

UNESWA
RESULTS
MONDAY

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Swazi OBSERVER

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BROKE
EX-MPs
LASH OUT
AT PM

SEE PAGE 2

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 16, 2019

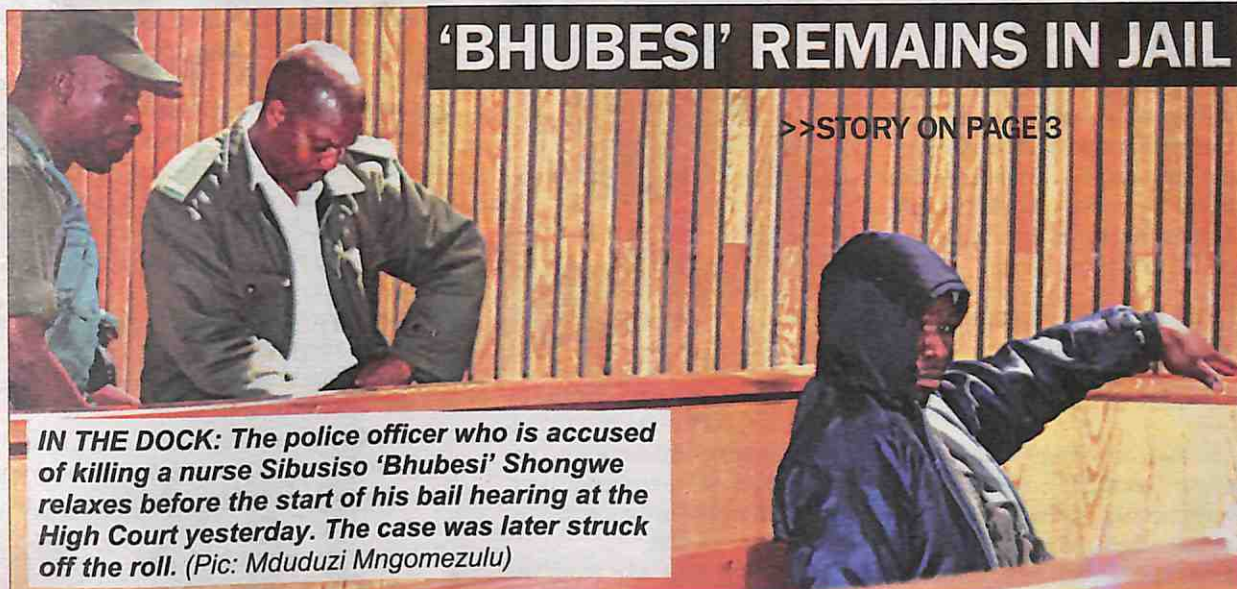
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LATE VICTOR'S WIFE **ILL-ADVISED** - MDLADLA

Story
on Page 3

...The lawyer refuted all the claims levelled against him by Mrs Gamedze through her attorney, Mlungisi Khumalo



'BHUBESI' REMAINS IN JAIL

>>STORY ON PAGE 3

IN THE DOCK: The police officer who is accused of killing a nurse Sibusiso 'Bhubesi' Shongwe relaxes before the start of his bail hearing at the High Court yesterday. The case was later struck off the roll. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

SUPER SPECIALS

ND4F F7
W/FRAME

E489⁹⁰

C2H F7
W/FRAME

E289⁹⁰

CTH F7
W/FRAME

E199⁹⁰

NE1 F7
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E129⁹⁰

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E579⁹⁰

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Teen tests HIV+, runs away from home

Stories by Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A teenage boy from the Lubombo region left court officials near tears as he narrated how he dropped out of school and left home after discovering that he was HIV positive, a status which he believes he contracted from his parents during birth.

The 18-year-old boy gave an emotional account of how his parents kept his status a secret and further neglected him after he fell sick while doing Form Four. He was appearing before the court for housebreaking and theft. This was after he allegedly broke into the house of his mother and stole E9 250 in cash.

The court was informed that the teenager disappeared from home for about a year, before returning on January 13,

upon which he committed the said offence. When the charge sheet was read to him, he pleaded guilty to the charge while conducting his own defence before Senior Magistrate Donald Mavuso.

In mitigation he first admitted committing the offence, saying that he committed it out of anger and frustration. He claimed he dropped out of school in 2017 after he fell sick and got admitted to hospital.

It was then that he discovered that he was HIV positive. The boy said what frustrated him the most was knowing the fact that he was still a virgin, and his parents had never communicated anything to him regarding his status.

He said, no doubt, he believed that he contracted the virus from his parents during birth.

"I asked my mother about my status but she referred me to my grandmother who was, however, deceased at that

time. I then left home out of anger and went to stay with my friends whom I had met while admitted to hospital," said the teenage accused. The boy said he then returned home a year later and stole the said money with the intention of paying for his school fees as he wanted to resume school this year. He told the court that he was already looking for a school when he was arrested by the police.

The accused person's plea and mitigation was accepted by the Crown without objection. Having heard the boy's story, the court extended its leniency and sentenced him to 10 months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E2 000 fine.

The sentence was, however, wholly suspended for a period of three years. This was after the court was informed that about E3 500 of the stolen money was recovered.

...Mom refuses to return son to school

DESPITE her son having indicated his intention to return to school, the mother displayed another level of selfishness before the court as she flatly refused to take responsibility and pay for his school fees.

The juvenile's mother was before the court to testify in the matter of housebreaking and theft committed by her son. She was, however, not called to the witness box to testify after the Crown accepted the plea of guilty without leading evidence to prove commission. The mother was only called into the courtroom to confirm her son's HIV status after he told the court to have tested positive.

Before the matter was concluded, the boy's mother was asked if she would take him back to school as he had already indicated his wish

to do so.

She responded to the negative, saying that she was already in debts following the theft of the aforementioned E9 250 by the very same boy. She alleged that the money belonged to a stokvel, to which she was a member.

"I will not be able to take him back to school as he has already put me through debts," she said. Of note is that the teenage boy also told the court that he stole the money because his mother had already refused to take him back to school.

"I will not be able to take him back to school as he has already put me through debts"

BROKE EX-MPs 'PESTERING' MJULUKO FOR GRATUITY

Stories by Melusi Mlotso
Mbabane

FORMER Members of parliament fighting for payment of their gratuity by government are said to be calling Mjuluko Dlamini time and again in an attempt to find out what is derailing the process of the payment.

The former MPs are stand to be paid in terms of the Finance Circular of 2013. Mjuluko was elected to lead the pack of MPs who formed

the sigejane, to enquire about the gratuity payout.

The former legislators have been fighting for their gratuity since last year. Former Mtfongwaneni Member of Parliament Mjuluko confirmed that he had been spending sleepless nights due to the inundating calls from the former MPs.

He said he understood the situation the members of the 10th Parliament were in. "They are worried because the date of the payment has elapsed. You must also bear in mind that schools are about

to open, hence the frustration," he said.

On another note Mjuluko said the payment date they agreed upon was 7-11 January. He said they were left devastated when they did not get their final handshake last week Friday.

In a previous interview with Ministry of Finance's Tsabile Dlamini, the Communications Officer, she said the MPs would be paid before the end of the month. She told this publication that there was no stipulated date for the payment.



'PESTERED': Former MP Mjuluko Dlamini.

...They lash out at PM

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

FORMER Members of Parliament who served during the Tenth Parliament lashed out at Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini for what they termed not being honest.

The former lawmakers felt as if the current prime minister was taking them for a ride because of the dishonesty he showed to them. One of the former MPs, who decided to speak on condition of anonymity, stated that Dlamini had promised to sort their issue from January 7 to January 14, 2019.

However, it looks like the premier failed to keep the promise because the former MPs have not received even part of their gratuities up to

this day. The former MP from the Hhohho region stated that he felt as if the PM did not take them seriously.

"We do not understand why the prime minister is doing this to us. I wonder if he can be happy if something like this would happen to him or to a person close to him. He should at least do the honourable thing and apologise to us for this unfortunate situation," the former MP said.

The former MP said they should not be treated like they are no longer important to the country yet they contributed a lot while they were still MPs.

Another former legislator who represented one of the constituencies in the Hhohho region said he wondered why this was done to them. The former MP, who also asked for anonymity, stated that this

was not good for the country in any way.

He said the political system of the country should be protected in any way possible. However, what happened to them did not show that the prime minister and his government were keen on protecting the system.

Circumstance

The prevailing circumstance would make Emaswati not to want to serve in the country's political structures. This could also lead the former legislators to prefer other systems other than the Tinkhundla system.

The former lawmaker said it would be unfortunate if the government did this as a way of getting rid of people who once served in the political structures of the country. "That would be a very unfortunate situation because it would hinder the

development progress desired by the country. For the country to develop, we need politicians who are going to be able to challenge decisions that are not in the interests of the people," he said.

Another former MP from the Shiselweni region also wondered why such a thing happened to them because they should have been given their money last year in October. He said he doubted that such a thing would happen during the late former Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini's government.

Government Spokesperson Percy Simelane could not comment on the matter. He said the meeting between the prime minister and the former MPs was private, so he could not be privy to its details. He suggested that the former MPs should directly contact the PM.

Ex-MPs in meeting with finance

THE former Members of Parliament (MPs) who served in the 10th Parliament are now in meetings with the ministry of finance concerning their gratuities.

It is understood that the former legislators met yesterday with officials from the ministry of finance to come up with a long lasting solution to the problem.

One MP, who preferred anonymity when called, confirmed that the meeting took place.

