to face Nadal where he will be buoyed by having defeated the 17-time major winner four times on clay in his career. *Daily Mail*

'Why City is the perfect place to work'

MANCHESTER - Pep Guardiola believes Manchester City is 'the perfect place to work' and has reassured the club's supporters that he is going nowhere. The Spaniard has led City to back-to-back Premier League titles, and also won the FA Cup and the Carabao Cup in a remarkable season for Pep's men.

Guardiola is contracted until June 2021 after signing a two-year extension last summer and he intends to see out that deal. "There's no better place in the world to play and do your job as a manager than in England," Guardiola told the club's official website. "I can compare it to Spain and Germany. I haven't been to other countries, but they would be quite similar. If I go to Italy it would be quite similar to Spain. "In other places fans boo you if you don't win but here it's always supportive. It's like I am in a blue shirt and I am one of you. "I remember in the first year it was difficult. After the defeat to Monaco in the Champions League and we were not doing well in the Premier League, the people still supported you."

Team Talk



Tiemoue Bakayoko.



2019 NEDBANK IMVELO MTB CLASSIC

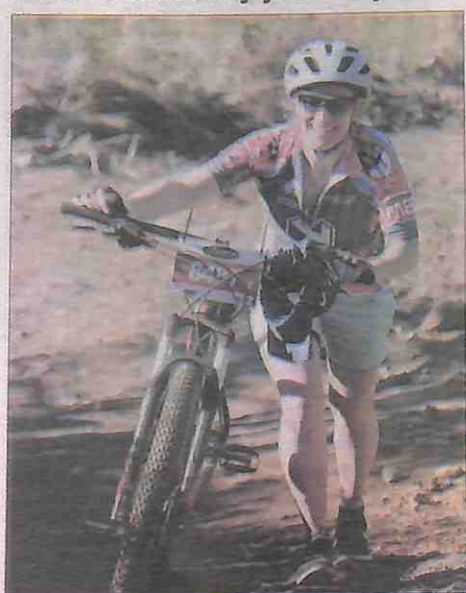
@ Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary



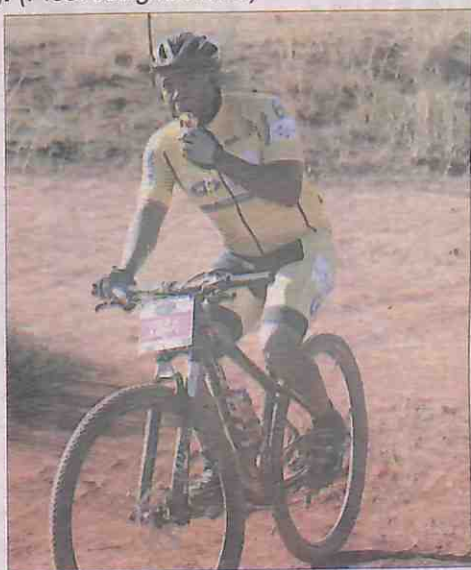
Riders lined up at the starting point of the 2019 Nedbank Imvelo MTB Classic 65km race held at Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary yesterday morning. (Pics: Jongile Xuba)



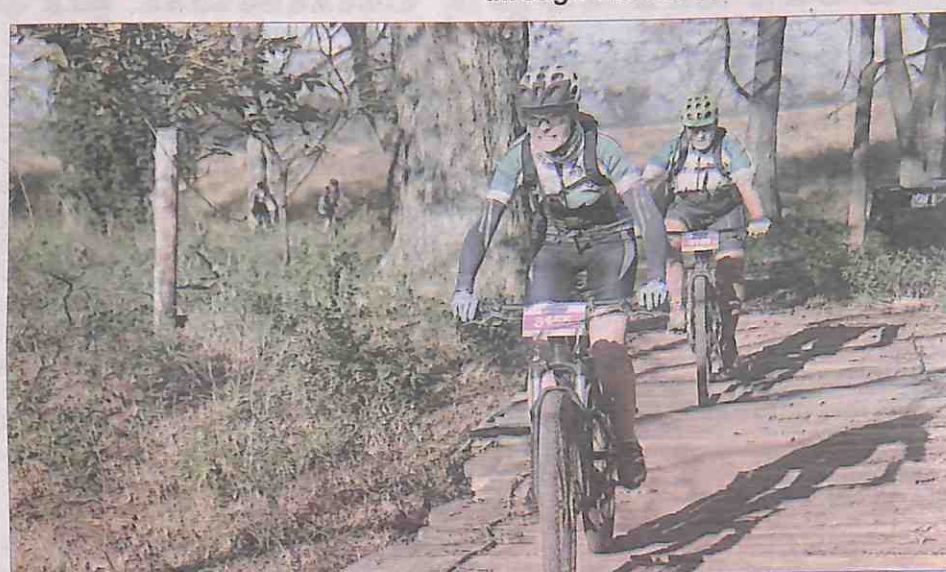
Christo Carelsen manoeuvring through the forest.