He said the time for the meeting to take place had arrived because it looked like the ministry was also taking them for a ride.

"We want to find out who is busy playing these nasty games with us because we are becoming tired of these games," the former MP said.

It is understood that the meeting took place for the better part of the afternoon, as it ended after 5pm. Another MP stated that they were happy that they were well received by the ministry of finance.

"We are happy that they told us that they were still in the process of giving us our dues. However, we are not going to listen to what they are telling us," the former MP said.

He said they were going to stand up and make a follow-up, putting pressure to anyone who was supposed to contribute in issuing their gratuities.

"These people have taken us for a ride for far too long now. We want to communicate with whoever is involved here and tell them to speed up the process. We need the money now to pay our debts," he said.

Former Mtfongwaneni MP Mjuluko Dlamini also confirmed that the meeting did take place and they would also be meeting again today. He said they finally agreed that they had to convene another meeting today so that they could finally come up with solutions to the problem because they badly needed their money.

CLARIFICATION

IN yesterday's edition we published that government had cut the deficit by half from E5 billion to E2.3 billion. This was based on an unrevised speech by the Prime Minister. The correct figures as amended for the benefit of the reporter are a reduction from E3.5 billion to E2.1 billion. The omission of the true figures is regretted.

UNESWA results Monday

By Observer Reporter
Mbabane

FIRST semester results of students at the various campuses of the University of Eswatini will be available at stipulated venues of the campuses between 11am and 4:30 on Monday.

A notice issued by the acting registrar states that for Luyengo Campus the results would be collected from Cardiff Hall, at Mbabane Campus from Conference Room; however for Kwaluseni Campus Social Science and Humanities results are collectable at the Old Lecture Theatre, Commerce at Commerce Conference Room, Education at Education Conference Room, Institute of Postgraduate Studies at Office 209 and Science and Engineering at

Science Conference Room. For the Institute of Distance Education they will be collected from the Seminar Room. "It is advised that those who owe the university must first clear their accounts before collecting their results. Following the decision of the Senate to administer Re-sit/supplementary examination at the end of each semester the said examination will be written from January 28 to February 1, 2019."

VICTOR'S WIFE ILL-ADVISED - MDLADLA

COVER STORY

Stories by Sabelo Majola
Mbabane



ILL-ADVISED: Lawyer Sidumo Mdladla.

LAWYER Sidumo Mdladla has claimed that the late businessman Victor Gamedze's wife is ill-advised by certain individuals for their own benefit.

The lawyer refuted all the claims levelled against him by Gamedze's widow, Lungile Gamedze, through her attorney, Mlungisi Khumalo from Khumalo Attorneys. He was fulfilling a promise to react to the allegations earlier put to him when he acknowledged that he had received a correspondence containing same.

Mdladla said he was concerned by the fact that it may well be that there are some individuals who have seen the demise of the late Gamedze as a springboard to success by constantly ill-advis-

Another allegation against Mdladla was that which relates to some purported sale of shares of Stage 1 Connections (PTY) LTD to Swazi Mobile Chairman Michelo Shakantu, which Mdladla also labelled as untrue. The last allegation was that which relates to Mdladla transferring a sum of E25 million from Gamedze's estate account to his personal account, which he also refuted through the public statement.

Mdladla said it was clear that he has not at any point acted out of his mandate nor has he acted in such a manner as to prejudice the estate account.

"The allegations are, therefore, incorrect and they were made as some kind of blackmail to force my hand to accede to certain demands and to finally exit as an executor. I am aware that there will be other efforts to tarnish my name as long as I hold the office of executorship. I am prepared to withstand such insults, threats and acts of defamation, so long as I act as an executor and in the best interest of all stakeholders, not one," he said.

ing Mrs Gamedze, whom our office still respects. This is contained in a public statement that the lawyer issued yesterday.

Among the allegations that Mdladla was accused of in the letter from Gamedze's wife were that he tried to defraud the estate of the late Gamedze by approaching a certain Thokozani Nkambule to generate a fraudulent invoice in favour of Eswatini Mobile.

...Claims to have made E75 000 interest for Gamedze's estate

LAWYER Sidumo Mdladla has claimed to have made a sum of E75 000 in interest for Victor Gamedze's estate.

This he said in the light of the allegation levelled against him that he transferred a sum of E25 million from Gamedze's estate to his personal account, without the consent of Gamedze's wife.

Mdladla said the account referred to is an Estate account, which was a current account.

The funds in the account had been deposited by him, having collected same in his capacity as an executor and he did not need to report to anyone to transfer these funds save for the Master of the High Court's consent.

Circumstances

The lawyer said that in the circumstances, the funds were sitting in a current account, which is a non-interest bearing account and as a means of protecting the interests of the estate, he advised the bank through a written correspondence that it transfers the funds to the trust call account of S. V. Mdladla &

Associates, who are also the attorneys and executors of the estate. This was pending the opening of a call account of the estate.

"When instructing the bank, I made it clear that the interest earned from the funds will be to the benefit of the estate and that is exactly what transpired.

"I am confident that when the funds were transferred to the current account, and then finally the call account of the estate at that point an interest of E75 000 had been accumulated.

Estate

"This amount benefitted the estate. I fail to understand the complaint due regard being to the fact that I acted in the best interest of the Estate Account. Furthermore, I had reported this development to the Master's office," reads the public statement.

Mdladla said he was puzzled that with all these defamatory allegations, as baseless as untrue as they are, there is no indication of any motive to secure any personal benefit on his part. (see press statement on pages 14, 15)

Alleged nurse killer cop remains in jail

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
High Court

POLICE Constable Sibusiso Shongwe, also known as Bhubesi, will remain in a correctional institution for now as his matter has been struck off the roll.

This transpired yesterday at the High Court in Mbabane, when Shongwe, who was referred to as Bhubesi by the nurses, had gone to the High Court to plead to be admitted to bail by the High Court.

The matter was heard by High Court Judge Cyril Maphanga and it took place in Court B, which was almost packed to capacity.

Nurses had turned out in their numbers, in support of their colleague, Lindokuhle Mlangeni, who was allegedly killed by

Shongwe. Shongwe was also escorted by warders during his appearance. Lawyer MachaweDlamini, who appeared for Shongwe, stated that he had discussed and reached a conclusion with his colleague, Mandla Dlamini, that they should strike the matter off the roll, in the interest of justice. Dlamini (Mandla), who represented the state, confirmed that he had reached such an agreement with Dlamini (Machawe).

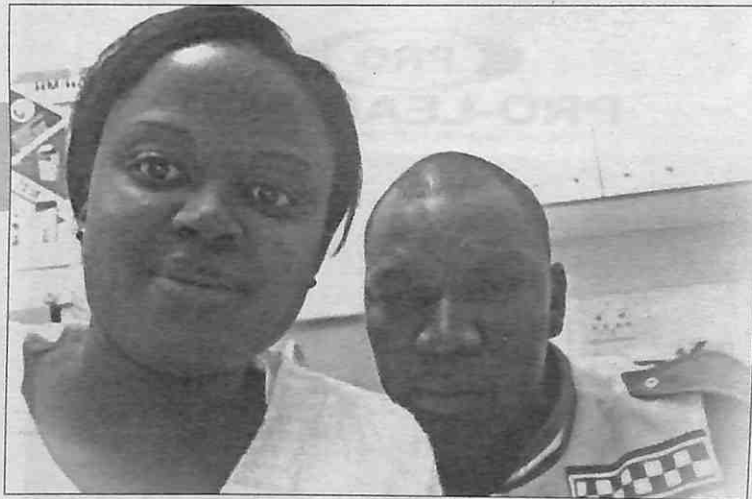
Roll

Judge Maphanga duly ruled that the matter, as the counsels had agreed, would be struck off the roll in the interest of justice. This means another application will have to be filed if Shongwe is still interested in being admitted to bail by the High Court. It was reported that Mlangeni, a nurse by profession, was strangled and

killed during a domestic dispute at her rented flat, which is situated at New Town in Hlatikulu, on Boxing Day last year. Her unresponsive body was found wrapped in a towel inside the flat. The bone of contention is said to be a sum of E4 000, which was allegedly borrowed by Mlangeni from Shongwe. However, Shongwe started demanding the money back and a fight ensued, which allegedly led to Mlangeni's death.

The following day, her boyfriend, Constable Shongwe, was listed as a wanted person by the police. This was after he had disappeared from the Matsapha Police Academy, where he had been attending a workshop.

At the time, police believed that Shongwe's vanishing act after the suspicious death of his lover was no coincidence. Mlangeni



was employed as a nurse at the Hlatikulu Government Hospital at the time of her death, while Shongwe was attached to the Traffic Department at the Hlatikulu Police Station.

Shongwe had been seen in the com-

pany of his girlfriend at her rented flat on the fateful day. The couple is said to have been sharing the same flat after the police officer moved in and somehow abandoned his allocated house at the local police camp.

...Nurses complain of Bhubesi's behaviour

NURSES who went to the High Court yesterday expressed their complaints in the manner Constable Sibusiso Shongwe handled himself during his bail hearing.

Shongwe did not want to be seen yesterday during his appearance. It seemed as if he would prefer that his matter be heard privately, had things gone his way. He would ensure that his head and some parts of his face were covered with the hood of the navy-blue jacket he was wearing.

Photo-journalists had a tough time yesterday in Court B, trying to take pictures of him. Sometimes he would remove his jacket to ensure that it covered his head so that he would not be noticed. This whole scenario happened before and after High Court Judge Cyril Maphanga struck the matter off the High Court roll.

Nurses were not happy with Shongwe's

behaviour. They would sometimes mock him when he wrapped his jacket around his head, saying his behaviour resembled that of a person who wanted to steam himself. "Ungatsi usesifutweni ngendlela lentangayo," one nurse was heard saying.

The nurses wondered why Shongwe would want to hide when he had the guts to strangle their colleague. They also blamed police officers and warders for allowing Shongwe to hide. At the entrance of the High Court, Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU) President Bheki Mamba was seen addressing the nurses.

Mamba stated that as nurses, they should keep on demanding justice for Mlangeni, who allegedly died in Shongwe's hands. Mamba further said the police and warders were wrong to allow Shongwe to hide in the way he did. He said police should strive to pro-

tect all citizens of the country, not just one of their own. He further thanked the nurses who took their time to go to the High Court to follow on the matter involving Shongwe and the late Mlangeni.

Shongwe was driven out of the High Court in a white Isuzu double cab from His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS). The Isuzu was led by a green Isuzu from the same organisation. This was another incident that did not sit well with the nurses.

They questioned the logic behind enabling Shongwe the luxury of being driven by two cars yet he was alleged to have done something horrible. "When we want cars to carry out our duties, we are constantly told that cars are not available yet they are available for alleged criminals. He is also escorted as if he is a King. How can such a thing happen?" one male nurse was heard questioning.

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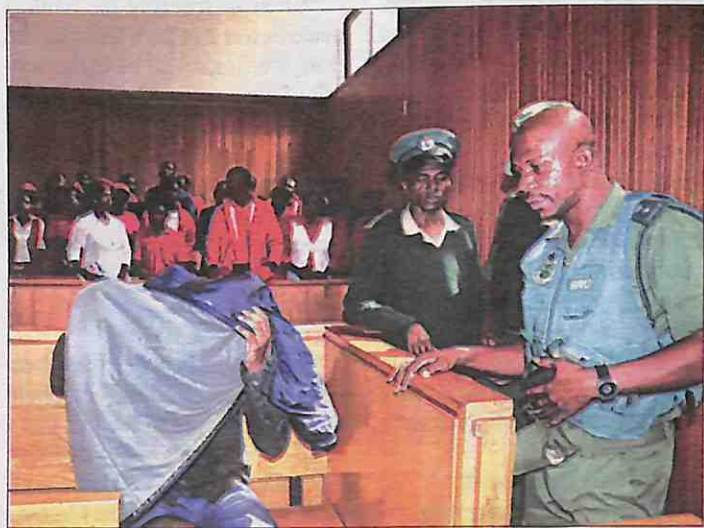
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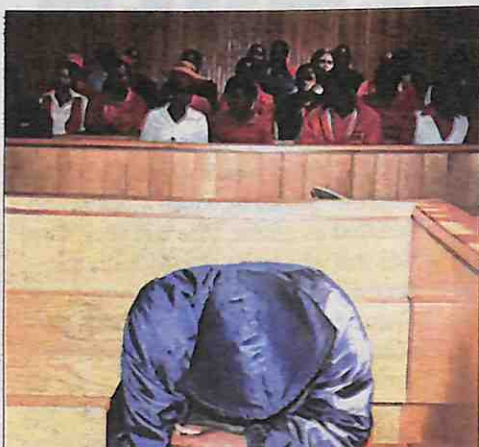
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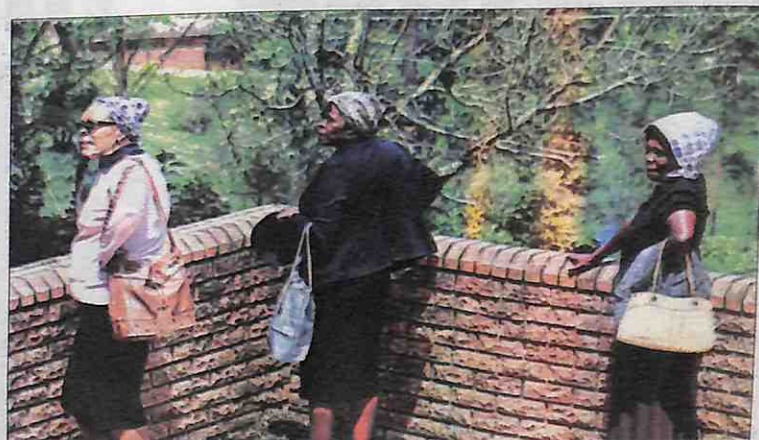
MURDER SUSPECT 'BHUBESI'



LET'S GO: Correctional Services officers prepare to take murder suspect Sibusiso 'Bhubesi' Shongwe out of the dock during his bail hearing at the High Court yesterday. Shongwe was charged with the murder of nurse Dolly Mlangeni. The case was later struck off the roll. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



TAKING COVER: Murder suspect Sibusiso Shongwe hides his face from the cameras.



UPHI: The late nurse's mother with some of her relatives wait outside the court with hope that they would meet the suspect face to face.



TOUGH JOB: Shongwe's lawyer Maqhawe Dlamini leaves at the end of the case.



BRING HIM ON: Some of the nurses who bayed for the suspect's blood during his appearance yesterday.

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IN COURT



HEAVY ESCORT: Security was tight during the bail hearing.



WHAT NEXT? A section of members of the nurses association in a caucus at the entrance of the High Court.




CONSULTATION: Lawyer Maqhawe Dlamini in consultation with his client, Sibusiso Shongwe, before the start of the hearing.

(1) SILENCE: Part of the nurses inside the courtroom yesterday.



RELAXED: Shongwe relaxes before the start of his bail hearing.



MEDSCHEME ESWATINI
PRESS STATEMENT

Reference is made to the recently published statement by the Financial Services Regulatory Authority ("the Regulator") titled "Public Notice on Switching Medical Schemes Providers". Medscheme Health Insurance Eswatini Limited ("Medscheme Eswatini") would like to put it on record to the public that we abide by the contents of the issued statement by the Regulator as well as the contents of **Circular 1 of 2016**, wherein the Regulator lifted all restrictions on split groups for employer groups with 30 or more employees in relation to the choice of Medical Aid Schemes. Circular 1 of 2016 effectively opened the market, with effect 30 June 2016, and empowered consumers with the right to choose a licenced Medical Aid Provider of their choice.

Medscheme Eswatini views the actions of the Regulator as fair and in line with the laws of the Kingdom of Eswatini, in as far as creating a competitive environment that allows for healthy competition within the Medical Aid / Health Insurance Sector in the Kingdom. By encouraging and fostering an environment that encourages freedom of choice to the consumer, the Regulator must be commended for looking out for the best interest of the Consumer and for guiding the industry to operate at the highest ethical levels by adopting world class business practices. This is indeed a positive step towards attaining Vision 2022.

Medscheme Eswatini wishes therefore to assure the Public that we abide by the rules of the Regulator and further encourage the public to exercise their freedom of choice as permitted by the lawful Regulator.

N NDZABUKELWAKO
MANAGING DIRECTOR

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GOVT STARTS ROLLING OUT FPE GRANT TO SCHOOLS

Stories by Sabelo Majola
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT has started disbursing money to different schools, courtesy of the Free Primary Education (FPE).

Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Training Dr Sibongile Mtshali said as the European Union (EU) tenure to fund FPE had elapsed, government would continue footing the bill for FPE.

Mtshali said EU's assistance in the programme was not sudden to them, but it's something they knew prior and government budgeted for it.

Mtshali said they have already signed out the FPE grants to two regions and schools will be getting the grants soon.

"FPE is a priority to government, we made a commitment that we will provide the service for Eswatini to benefit, and it can't be stopped because government is facing a fiscal crisis. Government budgeted for it and we are currently working with Regional Education Officers in rolling out the grants to schools," she said.

Mtshali said funding that is less than E100 000 is paid out in cheques, while above that sum, government makes the transfer electronically.

The FPE issue made headlines in recent

times with principals voicing out that the money is not enough to sustain schools' necessities.

Their argument is that the project was implemented years ago when school material was still at an affordable rate, but the inflation rate had accumulated over the years, hence the money does not cover all the provisions.

Schools support staff are sometimes not paid on time owing to the insufficient funding in schools, particularly those in the rural areas. On that note, the PS had said no parent is expected to pay 'Top-Up-Fees' this year, giving the feeling that things are taking a turn for the worse at schools in the country.

Communities can help fund FPE - Economist

IN the event government fails to fully fund FPE, communities need to find sustainable ways to contribute to the programme, an economist has said.

Alternative ways to contribute to the programme need not be 'top up fees', but community schemes or willing donors. This is according to Economist Sanele Sibuya, who is also a lecturer at the University of Eswatini (UNESWA).

He said the FPE grant was not enough for schools to meet all their necessities.

"Contributing towards the FPE should not be labelled or put under the 'top up fees' umbrella but the reality is, the money is not enough for schools to run all their errands. It is for this reason that schools should find ways of fundraising and contribute towards the programme. This they can achieve through community schemes,

where willing people or communities can contribute financially to meet government halfway," he said.

Sibuya said this would not only help the schools raise enough funds for their necessities, but it will make the role of parents active at schools because they would want to engage more with the pupils in the school work because under the FPE programme, the level of engagement is low. "Constitutionally, government should provide the FPE grant to schools and it is every child's right to go to school but the funding is not enough. Another factor is that running a school in urban areas is different as compared to one in the rural areas, where the infrastructure needs a lot of upgrading.