This cyclist opted to push her bike up the steep hillside.



This MTN Khemani rider has a quick refuel snack with a banana on the go.



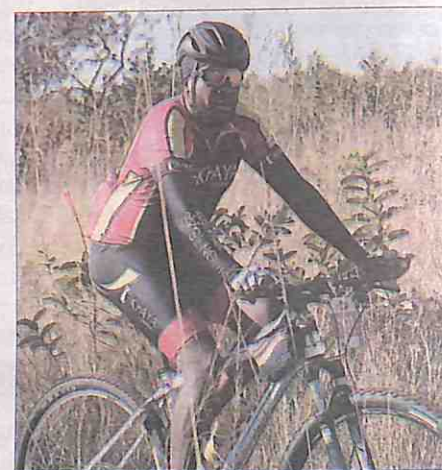
The route had a tricky bridge crossing which was not for the faint-hearted.



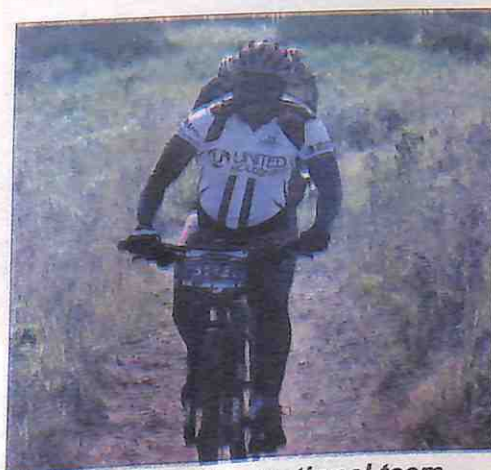
4Eva Cycling rider Clint McNamara gives a thumbs up at the start of the race.



These two decided to utilise one of the water points operated by Swazi Mills.



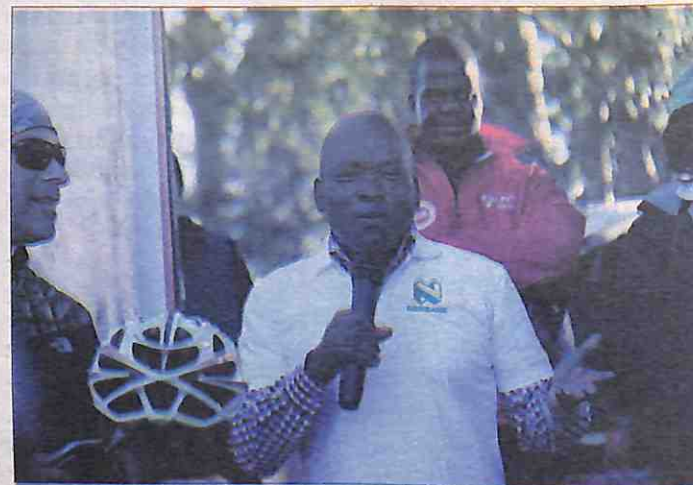
Ekhaya Kusekhaya rider Mduzi Kaudi making his way through the bush section of the race.



Eswatini Cycling national team coach Mbusi Motsa also took part in the race.



Nedbank Managing Director Fikile Nkosi and Minister Moses Vilakati following proceedings.



Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati addressing the riders before the start of the race.



CASTLE 5 CONTINENTAL FINALS



Eswatini Male team players posing before their match against South Africa in the ongoing Castle 5 continental finals at the Uhuru Stadium in Tanzania yesterday. Eswatini lost 3-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane in Tanzania courtesy of Castle Lager)



Eswatini Ladies team players flexing their muscles before their match against South Africa.



Eswatini Ladies team players posing before their match against South Africa, where they lost 5-0 on Friday afternoon.



Team Eswatini preparing for their match against South Africa.

@ Uhuru Stadium, Tanzania



Eswatini player Mandela Mngomezulu controls the ball, whilst a South African player closes in.



Team Eswatini displaying the local flag during the opening ceremony held on Friday.



Khosi Dlamini marks a South African player.



Phephile Matsenjwa getting a hug from Samuel Eto'o.



One of Eswatini players posing with Tanzania Ladies team.



Castle Lager Brand Ambassador and former Barcelona star Samuel Eto'o greeting Eswatini players.

CHRISTO, SANDRA RETAIN NEDBANK IMVELO MTB CLASSIC TITLES

BY JONGILE XUBA

CYOUNG South African duo Christo Carelsen and Sandra Haywood were once again winners of the Nedbank Imvelo 65km MTB Classic, which was held at Mlilwane Game Reserve yesterday morning.

With over 400 riders present and rearing to go, the defending champion Carelsen in the men's category and Haywood from the women, both ensured they retained their titles for another year.

It was Carelsen's fourth consecutive Imvelo MTB victory and he did it with an impressive 3:08:14 hours.

Most impressive is that he beat his previous time of 3:13:21 hours which he set last year to set a new route record.

Coming in second was Dewald Lotter who came in after 03:10:28 hours and he was followed by Klaas Meintjes, who clocked a time of 03:18:15 hours to get the last podium spot in the race.

This year's first Liswati i to finish was Sihawu Dlamini, who came in fifth overall with a time of 03:27:15 hours.

The reigning queen of the Imvelo Classic MTB Haywood picked up a phenomenal seventh consecutive win in the 65km race with a time of 04:19:40. Maryke Bezuidenhout finished as runner-up with a time of 06:01:31 hours with Tina Lovely taking the last podium with a time of 06:07:27 hours.

Asked on how it felt to have won another title Carelsen said the Imvelo MTB Classic was one of his favourite competitions to attend and further said he



This year's Nedbank Imvelo MTB 65km Classic Champion Christo Carelsen crossing the finish line after completing the race in 3:08:14 hours at Mlilwane Game Reserve yesterday.
(Pic: JongileXuba)

was happy to beat his own personal best through his achievement.

"I had a really good ride today (yesterday) especially because I improved on my time from last year. This is one of my favourite competitions due to the scenic route and challenging climbs," he said.

Carelsen added he would be back to defend his title next year, as he planned to make it five wins out of five.

Meanwhile, the women's undisputed seven time champion Haywood said this year's route was a bit tougher for her and that her times were slower compared to last year due to mechanical issues at the start of the race.

"I had a broken spring release at the start of the race and that meant I had

to spend time fixing it before I got going, which increased my overall time. Apart from that, I had a great race though it was a bit tougher with the climbs but, I am glad I have my seventh title in the bag," she said. This was the 19th edition of the annual race which was also graced by the Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Moses Vilakati, who thanked the participants and organisers for another successful edition.

"I applaud Nedbank as the title sponsor and all the other companies who helped make this event possible. It has really grown over the years with more and more foreign riders joining in the competition. This is great for both the sport and the country's tourism sector," he said.