Some schools are more disadvantaged than others and they exhaust their resources

trying to upgrade while others' infrastructure doesn't need much upgrading."

Principals reportedly asked for top-up fees from government as stipulated in Circular No.6 of the 12 circulars of 2017 under the ministry of education and training. The circular stated that applications for charging additional fees over and above the stipulated Free Primary Education Grant are welcome and all schools shall seek approval from the minister of education and training to charge additional fees. However, they were reportedly told that parents won't be paying up the top-up fees by the ministry's Principal Secretary Dr Sibongile Mtshali.

This is despite that the European Union withdrew from assisting government financially in paying for Grade 1 in the FPE programme.



THE LATE: Former PS Sikelela Dlamini.

Deceased ex-PS was Liswati lemdzabu

By Samkelisiwe Khoza
Mbabane

IF the country's youth can adapt late former PS in the ministry of information, communications and technology Sikelela Dlamini's values, live lingakha.

These were sentiments shared by Prince Masitsela yesterday, referring to the late former PS.

The former PS allegedly took his own life and was discovered by a family member on Sunday morning hanging from shack rafters, at his homestead at Hlane in the Lubombo region.

Yesterday, the prince said the pain of losing the ex-PS was unbearable, especially because he was significant and a humbled family member.

He said Dlamini's skills and the way he led his life was a true image of how men should lead in society. "Eswatini has lost Liswati lemdz-

abu who was also an information centre," Prince Masitsela said adding that royalty, just like the rest of the nation, were traumatised and are mourning the untimely death of the former PS.

Dlamini retired from public service in 2017, his first retirement was in March 2014 and was re-appointed back to the ministry as PS in April, 2014, for three years.

Hlane residents and neighbours said they still in disbelief of losing such a prominent member of the community.

The residents described Dlamini as a humble person, who respected everyone regardless of their status.

Meanwhile, Prince Masitsela said Emalangeni have confirmed and came up with a possible funeral date. However, he said that date is yet to be formally reported to Their Majesties and members of the public will be notified of that date sooner.



Siteki Town Council
P.O. Box 57
Siteki
1300
Tel: (0268) 2343-44/26445
Fax: (0268) 2343-5152
Email: lindie@sticouncil.co.sz/ info@sticouncil.co.sz

PUBLIC NOTICE

POWER OF ENTRY AND INSPECTION
(Issued under Section 14(1) of Rating Act No: 4 of 1995)

APPOINTMENT OF SWAZILAND REALTY CONSULTANTS (PTY) LTD FOR SITEKI TOWN 2018/2019 GENERAL VALUATION

Owners of immovable property in Siteki and their residents are hereby notified that the Siteki Town Council has appointed **Swaziland Realty Consultants** in order to conduct the valuation of some immovable property that is situated with the Siteki Urban boundary.

By this notice therefore, owners, occupiers and residents are hereby requested to ensure that the said consultants are allowed entry (upon production of ID cards that have been provided to them by the Council) into each property between 0700hrs and 1700hrs for the purposes of conducting the said valuation.

This exercise shall commence on the **19th January 2019** and is expected to complete by the **29th March 2019**.

STHEMBILE SIMELANE
TOWN CLERK

DOC17983

Today	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Bigbend
Mbabane	20/25	22/27	21/26	20/29	25/30
Tomorrow	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Bigbend
Mbabane	17/25	18/26	20/28	19/27	21/29
Friday	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
Mbabane	20/28	21/29	23/31	22/30	25/33
					26/34

NGWANE PARK YOUTH & TRAINING CENTRE

(A Ministry of Education & Training TVET Institution)
(Swaziland Higher Education Council Approved)

JANUARY 2019 INTAKE

(Registration and Admission Currently ongoing)

FULL TIME COURSES

1. Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT Level 3 and 4)
2. Diploma Information Communication (City & Guilds)
3. Diploma in Secretarial & Business Skills (City & Guilds)

PART TIME COURSES

1. Shorthand 60-120 wpm (City & Guilds)
2. Typing 35-40 wpm (City & Guilds)
3. Pastel
4. A+
5. Ms Excel
6. Graphic Design
7. N+
8. AAT Level 3 & 4

HURRY!! LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

Physical location: Opposite Ngwane Park High School, Manzini

Ngwane Park Youth & Training Centre
P.O. Box 2280
Manzini, Swaziland
Southern Africa
Tel: (+268) 2505 2244
Cell: (+268) 7833 2456
Email: npytc@yahoo.com
Website: www.npytc.ac.sz



DOC17896

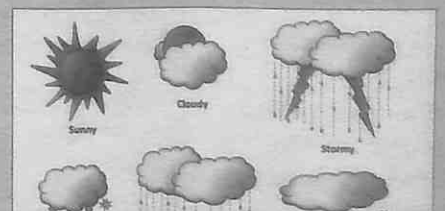
Warm to hot days ahead

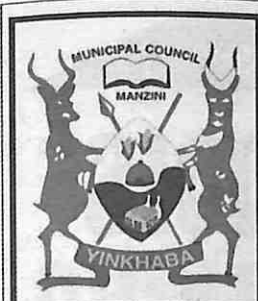
By Nonduduzo Kunene
Mbabane

TODAY, there will be fog and drizzle in some places mainly in the Highveld, otherwise it will be cloudy with sunny intervals and cool but warm in the Lowveld.

Tomorrow, there will be drizzle and fog at places, otherwise it will be partly cloudy with sunny intervals and cool but warm in the Lowveld. Temperatures are expected to slightly increase, starting from a minimum of 17 degrees Celsius reaching a maximum of 31 degrees Celsius.

On Friday morning, fog is expected at places, otherwise it will be partly cloudy and warm to hot in the Lowveld. Temperatures are expected to increase from tomorrow's temperatures, starting from 20 degrees Celsius in the Highveld reaching a maximum of 34 degrees Celsius in the Lowveld.





MANZINI NEWS

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



'manzini news'

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI an ISO 9001:2015 Certified Municipality

REPORT SERVICE DELIVERY CONCERNS THROUGH 24/7 COUNCIL CALL CENTER - 800 2004 (TOLL FREE, LANDLINE) OR 2505 7000 (CELLPHONE AND LANDLINE)



AS WE BEGIN 2019: PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE FOLLOWING

“ Know that not paying your rates results in accumulation of your debt (15% annual interest) whether or not you do receive your rates bills. ”

As we settle down into the New Year, Manzini News deems it appropriate to take some time to remind citizens about the expected behaviour in vibrant Manzini City. In the same vein, Manzini News takes this opportunity to welcome all those who have just joined the Manzini municipality family either by way of acquiring property or occupying property as tenants or by way of carrying out business. Please do feel at home and enjoy being part of this awesome municipality. We trust that the following city rules will make your stay in the Kingdom's Hub mutually exciting to both yourself and the local government. Read on and be empowered...



ONLY TAKE OUT REFUSE BIN/BAG DURING COLLECTION DAYS

Please be aware that waste collection does not happen on a daily basis in the townships. Instead there are designated days on which collection takes place. You are encouraged to ensure that your refuse bin/bag is placed by your gate as early as 7am in readiness for collection by the refuse truck. In the event that the truck has delayed (usually it's due to breakdowns), please do not take your waste bin/bag back to the yard. The Council waste collection team works way into the night during such challenging periods. NOTE: We have published the waste collection schedule as part of this article.



STOP LITTERING. USE AVAILABLE BINS

By all means, please avoid littering in the city. Instead make use of the available litter bins.

Also ensure you sensitize your children against such practice. Often than not one sees children (well, adults as well) throwing litter out the window of moving vehicles. That is a crime and must stop. Let's protect the environment and by so doing keep our beautiful city clean. By littering you are not creating jobs for street sweepers. That unacceptable mentality must change. In fact, in the not so distant future fines will be imposed against littering on the city streets. On the same note, dumping of waste on undeveloped plots and other open spaces must stop. If you happen to spot someone committing this offence, please take a picture and send it to 7802 3889. Likewise, when you spot a vehicle dumping waste such as rubble and garden waste on vacant plots please take a picture and ensure the registration plate and date of offence show. The applicable fines are biting!



NEVER USE URBAN LAND AS GRAZING AREA

Urban vegetation may be tempting but please know that it is an offence to allow your cattle to graze anywhere within the urban area; even in the townships. Whether or not the herd boy will be there looking after the cattle or goats, it doesn't matter. It is still a crime. If found, the Council security rangers will drive them to the municipal pound and you will be required to pay a fine for their release. The more they are kept at the pound, the more the money you will have to pay for their release. Keeping of cattle and goats is also not allowed in the urban area.



ONLY 12 CHICKENS ALLOWED

You are not allowed to keep more than 12 live poultry, including chickens, in your residence without Council's permission. Even the 12 chickens must be kept in a properly built poultry house; at least eight (8) metres away from the nearest dwelling building. The structure should be constructed according to the requirements of Council. Also note that keeping of cocks is not allowed in the city. This is because they cause noise and disturb the peace in the neighbourhood.

IT IS AN OFFENCE NOT TO PAY RATES

It is a must that you pay rates against your urban property. If, for some reason, you do not receive your rates bills at the beginning of each financial year, immediately visit Council for assistance. Council's financial year runs from April to March the following year. The law says the onus is on the property owner to notify Council of their new contact details; including telephone numbers, emails and postal addresses. It is an offence not to pay rates, no matter the reasons. Rates are property taxes recognised in law and must always be paid in full. Even if you have a number of concerns against Council you have to continue paying your rates while you pursue your issues. Know that not paying your rates results in accumulation of your debt (15% annual interest) whether or not you do receive your rates bills. Rates can be paid by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), Mobile Money, Swiping, debit order or cash.