NEDBANK IMVELO MTB CLASSIC RESULTS

65km Pos	Race#	Name	Time	Category	Cat Pos	Gender
1	7398	Christo Carelsen	03:08:14	Sub Vet (30-39)	1	Male
2	8486	Dewald Lotter	03:10:28	Sub Vet (30-39)	2	Male
3	8377	Klaas Meintjes	03:18:15	Sub Vet (30-39)	3	Male
4	7260	Paul Fouche	03:24:36	Sub Vet (30-39)	4	Male
5	8129	Sihawu Dlamini	03:27:15	Sub Vet (30-39)	5	Male
6	7112	Lourens De Beer	03:27:24	Senior (19-29)	1	Male
7	8072	Thulani Gule	03:35:52	Sub Vet (30-39)	6	Male
8	8493	Willie Horn	03:35:56	Master (50-59)	1	Male
9	8321	Rudiger Hinze	03:39:32	Sub Vet (30-39)	7	Male
10	7595	George Cooper	03:39:52	Vet (40-49)	1	Male
35km Pos	Race#	Name	Time	Category	Cat Pos	Gender
1	3107	Janco Peens	01:46:37	Youth (15-16)	1	Male
2	3177	Lungelo Milangeni	01:48:15	Senior (19-29)	1	Male
3	2665	Jacques Nel	01:48:17	Junior (17-18)	1	Male
4	2276	Gcina Khumalo	01:54:25	Sub Vet (30-39)	1	Male
5	2175	Sifiso Gijah Gwebu	01:55:55	Sub Vet (30-39)	2	Male
6	2933	Andre Smith	01:59:30	Vet (40-49)	1	Male
7	2870	Muzi Nkhambule	02:00:45	Vet (40-49)	2	Male
8	2895	Caleb Young	02:08:15	Junior (17-18)	2	Male
9	3203	Sifiso Mhlana	02:08:15	Senior (19-29)	2	Male
10	2555	Sibongiseni Zwane	02:09:40	Senior (19-29)	3	Male
22km Pos	Race#	Name	Time	Category	Cat Pos	Gender
1	8889	Davi Gadaga	00:59:40	Youth (15-16)	1	Male
2	9626	Nkosinophile Masilela	01:04:16	Sub Vet (30-39)	1	Male
3	9623	Malik Mcnamara	01:09:33	Sub Jun (13-14)	1	Male
4	9002	Mario Schiller	01:11:14	Sprog (11-12)	1	Male
5	9006	Noraël Schiller	01:12:37	Sub Jun (13-14)	1	Female
6	9122	Barry Spencer	01:13:10	Gr Master (60+)	1	Male
7	9636	Keana Toepfer	01:14:04	Youth (15-16)	1	Female
8	8901	Timo Toepfer	01:16:16	Sprog (11-12)	2	Male
9	8997	Ethan Abrahams	01:16:59	Youth (15-16)	2	Male
10	8939	Sibusiso Matsebula	01:18:37	Sub Vet (30-39)	2	Male
12km Pos	Race#	Name	Time	Category	Cat Pos	Gender
1	5907	Damon Garrell	00:43:29	Sprog (11-12)	1	Male
2	5523	Romeo Jele	00:43:30	Nipper (8-10)	1	Male
3	5822	Rio Henwood	00:50:59	Nipper (8-10)	2	Male
4	5852	Seluleko Mkhabela	00:51:10	Sprog (11-12)	2	Male
5	5965	Roderick Henwood	00:52:32	Master (50-59)	1	Male
6	5925	Phoebe Garrell	00:58:15	Nipper (8-10)	1	Female
7	6251	Nemes Sewu	00:58:25	Vet (40-49)	1	Male
8	5579	Andrew Nemes	00:58:28	Nipper (8-10)	3	Male
9	5732	Ashton Hou	00:58:29	Nipper (8-10)	4	Male
10	5763	Jeff Hou	00:58:36	Sub Vet (30-39)	1	Male

UEDF too strong for Mbabane Raiders

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

UEDF.....(46)
Raiders.....(37)

NEIBAIL - Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force (UEDF) proved too strong for Mbabane Raiders in their opening game of the Eswatini Building Society Netball League as they trounced them 46-37.

The game was played at the Mavuso Sports Emporium yesterday.

UEDF started with intent as they won the first quarter 12-7, before Raiders attempted to claw their way back in the second quarter, however, to no avail as UEDF pulled away to lead 26-17 at the interval.

UEDF were strong at Goal-Shooter (GS), where Andiswa Dlamini used his huge frame to good effect, as she won many balls in the air, adding to her efficiency in scoring. Nomvula Hlophe supported her well in the Goal-Attack (GA) as Raiders' tiny defenders struggled to cope.

The end of the third quarter saw Raiders narrow the gap to one point, as Amanda Ndzinisa scored a couple of goals to bring the score to 31-30. It was in the fourth quarter

that UEDF showed their dominance, as Andiswa raised her game to ensure that her team emerged victorious with a convincing 46-37 score-line.

UEDF's coach Roster Lukhele said she was proud of her team's performance as she missed three of her key players who could have made a huge difference in the game. "Our preparations helped us a lot as we looked stronger than our opponents. It was not an easy game as Raiders gave a good account of themselves," he said.

Raiders' coach Nkabinde Shabalala said considering that this was the first game of the league, he was happy with the performance. He said they had new players in the team and needed time to gel.

Teams

UEDF - Andiswa (GS), Nomvula Hlophe (GA), Ncobile Dlamini (C), Nokthula Zwane (WA), Nomfundo Ntshalintshali (WD), Nonhlanhla Gama (GD), Nothando Msibi (GK).

Raiders - Amanda Ndzinisa (GS), Tema (GA), Ngeti Sibandze (WA), Phindile Sithole (GD), Nomvula Nongwane (GK), Simphiwe Tfwala (WD), Hlengiwe Bhembe (C)

Focus on 2019 Comrades Marathon

STORIES BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

ROADRUNNING - All is set for today's ultimate human race, the Comrades Marathon in neighbouring South Africa.

It is arguably one of the most challenging ultra-marathons in the African continent, and with its rich history, the Comrades Marathon has attracted runners from all over the world.

With 25 000 athletes registered for this year's race, Eswatini is also well represented, with not less than 65 competitors expected to conquer the 87km stretch from Durban to Pietermaritzburg.

ZITHANDE COUNTS ON MELUSI, TFOMO

Zithande Athletics Club is counting on the first Liswati to cross the finish line in last year's race, Melusi Lukhele, and his teammate Kwenzokuhle Tfomo, to grab silver medals in today's Comrades Marathon.

The team left the country on Friday morning for today's race. Coach Nsizwa Thwala said

the two had shown great improvement over the years, and their commitment to training means they would conquer the race and improve on the times set last year.

"I am happy with their progress. My aim has always been to bring back silver medals from Comrades Marathon for Eswatini, and we have been doing that for the past three years. We have accumulated nine in total, and are now well respected in South Africa," he said.

The coach added that he was dedicated to the development of

long distance runners. "Discipline is key for one to succeed in long distance running. It means you have to work hard even if you don't feel like it," he said.

Thwala remained optimistic that if local runners were to continue working hard, it was a matter of time the country produced a ultra-marathon winner on foreign soil.

IN HIS OWN WORDS (MELUSI LUKHELE)

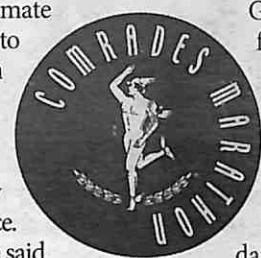
"I have worked hard once again at training in preparation for the race. Although the stretch I prepared on was flat in Big Bend, which could affect my performance in this year's comrades 'Up Run' as it is steep. However, I am confident that I will still do better than I did last year."

GOLDEN FOOT, STRIDERS, RSSC IN PERSPECTIVE

Golden Foot Club, famously known as GFC, is one of the oldest athletics clubs in the country, and have been regulars in the Comrades Marathon for years to date. They are a well-

managed team, have the experience and expertise at their disposal. With a little more hard work, GFC's runners could easily become the best representatives for Eswatini. Manzini Striders have also attended many a Comrades race over the years and should use their experience to shine by now.

RSSC Athletics Club and Ngculwini Athletics Club are virtually new to the Comrades Marathon. They would surely be using this year's race as a learning curve.



BULL FANS GIVE ALLY HERO'S WELCOME

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCKER – Mbabane Highlanders Director Ally Kgomongwe was given a hero's welcome by the team's supporters yesterday. Over 200 supporters were full of joy during the meeting held at the Lobamba National High School yesterday, which the South African businessman attended together with the team Patrons led by Chairman Isaac Shabangu.

Before making his remarks during the two hours meeting, which saw the election of new Management Committee and the National Supporters Committee, Kgomongwe was met with the team's famous mantra 'Gwaza Nkunzi emnyama' where the supporters almost ripped the roof of the hall with their vocal singing.

Fans

Led by their vocal fan Sizwe Mpapane Ndlovu, the jubilant fans also sang more songs.

When addressing the gathering, Kgomongwe appealed for unity from the entire Highlanders family.

"The people have spoken and the power belongs to the people. I am happy Mbabane Highlanders supporters have chosen their own Management Committee, which will serve the team. We all need to work towards



The new Mbabane Highlanders Management Committee posing after being elected by the team's supporters during a meeting held at the Lobamba National High School yesterday. (Pic: Sibusiso Masilela)

the betterment of the team and stop unnecessary in fightings."

"I am very also humbled to receive such support and warm welcome and I will work with all the stakeholders in taking the team to greater heights," he said.

Meanwhile, Chairman Isaac Shabangu appealed for unity within the structures of the team. "We want to see transparency in all the structures of the team. We appeal

to supporters to refrain from violence because it can chase away good investors like Kgomongwe. We are going to bring the constitution of the team before the supporters during our next meeting so that the supporters can be educated with the policies of the team," he said. Shabangu further introduced other patrons of the team, including former manager Timothy Shongwe (Ginindza), Mbokodvo Tsabedze

Digger is new Bull general manager

SOCCKER – Former Sihlangu, manager Josiah 'Digger' Dlamini has bounced in the local football circles.

Dlamini, who held the Sihlangu Managerial position in around 2017, was voted as the new Mbabane Highlanders general manager during the team's meeting, which was held at Lobamba National high School yesterday. Dlamini was elected alongside three members of the

former management committee comprising the likes of Paul 'Magidza' Masilela, Makhosonkhe Gama and Simiso Jele.

The elections also saw the return of the former team manager Gcina Dlamini, who is the new Head of Communications.