YOU NEED COUNCIL PERMIT TO SELL IN THE STREETS

Regulated street vending is allowed within the urban area but it is strictly restricted to the designated areas. A vendor must have a valid trading permit obtainable from Council and should only conduct trade at the place permitted to conduct business. Trading outside the allocated area is a violation of Council's regulations. The vendor must only sell the goods/wares specified when applying for the permit. The vendor is not allowed to relocate from one vending site to another without Council's permission. Any violation of these rules attracts the attention of the Council contracted security company (Presently, Kwekwe Security Rangers).

2508 5000: NEW MANZINI COUNCIL PHONE NUMBER

Please note that the phone number for the Municipal Council of Manzini has changed. From now on, please dial 2508 5000 to get in touch with Council. In fact, it is now easy to contact the various offices directly. Just dial 2508 followed by the extension code for the office you want to get in touch with. Council's office hours are 8am to 16:45 from Monday to Thursday and 8am to 16:30 on Fridays. The Rates Hall opens 8am to 12Noon. The following are some of the useful numbers;

- Refuse Collection-2508 5074/2508 5030
- Pound Services-25085039
- Health Inspection-25085030/25085032/25085034

- Filter Clinic - 2508 5062/2508 5065
- Rates Hall - 2508 5047/ 2508 5054/ 2508 5053/2508 5048
- Building Inspectorate-25085016/25085017/25085018
- Street Vending& Burials - 2508 5015
- 24/7 Call Centre - 8002004/25057000

GET COUNCIL'S APPROVAL BEFORE BUILDING

Before you conduct any development on your property, it is a MUST that you first submit your building plans for approval by Council. Same goes for alterations, no matter how small they may seem.



WHY SOME ROADS HAVE POTHOLE

The reason some of our tarred roads are pothole-riddled to unbearable levels is because they have outlived their lifespan hence they need to be reconstructed. The average lifespan of any properly built bitumen road is 15 years. Unfortunately, reconstruction requires large sums of money; which Council presently does not have hence the short term solution is maintenance. For example, to construct just a 1km road stretch costs not less than E8 million. Those who have not paid their rates are urged to do so soonest so that all roads that need attention can be attended to. This will also make it possible for Council to attend to all other service delivery requirements.

...MANZINI REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

DAY OF THE WEEK	TOWNSHIP
Monday	Sterksroom, Wo odmasters, W illiam Pitcher, Leites Toyota, R ontania Flats, Sobhuza Clinic, Bosco Skills Centre and Coates Valley. Police Camp, Psychiatric Centre, Nazarene Mission, Trelawney Park, Riverstone Mall, Manzini Club, Salesian School, Hope House
Tuesday	Ngwane Park Township and Ngwane Park Extension , Fairview, Zakhele, Ludwala and Two Sticks
Wednesday	Madonsa, TB Centre, Njabulweni, Living Waters , Moneni, Inyatsi House, Psychiatric centre, Nazarene and Riverstone Mall
Thursday	Ngwane Park, Fairview, Woodmasters Sterksroom, Zakhele, Two Sticks, Trelawney Park
Friday	Coates valley, Moneni, TB Centre, Njabulweni, Madonsa, Sobhuza Clinic , Rontania Flats, Nazarene , Psychiatric Centre, Bosco Skills Centre, Sydney Williams

NOTE:

- CBD (Central Business District) refuse collection is done every day in the evenings.
- Residents are encouraged to install waste cages for purposes of protecting waste from stray dogs but they are strongly discouraged from emptying waste into those cages. Waste should be put in refuse bags, tied and stored in refuse cages for the refuse collection

READ THE OBSERVER EVERY WEDNESDAY FOR MANZINI NEWS

PRICE LIST 2019

All prices are subject to change without notice. Prices are effective 1st July 2018 to 30 June 2019

ISBN	TITLE	PRICES Vat excl.
9780797804159	BEKUKHONA (Tinganekewane)	139.09
9780797809932	BUNGANI BEBANGANI (Indzaba)	174.01
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<i>Prism Alive Teacher's Guides are available at the Regional Education Offices</i>		
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9780900364563	BOOK-KEEPING & ACC. STUDY GUIDE FOR J.S.	162.15
9781852220815	JS BUSINESS STUDIES BK 1 LB (2 ND Edition)	227.45
9781852220822	JS BUSINESS STUDIES BK 1 TG (2 ND Edition)	253.80
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9780853206101	JS BUSINESS STUDIES BK 2 TG	148.96
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8 PICTURES

SCHOOLS RE-OPENING SHOPPING IN VARIOUS SHOPS



FITTING: A school boy checks if he is buying the correct shoe size, while his friends seem to show approval.



FOR MY BOY: A lady looks like comparing some prices as she buys uniform for her son.



MAKING SURE: A parent making sure she's picking the right size for her son.





I LIKE THAT ONE: Parents have started buying school uniforms and other accessories that will be needed by their children as the re-opening of schools for the 2019 calendar year draws nearer. Schools reopen on Tuesday.




RIGHT CHOICE: A parent spending time with his son to choose the correct trouser for his school. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



TRY THIS: The shirts section was also a hive of activity with a wide variety to choose from.



STATIONERY: A mother goes through the stationery shelf after buying some note books.



Public Service Pensions Fund

**PUBLIC NOTICE/
SATISO**

PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONS FUND
P.O. BOX 4469, MBABANE
Tel: 2411 9000 / Fax: 2404 2712
TOLL FREE: 800 2401
www.pspf.co.sz
email: info@pspf.co.sz

[/PSPFSwaziland](#) [@PSPF_Swaziland](#)

PENSIONERS ANNUITY DISTRIBUTION BY PUBLIC SERVICE PENSION FUND

The Public Service Pensions Fund invites the following deceased pensioners families to meetings to be held at the following scheduled times and dates at the various Pension Offices. Family members are requested to bring certified copies of the following: proof of identity, death certificate, deceased's last pension pay slip, deceased's ID, children's birth certificates, marriage certificate(s) and any other relevant documents.

Lihhovisi letemhlaphansi (PSPF) licela tihlobo tanaba labalandzelako lebebahola imali yemhlaphansi kutsi tivele emahhovisi aka Pensheni ngalamalanga netikhatsi letilandzelako.

Tiyacelwa kutsi tiphatse sitifiketi sekufa semufi, ipayslip yepenisheli yemufi, iID yemufi, titifiketi tekutalwa tebantwana bemufi, titifiketi tekutsatsana, nabomatise bebuve (P.I.N.) ID natotokhe tincwadzi letingasita.

The following deceased families are invited to attend a meeting on the following dates:

MONDAY 21 January 2019			
VENUE: MBABANE HEAD OFFICE, INGCAMU BUILDING.			
Name of Deceased	Pension. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Dlamini Makhosazana	217834	14.12.2018	09h00
2. Shabangu Khuzwako	3060780	28.12.2018	09h30
3. Simelane Benedict M	4120708	27.12.2018	10h00
4. Myeza Samson M	8234126	21.12.2018	10h30
5. Magwaza Privoni	4242530	28.12.2018	11h00
6. Dlamini Maphevu	9170234	24.06.2017	11h30

Tuesday 22 January 2019			
VENUE: Piggs Peak			
Name of Deceased	Pension. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Mthethwa Nimrod	605856	18.12.2018	10h00
2. Mamba David	2166216	26.12.2018	10h30

Wednesday 23 January 2019			
VENUE: Siteki			
Name of Deceased	Pension. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Khumalo Bongani	6481360	19.11.2018	10h00

Thursday 24 November 2019			
VENUE: Nhlango			
Name of Deceased	Pension. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Nkambule Bonaparte M	28186	08.11.2018	10h30
2. Nzima Robert M	30590	12.12.2018	11h00

Friday 25 January 2019			
VENUE: MBABANE HEAD OFFICE, INGCAMU BUILDING.			
Name of Deceased	Pension. No.	Date of Death	Time
1. Dlamini Selborne M	8459020	07.12.2018	09h00
2. Mahlalela Robert M	2019444	30.12.2018	09h30
3. Magagula Goodness	5082339	15.12.2018	10h00
4. Zwane Petros S	3193134	09.12.2018	10h30
5. Shongwe Esau	8837231	02.12.2018	11h00

For more information please contact Nomphumelelo Masina at 2404-8740/3 or our Toll Free Number 8002401 (order#)



UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

"The University of Choice in Africa"

RELEASE OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION RESULTS

Students of the University are advised that they may collect their First Semester Examination Results on **Monday 21 January 2019** between **11.00 a.m.** and **4.30 p.m.** at the venues listed below:

1. Luyengo Campus	-	Cardiff Hall
2. Mbabane Campus	-	Conference Room
3. Kwaluseni Campus	-	
Social Sciences & Humanities	-	Old Lecture Theatre
Commerce	-	Commerce Conference Room
Education	-	Education Conference Room
Institute of Post Graduate Studies	-	Office 209
Science & Engineering	-	Science Conference Room
4. Institute of Distance Education	-	Seminar Room

It is advised that those who owe the University must first clear their accounts before collecting their results.

Following the decision of the Senate to administer Re-sit/Supplementary Examination at the end of each Semester the said examination will be written from the 28th January to 1st February, 2019.

N.E. MASEKO
ACTING REGISTRAR

DOC:17644

10 NATIONAL NEWS

'I DON'T FORGIVE MY ASSAILANT'

By Bahle Gama
Mbabane

A complainant shocked and left the court in stitches when he said he would never forgive the man who assaulted him.

Melusi Dube who was assaulted with a beer bottle on the face by Dumsani Nxumalo of Msunduzi said he would rather burn in hell than to forgive his assailant.

Nxumalo was arrested and charged with assault and appeared before Magistrate Lenhle Zulu yesterday afternoon. The incident is said to have occurred at Msunduzi area at Downtown Bar on January 9.

The accused told the court that hitting the complainant with the bottle was an

honest mistake as he had been questioning him about a mugging he had went through a few days back, where he was assaulted and had some of his pocket contents stolen including his phone.

He had been told that some of the items were with the complainant, hence the confrontation which resulted to the assault. He further disclosed to the court that upon committing the said crime, he went and surrendered himself to the police.

However, Magistrate Zulu was unhappy with the accused's behaviour and told him that he should have left the investigation to the police and not take the law into his hands.

The accused pleaded for leniency and asked for forgiveness from the complainant and his family.

"I would like to sincerely apologise to Melusi and his family for my behaviour. I assure you your Worship that such will not repeat itself," he said.

Magistrate Zulu asked if the complainant and his family were in court and he rose up and was called forward. When he stood before Zulu, she asked him if he was willing to forgive the accused because he was sorry and showed remorse. "*Angimucoleli ngoba wangilimata ngatfungwa neti-titch lana*," he responded, cracking everyone up.

He further disclosed that he was only in court to see the accused and hoped that he would get a severe sentence.

Magistrate Zulu asked if the complainant knew the prayer in **Mathew 6:9-13** which talks about forgiveness and he responded that he did, but still he would not forgive the accused.

"*Siphila emhlabeni yeMnisi, kuyacolelwa onkhe emalanga*, Jesus forgives us daily. We live a life of forgiving and forgiveness," the magistrate said.

The accused was sentenced to 10 months in prison with a fine option of E1 000. However, the sentence was wholly suspended for 10 months, on condition that the accused did not commit a similar offence.

Teens, man (20) nabbed for housebreaking & theft

Stories by Nonduduzo Kunene
Manzini Magistrate's Court

A 20-year-old man and two teenagers yesterday appeared before Magistrate Xolile Nxumalo for housebreaking and theft.

Thabo Sizwe Shabangu (20), and the teenagers both aged 18 were charged for housebreaking with an intention to steal.

It is said the trio on January 12,

2019 acted jointly and broke into a house intending to steal groceries worth E4 920.

The items they allegedly stole included a microwave, pots, chakalaka boerewors, chips, potatoes, soup, handigas, sugar, juice and many more items.

The magistrate advised them to seek legal defence.

They were remanded back to custody pending the trial date to be set at the Matsapha Circuit Court.



BUSTED:
Some of the stolen items displayed inside the court room.

2 men nabbed for poaching lishongololo

CELUCOLO Mabuza (31) and Isaiah Tfwala (71) were arrested by the Manzini police after they were found with a kudu (lishongololo) without any permission.

The hunting duo appeared before Magistrate Xolile Nxumalo at the Manzini Magistrate's Court yesterday.

They pleaded guilty to all the charges. The magistrate remanded them back to custody pending the trial date to be set on

February 23, 2019, however they asked for bail.

One of the charges was for contravening Section 11(1) as read with Section 11(8) of Act of 1964 as amended by Act No.1990.

Permit

It is said upon January 11, 2019, near Nyakeni in the Manzini region, the said accused persons without a valid licence or permit to possess a firearm, did wrongfully and unlawfully possess a 9mm automatic pistol, black in

colour serial number L077519 and thus contravening the Act.

They were also found with 12 rounds of ammunition thus contravening Section 11(2) of the Arms and Ammunition Act.

Celucolo Mabuza was slapped with another charge as he was found with the Kudu without permission. The duo were admitted to E6 000 and E2 000 bail respectively. The magistrate advised them to follow standard bail conditions.



VACANCIES

Chemonics International, a U.S. based international development consulting firm, seeks candidates for the anticipated USAID eSwatini Attain & Sustain 95-95-95, Prevent New Infections and Reach all populations for Epidemic Control (ASPIRE) based in the Kingdom of eSwatini. The purpose of ASPIRE is to reduce HIV incidence and AIDS-related mortality and support the UNAIDS 95-95-95 fast-track target. This will be achieved through increased access to and utilization of quality comprehensive HIV services, increased uptake of biomedical HIV prevention services and integrated sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services and building the Ministry of Health's capacity to provide strategic oversight and stewardship. We are looking for candidates who have a passion for making a difference in the lives of people around the world, to fill the proposed positions below.

Application Instructions:

To apply visit the **International Opportunities** section of our Career Center at <http://www.chemonics.com/OurJobs/JoinOurTeam/InternationalOpportunities/Pages/default.aspx>. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until all positions are filled. **Applications will be accepted until January 30, 2019.** No telephone inquiries, please. Finalists will be contacted.

Chief of Party: The Chief of Party will be responsible for the overall leadership, management and technical direction of the project and ensure that the project meets stated goals and reporting requirements. Qualifications include:

- A medical degree or a master's degree in public health or related field;
- At least five years demonstrated, recent experience in HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment. Clinical HIV service delivery experience preferred;
- At least five years' experience in managing donor-funded public health programs of similar scope and size;
- At least ten years of experience in a developing country context, with at least five of those years in Sub-Saharan Africa; and
- Excellent communication, presentation, and writing skills in English.

HIV Clinical Services Technical Director: Responsible for clinical leadership and expertise in the development and implementation of program activities, supervising service delivery at all levels, the technical director will have:

- A medical degree or a master's degree in public health or related field;
- At least five years demonstrated, recent experience in HIV clinical service delivery programming;
- At least ten years of experience or HIV technical activities in a developing country context, with at least five of those years in Sub-Saharan Africa; and
- Excellent communication, presentation, and writing skills in English.

Director of Finance and Operations: The Director of Finance and Operations will oversee procurement, grants, logistics, human resources, finance and accounting, IT, and other operations activities, with the below qualifications:

- A master's degree in Business, Accounting, Finance or related field relevant to the position requirements;
- At least eight years' experience in financial and grant program management for a large, complex donor-funded project, preferably USAID and PEPFAR programs;
- Excellent communication, presentation, and writing skills in English.

Director of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning: The Director of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) will oversee the design and implementation of the Performance Management Plan and MEL system, and will have:

- An advanced degree in public health, statistics, monitoring and evaluation, or another relevant field.
- At least seven years of experience designing and implementing monitoring and evaluating activities for complex programs in developing countries;
- An in-depth understanding of how to design and implement M&E systems for complex donor-funded activities of similar size and scope as the activity, preferably for USAID and PEPFAR programs; and
- Excellent communication, presentation, and writing skills in English.

Senior Technical Specialists: Long-term Senior Technical Specialists will provide technical guidance and support in the planning and implementation of project interventions, with the following qualifications:

- An advanced degree in a relevant discipline;
- Technical expertise in one or more areas: HIV testing and prevention, ART and TB medication uptake and adherence; pediatric HIV care and PMTCT; voluntary medical male circumcision; pre-exposure prophylaxis; sexual and reproductive health; and post-violence care to reduce HIV incidence and AIDS-related mortality;
- Minimum eight to twelve years of relevant technical and development experience and expertise in designing, implementing, and managing relevant programs;
- Excellent communication, presentation, and writing skills in English.

Doc.18190



Siteki Town Council
P.O. Box 57
Siteki
L300
Tel: (00268) 2343-4408/485
Fax: (00268) 2343-5152
Email: lindie@stkcouncil.co.sz / info@stkcouncil.co.sz

PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION TO SITEKI TOWN PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING

THE SITEKI TOWN COUNCIL invites all residents and property owners to a Public Consultation meeting to be held on **19th January 2019, 0930hrs, at Siteki Town Council Offices.**

Agenda

1. Opening prayer
2. Council Chairperson's remarks
3. Introduction of Siteki Town 2018/2019 General Valuation Roll
4. Feedback on Local Economic Development Project
5. Introduction of Security Rangers
6. Preparation of Siteki Town Planning Scheme
7. Closure

Council would like to encourage all resident and property owners to attend the meeting and be on the know of all developments and to also air their views.

STHEMBILE SIMELANE
TOWN CLERK

DOC.17984

Man appears for stealing money at Buy Cash Hardware

MFANZILE Mvubu has been charged with six counts including a robbery that took place at Buy Cash Hardware in Malkems.

He was charged with the Criminal Procedure Act 1938, in that upon January 25, 2019, he escaped from police custody. He failed to follow Section 7(1) as read with 8(1) on September 17, 2017 as he was found with dagga without a permit. He is accused of further stealing E21 675 at Buy Cash Hardware in Malkems. It is also said that on October 24, 2018, he stole an Azumi cell-phone that belonged to Colani Mbhamali at Nix Bar in Malkems. He appeared before Magistrate Xolile Nxumalo and his trial date was shifted to January 23, 2019.

Father, son fight over Mangwaneni home

By Bahle Gama
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

"I am here to request the court to evict my son out of my house," these were words uttered by a parent in court who wants his son evicted from his home.

Appearing before Magistrate Lenhle Zulu yesterday, Cornelius Dlamini of Mangwaneni a plaintiff stated in court that he wanted his son, Mandla (50) evicted from his alleged home at Mangwaneni.