The supporters also elected the new National Supporters Committee (NSC), where Chairman Kenneth Dlamini was reinstated unopposed

The full Mbabane Highlanders Management Committee

General Manager: Josiah 'Digger' Dlamini
Assistant General Manager: Clement Dlamini
Team Manager: Makhosonkhe Gama
Assistant team Manager: Trevor Shongwe (Ginindza)
Head of Communication /Secretariat: Gcina Dlamini
Assistant Secretary: Simiso Jele
Public Relations Officer: Paul Magidza Eludzakeni Masilela

National Supporters Committee

Chairman: Kenneth Dlamini
Vice Chairman: Mfanzile Dlamini
Secretary: Musa Tsela
Vice Secretary: Mandla Madonsela
Treasurer: Nelisiwe Mahlalela
Members: Sizwe 'Mpapane' Ndlovu, Mduduzi Fakudze

and Moses Nxumalo, who were present during the meeting. Meanwhile the team also appointed South African coach Maleka Masilanyane as their interim coach. The former Garankuwa

United and Ally Tigers FC coach will lead the team during next weekends Bible Society Cup, where Highlanders will take on Manzini Sundowns at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

MTN ENBL back with a bang!

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

BASKETBALL – THE anticipation is finally over as the MTN Eswatini National Basketball League (ENBL) is back for the 2019 season with a bang.

This follows the opening day which was played at the Coronation Park yesterday.

The first match of the season saw LYNX Ladies shocking Enjabulweni Griffins with new players and eventually won the match 60 – 45.

Griffins also paraded a number of new faces in the match who also showed potential, but then Lynx were superior ended up on the winning side.

Interviewed on the added effects to this year's league, ENBL coordinator Melusi 'Squealer' Hlophe stated by thanking the sponsor for being a good friend to basketball and further mentioned that this year's league would be taken to the people as it would be played in different venues across the country, not just the Mavuso Sports Emporium.

"First things first, let us thank the sponsor for their commitment to the sport once again. We truly appreciate the gesture because without them, the basketball standard wouldn't be where it is today.

Coming to the league, the first match that was played between Lynx and Griffins shows that the quality is improving and this proves that the standard we have is improving. I am very proud of all the strides we have made and the fact that we have new fresh talent coming up every year that is not within the Manzini-Mbabane corridor to be active" he said. Meanwhile, MTN's Nonophile 'Afie' Dlamini said the sponsor was also excited that the league has finally kicked off.

"We are happy to be playing a role in developing the sport in the country. We have seen the joining of new teams and this is exactly what we aim for. This therefore means that everything is on the right track," she said.

The action today continues at the Mavuso Sports Emporium. Tip-off is 9am.



Mamelodi Sundowns midfielder Andile Jali posing with local fans and some of his compatriots during their visit to the country at the Ngcoseni High School Sports Ground yesterday. (Pic: Mthunzi Maziya)

Jali, Mbuyane, others invade Mankayane

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

SOCCKER – South African soccer stars, past and present, yesterday invaded Ngcoseni High School sports ground in Mankayane to take part in a thanksgiving ceremony for the area's Member of Parliament, Mthandeni Dube.

The SA stars included Mamelodi Sundowns' duo of Andile Jali and Aubrey Ngoma, former Kaizer Chiefs' Junior Khanye, former Orlando Pirates striker Thulasizwe Mbuyane, and others.

Some of the players took part in a social soccer game involving a team of legends from the area against the visitors.

Speaking on behalf of his compatriots, Khanye, who was once in the books of Malanti Chiefs, said this was the most interesting trips he had taken into the country in a while. He said being part of the team that went around the area's schools motivating children to carve a better future for themselves was inspiring.

"We have fully enjoyed our stay in the country and are proud of the work that has been done by the organisers. It was good

to be part of everything that happened here and hopefully what we have impacted to the children will help them well into their future," he said.

MP Dube thanked people of Mankayane for coming out in their numbers to support the ceremony. He also thanked them for having supported him during the elections, and said the day was meant to thank them officially.

Futures

"What I am prouder of is the work we have done at Ngcoseni High School, where Khanye, Miss Eswatini Nosipho Dlamini, and other notable individuals spoke to the children about the importance of taking care of their futures. By also bringing the stars we wanted to show people of Mankayane that they are also important. We hope to do more such activities in future," he said.

One of the organisers Sabelo Ndlangamandla, who is a close ally to the MP thanked South Africa's Kick off magazine journalist, Ernest Fakudze for making it possible that SA stars to be part of the event.

He also congratulated the MP for staging a very successful thanksgiving ceremony.

SBS pumps in E175 000 to netball league

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

NETBALL – The Swaziland Building Society (SBS) yesterday unveiled an improved sponsorship of E175 000 towards the Eswatini National Netball Association (ENNA)'s league.

The unveiling of the sponsorship took place at the Mavuso Sports Emporium, on a day in which the league also officially started.

SBS' Managing Director Tim Nhleko, in unveiling the new sponsorship, said the package underscores SBS' commitment to the ENNA, along with a broader commitment to developing and growing a wide spectrum of sports in Eswatini that provide the youth with a platform to thrive.

"We thank the ENNA for the sterling work they are doing in developing netball in the country. We believe by working together with passion and commitment we can help grow the sport and take it to greater heights,"

he said. The sponsorship saw an increase of E75 000 from last year's package of E100 000. Nhleko added that netball was one of the largest sports in the world, with over 20 million playing the sport in over 80 countries. "This sport has been growing in popularity in Eswatini, both in schools and amateur league levels," he said.

Thanked

Minister of Sports, Culture, and Youth Affairs, Harries 'Madze' Bulunga thanked SBS, which he said once again brought together the sporting fraternity together for the launch of yet another sponsorship. "Just weeks ago, we were at Mountain Inn in Mbabane where the Society announced a whopping E140 000 sponsorship towards the Eswatini National Tennis Association.

Today, we are here to witness yet another marker of the Society's deep love for Eswatini sport," he said. The minister also thanked the MD and his team for their relentless commitment to developing Eswatini sport.



Swaziland Building Society Managing Director Tim Nhleko presenting the cheque to the Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Harries 'Madze' Bulunga, while Eswatini National Netball Association President Simangele Dlamini, EOGCA CEO Sydney Simelane and other officials look on. (Pic: Mthunzi Maziya)

Bull legends thrash ESLA legends

BY MELUSI MLOTSI

Highlanders... (2)5
ESLA (0) 1

SOCCKER – Memories of the past were revived yesterday at Mbindazwe when soccer legends displayed top shelf football in a match played in honour

the legendary former Mbabane Highlanders striker Stanley Matsebula. Mbabane Highlanders proved too good when they thrashed Eswatini Soccer Legends by 5-1. The game started in a high tempo with the 'Bull' legends controlling the first half. It came as no surprise when Celmusu 'Sis' Monica Vilakati scored the team first goal in 15 after a good pass from Nana 'Take

me Home' Dlamini. Vilakati was back again five minutes later to increase the score 2-0. The game went for break with the 'Bull' legends in full control of the match. The second half saw, ESLA legends in search for a goal. Bheki 'Sbhera' Ndzimandze's shot outside the edge of the box hit the woodwork with Ayanda 'Mngoma' beaten between the goal-posts. The goal for ESLA legends finally came in the 50 via the boot of former Moneni

Pirates goalkeeper Chistopher 'Tototo' Khoza, who played as a striker on the day. Khoza unleashed a long range shot that caught after makeshift goalkeeper 'Mngoma' was caught off-guard between the goal posts. Youngster Mfundo Mahlalela scored Mbabane Highlanders goal in the midway in the second half.

The capital city other two goals were scored by Siphso Dube and Norman Chambers.