Dlamini told the court that the home is located at the resettlement township where they were relocated by government after constructing a road where their previous homes were.

He stated that his son was in the house illegally and had moved in without his knowledge after forcefully evicting his sister, whom he had left in charge of the home in his absence.

"Your worship, I left my home to sort out a few issues regarding my livestock and in the process, I asked my daughter to move in and look after it for me. Her stay was temporal," he said.

He stated that the defendant was at William Pitcher at the time, studying.

Graduated

When he graduated, he is said to have come home and allegedly kicked his sister out.

Upon hearing about his son's behaviour, he stated that he then spoke to his son and asked him to vacate his home which never happened.

Evidence presented before the court state that the plaintiff was married to the defendant's mother and got divorced in March, 1973.

The terms of the divorce were clearly stated that Dlamini would get nothing from the marriage because the reason for the divorce was that he had cheated.

The house was included in the divorce decree document.

Dlamini told the court that the divorce submission was a lie, his first wife had eloped and left him.

However, she died later in the years.

However, Dlamini seemed to not understand how the entire process of being moved from the Swazi Nation Land (SNL) to the urban area, because he kept on claiming that government had built him the house at plot nine at the town-

ship.

More evidence was presented to court stating that after the divorce, the plaintiff moved to Ngculwini where he built another home with his second wife after allegedly divorcing his first wife, mother to the defendant. He denied those allegations and told the court that it was all a lie.

He further told the court that his son should have spoken to him when he returned from university and not kick his sister out.

"Your Worship he should have spoken to me and not just evict the person I had asked to look after my home," he continued.

He further told the court that his son was old enough and should be having his own home because he had a job and he could help him to *khonta* if need be.

"Ukhulile, nangingamchuba ngimuyise eskhulwini ayokhonta nje, kungalunga konkhe," he added.

However, when Mandla, the defendant (and son) gave his testimony it was a contradiction to his father's testimony.

He claimed that his late brother by the name of Thulani Dlamini had been residing at the homestead after he completed his training at the police college.

He is said to have gotten married and resided permanently at the homestead until he passed away in 1998.

Survived

Unfortunately, he could not be survived by his wife because before he met his death, they had divorced the same year.

After his funeral, it is said *umphakatsi* called the family and asked who would be residing at the home because it was vacant.

"It was resorted that I be the one that take full ownership of the home because my brother had passed on and my father had not stayed there for years, also my sister was married," he said.

Umphakatsi is said to have called his father and told him of the change in ownership that they were making and he did not oblige.

However, at the time of being declared the owner of the home he had to leave for a while to study. In the event he called his married sis-

ter and asked her to move into the home with intent to look after it.

She is said to have refused numerous times and stated that she was married and could not leave her husband. Eventually it was suggested that she move in with her husband and she succumbed to that idea.

All of this is said to have happened before the construction of the road.

Upon graduating at William Pitcher, he stated that he moved back to Mangwaneni as the only home he knew and stayed with her sister and husband for a while and within a short space of time, he got married and found that they had two families under one roof.

"In the event that we were all living together under the same roof, it became an unpleasant situation and naturally there was tension in the house which resulted to my sister and her husband moving out to a new place in Ezulwini and they did so whilst I was at work," he continued.

In the event of moving out, his sister is said to have been against it and attempted to fight it, thus

he decided to inform his father.

The family is said to have had a meeting and addressed the matter, telling their daughter that she could not reside at the home with her husband. It was not allowed.

She is said to have listened and peacefully moved out, the fire died down and he peacefully resided with his wife who unfortunately

passed on later in the years.

Later in the years, he told the court that his father called him and told him that he wanted to meet with him about a pressing matter and they agreed that they would do so on a certain weekend because he was working at Hlandze at the time. "Upon arrival in town on that weekend, I met up with my father and as I approached him the only words he said were that he needed his home at Mangwaneni back and that was all," he said. At the time his mother is said to have been alive and he stated that he went to her place of residence at Ngwane Park and told her of what his father had said.

Wrong

"We went to *lusendvo* to report the issue and my father was sat down and told that what he asked of me was wrong and would not happen, they further asked him where my other siblings were to go," he said.

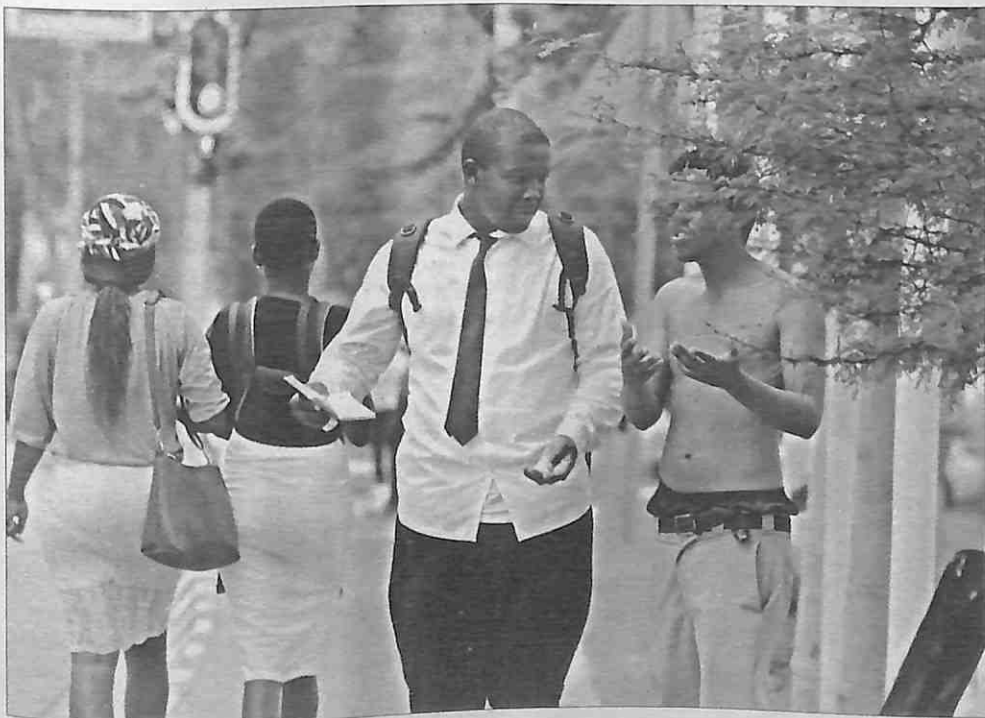
As *lusendvo* did not side with the plaintiff, he is said to have reported the issue to the court and the defendant and his mother were served with papers. Unfortunately, his mother passed away in 2009 and he has been handling the case by himself since.

"Your worship the only reason I fight my father on the issue is because I know the home at Mangwaneni to be our only home which was built by him and my mother. Being old, working and eligible to get myself my own home changes nothing," he said.

He also pleaded with the court that it considered the part that was in the divorce decree that dispossessed his father of any right to the property.

The house was included in the divorce decree document

TOUGH GUY...



TOO HOT: A half naked guitarist explains to a concerned citizen his actions of stripping in the middle of the street next to the New Mall yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

GENERAL NOTICE

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AUTHORITY ACT 1988

AS AMENDED IN 1992

(Act No. 2 of 1988)

APPLICATION TO ESTABLISH A HUMAN SETTLEMENT

(Under Section 10)

It is hereby notified for general information that, in terms of the Human Settlements Authority (Amendment) Act of 1992, **Wandile Dlamini** on behalf of **Tibiyo TakaNgwane** has lodged an application for permission to establish a human settlement with the Human Settlements Authority.

The proposed human settlement to be known as **Tiger Mews**, is to be established on **Plot 2605 Manzini Township** situated in **Manzini** in the Manzini district of Swaziland.

Plans, documents and information regarding this application will be open to the public at the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Fifth floor, Old Income Tax Building, Mbabane, for a period of two (2) weeks from the date of the first publication of this notice in the newspaper.

Persons who object to the granting of this application or who make representations regarding the proposed development should communicate with the Human Settlements Authority, c/o Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, P.O. Box 1832, Mbabane, within a period of two (2) weeks from the date of publication of this notice. The Human Settlements Authority shall give particulars of every objection to the applicant.

L.G. DLAMINI

ACTING PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

DOC18251

FLAS OPENS NEW CLINIC IN MANZINI

By Samkelisiwe Khoza
Mbabane

THE Family Life Association of Eswatini (FLAS), in its quest to expand service deliv-

ery and bring quality services closer and nearer to the people, has opened a new clinic in Manzini.

FLAS Resource Mobilisation and Communications Officer, Maxwell Dlamini said the aim is to provide health-care services, including family plan-

ning, HIV, Tuberculosis, Gender Based Violence (GBV) information and education.

"The HIV situation in the country requires that HIV services are integrated with Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) services and all sectors of the population targeted without discrimination. Integrated SRH and HIV service delivery therefore remain the core function of the organisation, ensuring that a broadened service package is offered both through the static clinics and outreach activities," Dlamini said.

He said the new clinic is located within the Mzinene Building, office Number 20A, 1st Floor, near the Manzini bus rank. Dlamini said the new clinic would relieve a majority of their clients, especially the poor, marginalised and vulnerable from walking long distances from the bus rank to the current FLAS Manzini building offices.

"The new clinic will assist the organisation in meeting its strategic outcomes in the strategic plan by increasing the number of people reached hence improving their quality of life through the service delivered as well as building a sustainable and accountable organisation."