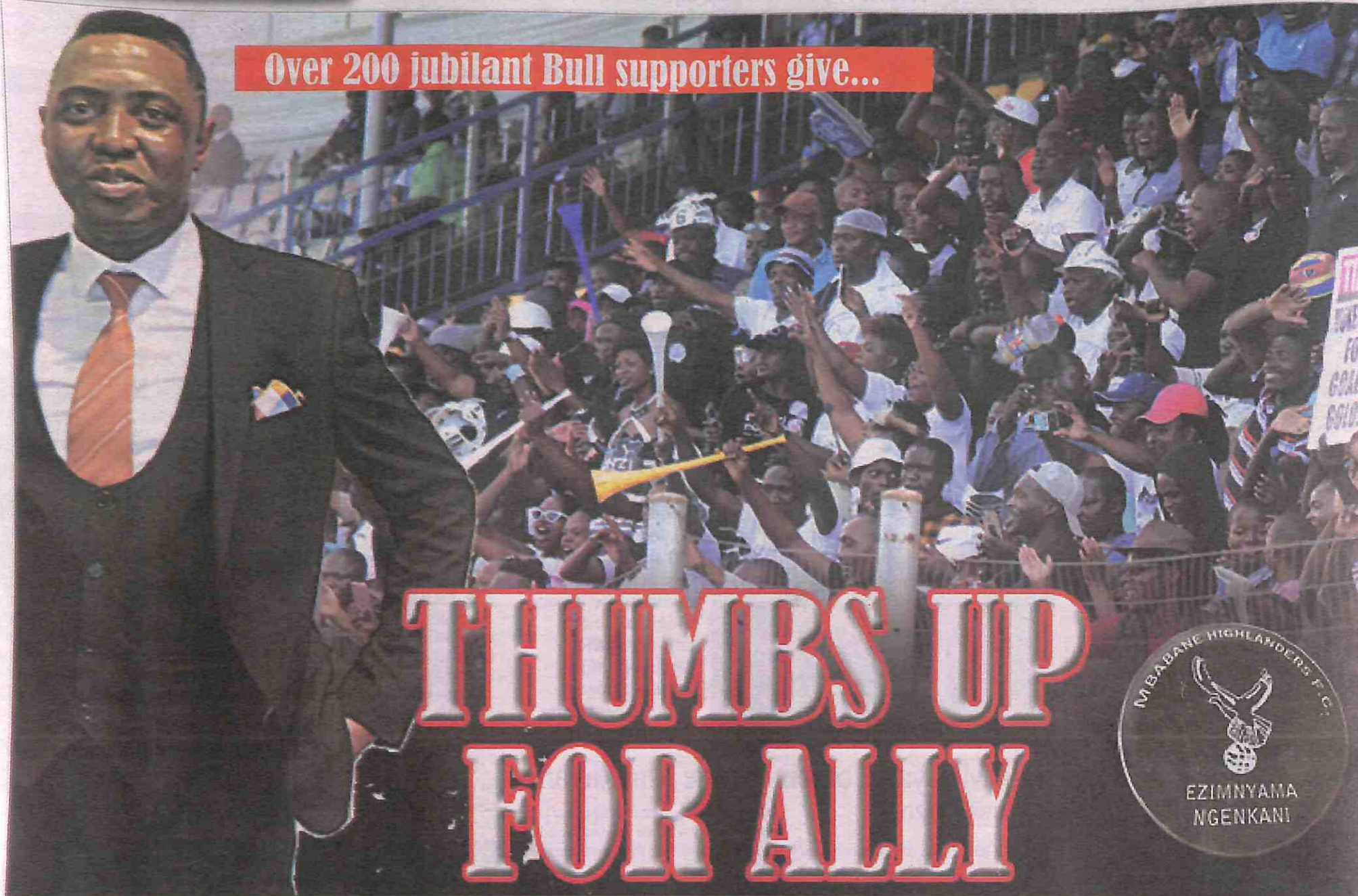
WELBECK LEAVES ARSENAL
Page 35

SundayObserver SPORTING

June 9, 2019



Over 200 jubilant Bull supporters give...



Banyana suffer defeat to Spain in WC opener

PARIS - Banyana Banyana suffered a 3-1 defeat against Spain in their first-ever FIFA Women's World Cup clash last night.

Debutants Banyana re-called captain Janine Van Wyk to the side, while Atletico Madrid star Jennifer Hermoso lined-up in attack for the Spaniards.

The Spaniards enjoyed most of the ball in the early stages of the encounter, but Banyana were drilled defensively to deny their opponents any sniff at goal in the 18-yard area.

With 25 minutes gone, the South Africans stunned Spain with a top-drawer finish from Thembi Kgatlana, who has now netted Banyana's first-ever World Cup goal. Spain struggled to draw up a response, but threatened in added time when Marta Corredera struck



the post with Dlamini collecting the rebound.

Changes from the Spaniards took off at the restart, with Lucia Garcia and Aitana Bonmati introduced. Banyana, meanwhile, hauled in their first substitution seven minutes later as Busisiwe Ndimeni,

who replaced Linda Motlhalo.

Spain were given a lifeline on 68 minutes after Van Wyk handled in the area to concede penalty that Hermoso converted with ease for the leveller.

It got worse for Banyana on 82 minutes as after checking with the

Video Assistant Referee (VAR), the referee gave Nothando Vilakazi her marching orders, while awarding Spain a second penalty, which Hermoso tucked away to complete her brace. Spain confirmed victory in the final minute when Garcia rounded Dlamini to slot into an empty net as they move top of the group.

Teams:

Spain: Panos, Paredes, Losada, Corredera, Torrejon, Cadentey, Hermoso, Putellas, Torrecilla, Leon, Sampedro.

Banyana: Dlamini, Ramalepe, Vilakazi, Van Wyk, Matlou, Mthandi, Biyana, Jane, Motlhalo, Kgatlana, Fulutudilu.

Subs: Mpuru (GK), Mbane, Dhlamini, Seoposenwe, Makhubela, Gamede, Ndimeni, Mulaudzi, Holweni, Makhabane, Smeda, Swart (GK). **Kickoff**

Highlights

SA soccer stars at Ngcoseni charity match

Page 39

SA's Caleston wins 2019 Imvelo MTB

Page 38