Moreover, Dlamini said FLAS strives to provide integrated SRH services through the static clinics and outreach sites prioritising young people aged 10 to 24 years as a primary target and adults above 24 years as its secondary target group.

He said in an effort to expand service provision, the association also focuses on enabling other partners through service provision, capacity building and mentoring.

He explained that the association's strategic plan 2016 to 2020 stresses particular attention in reaching out to a number of people with SRHR services and information.

Dlamini said FLAS pledged and committed

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE NEW CLINIC

1. Maternal neonate child health
2. Contraception and Family Planning Services
3. Screening services
 - Pregnancy Test
 - Breast Examination
 - Cervical Cancer Screening
 - Cervical Cancer Screening (Pap Smear) – results after six weeks' results are taken to the laboratory for screening.
 - Cervical Cancer Screening (Pap Smear) – results after five days
 - Blood group testing
 - Blood sugar test
 - Prostate cancer screening
 - Cholesterol – checking the amount of fat in the body especially men.
 - Haemoglobin – Screening the amount of blood in the body
4. Sexual Transmitted Infections screening
5. Treatment

to provide over two million qualities integrated SRH services delivered by FLAS volunteers, staff and partners by 2020.

"This is because integrated SRHR and HIV service delivery remain the core function of the institution and this is enabled through static clinics and outreach activities," he said.

Dlamini urged and invited members of the community to visit their static clinics to acquire quality health care services and information.

He said health care services have been available for public's assessment in the clinic since the year commenced two weeks ago and Emaswati can visit the clinic anytime.

NOTICE TO STAKEHOLDERS

CHANGE OF NAME FROM ROYAL SWAZI NATIONAL AIRWAYS CORPORATION (RSNAC) TO ROYAL ESWATINI NATIONAL AIRWAYS CORPORATION (RENAC)

Pursuant to the pronouncement by His Majesty King Mswati III on the 19th April 2018 and in conformity with the Legal Notice No. 80 of 2018 – on Name Restoration from "Swaziland" to "Eswatini", all Stakeholders are advised that Royal Swazi National Airways Corporation (RSNAC) shall, with immediate effect, change its registered name to Royal Eswatini National Airways Corporation (RENAC).

Stakeholders are duly advised that the change of name of the Corporation shall not in any way affect rights, debts, liabilities or obligations of the Corporation, nor shall it render defective any legal processes by or against the Corporation.

BY
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Royal Eswatini
National Airways Corporation

Head Office:
Matsapha International Airport Gate 6,
Tel: +268 2518 1500
Fax: +268 2518 8614

Mbabane Office:
Swazi Plaza, Edgars Building, Office J4/J5
Tel: +268 2518 1500
Fax: +268 2404 5984

Teenagers hack man with bush knife

By Bahle Gama
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

TWO teenagers aged 18 and 19 from Lamgabhi at Edzabe area were charged with two counts after allegedly assaulting and maliciously injuring property.

The teenagers are said to have assaulted one

Sabelo Mkhonta with kicks all over the body, further hacking him with a bush knife once on the head thus harming him.

He is said to be in a critical state and had a vein cut, thus resulting to the need for a head scan.

He is said to be currently admitted at the Mbabane Government Hospital.

They further caused malicious injuries to property owned by the complainant, whereby they are said to have broken two windows and a door all valued at E1 160. Reasons for such behaviour were not disclosed.

During their appearance in court it was disclosed that both were still at school, and were to prepare themselves for the opening of schools in a week's time. For that reason Magistrate Zulu was lenient enough to extend the trial date to when schools would be closed for first term.


One is a pupil at Bhunya High School and the other at Mdziba High School. However, Zulu did not refrain from expressing how displeased she was with their behaviour based on the charges shown on their charge sheet.

"If it wasn't that you have to return to school, I would not even grant you bail and have you remanded into custody the entire time until your trial date.

Yekelani lomkhuba wekutsandza kulwa, you are too young to be doing such and right now you don't even have a dime in your pockets, hence it is your parent's responsibilities to be paying your bail money and that is not right," she said.

She ordered that they be released to their parent's custody and were told that they were to behave at school and in the community at large.

They were further told that they were to perform diligently at school and ensure that they produce good results when they return for their trial on May 7. However, Zulu further warned the suspects that if the complainant was still critical or his condition resulted to the inevitable, they would be arrested at their schools and brought back to face the consequences of their doing.



GET UP TO E300,000
EDUCATION SOLUTION
Repayment up to 72 months

SEDCO's "BACK TO SCHOOL" PROMOTION



Minister of Commerce-Industry-Trade—Manqoba Khumalo

MINISTER'S FOREWORD

nation at large to consider supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) during this period.

The expansion of the SME sector in Eswatini results in sustainable economic growth which is imperative to job creation and subsequent poverty alleviation.

"Government is urging school heads and the nation at large to consider supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) during this period"

Your support of local SMEs

does not only benefit their businesses but the entire nation as economic growth creates wealth making it possible for Government to meet her revenue goals and eventually sustainable development goals in areas such as health, education, infrastructure and

reducing the unemployment rate amongst others.

I would like to take this opportunity to ask both buyers and sellers to transact in harmony during this engaging period and to all players in the education materials supply chain, to support local SMEs for their school requirements.

In the same vein, I would also like to encourage the SMEs themselves to supply quality products and

ensure customer satisfaction in order to guarantee repeat business.

"I wish you all a successful 2019 in all your commercial endeavours!"



As we draw closer to the re-opening of schools around the country, parents and guardians will be busy with securing school prerequisites for their children such as uniforms, stationery and other items.

In this regard, the Government of Eswatini is urging school heads and the

"BACK TO SCHOOL"



SEDCO CEO Mr. Dorrington Matiwane

The Small Enterprises Development Company (SEDCO) is running a "Back to School" campaign that encourages the nation to support local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) for their school requirements in preparation for the opening of schools next week.

SEDCO through the "Business Incubation Program" incubates a number of SMEs who manufacture quality and affordable school products such as uniforms; jerseys, tracksuits, neckties, shirts, stationery and beverages such as fruit juices and bottled water. These are located at the following estates;

- SEDCO Nhlanguano Estate - opposite the Post Office building
- SEDCO Mbabane Estate - Mbabane Industrial Site, next to Government Stores building
- SEDCO Sidwashini Estate - off-ramp

from MR3 road, adjacent to Sidwashini traffic circle
• SEDCO Manzini Estate - adjacent to old Metro Cash & Carry building

SEDCO Nhlanguano Estate

- Business Name:** Ekuphuthumeni Dressmaking
Products: School uniforms
Contact Info: 76672924
- Business Name:** Dudu's Dressmaking & Fashion Design
Products: School uniforms
Contact Info: 76330195
- Business Name:** Happy Family Boutique
Products: School uniforms
Contact Info: 76270688
- Business Name:** Siyeta Dressmaking
Products: School uniforms, Tracksuits & Jerseys
Contact Info: 22078482/76970049
- Business Name:** Nhlanguano Knitting
Products: School uniforms, Tracksuits & Jerseys
Contact Info: 76892786
- Business Name:** Elegant Fashions
Products: School uniforms, Tracksuits & Jerseys
Contact Info: 76088699
- Business Name:** C & B Trading (PTY) Ltd
Products: School uniforms, Tracksuits & Jerseys
Contact Info: 76970049
- Business Name:** N & M Investments
Products: School uniforms

Contact Info: 76185810

SEDCO Piggs Peak Estate

- Business Name:** Calisile's Dressmaking
Products: School uniforms & Tracksuits & Jerseys
Contact Info: 76213180

SEDCO Mbabane Estate

- Business Name:** Clettas Uniforms
Products: School uniforms & Tracksuits
Contact Info: 24041161/76057364
- Business Name:** Express Textiles Mills (PTY) Ltd
Products: School Jerseys & Tracksuits
Contact Info: 24043079/76125833
- Business Name:** Sipane Investments
Products: School uniforms
Contact Info: 76453020
- Business Name:** Tilly's Dressmaking
Products: School uniforms
Contact Info: 76260223
- Business Name:** ZNK Investments
Products: School uniforms & Tracksuits
Contact Info: 76221531
- Business Name:** Supply of School Stationery
Contact Info: 7848551

SEDCO Sidwashini Estate

- Business Name:** Amakhuze Juice World

Products: Supply of Fruit Juices, Sodas & Bottled Water
Contact Info: 76774440

- Business Name:** Pelican Print
Products: Supply of School Stationery
Contact Info: 76110010

SEDCO Manzini Estate

- Business Name:** Express Textile Mills (PTY) Ltd
Products: School Jerseys & Tracksuits
Contact Info: 76125833
- Business Name:** DMM Tailors
Products: School uniform
Contact Info: 76223566



SMALL ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

For more information contact
Head Office, Government Stores Road,
Mbabane Industrial Site
Tel: 2404 2811/2 2404 3046/7 Fax: 2404 0723
E-mail: business@sedco.co.sz www.sedco.co.sz



PRESS STATEMENT

On the 11th day of January 2019 the Swaziland Observer published an article to the effect that MR SIDUMO MDLADLA, a senior partner in the law firm, S. V. MDLADLA & ASSOCIATES had been involved in a 25 Million fraud at ESWATINI MOBILE. The publication went on to publish a letter which we believe is from MRS LUNGILE GAMEDZE. The letter contained some damaging and extremely defamatory allegations levelled against MR MDLADLA.

The article mentioned above together with the allegations were published after a letter dated 9th January 2019 had been delivered to our office by one MLUNGISI KHUMALO who is an attorney and adviser to MRS GAMEDZE, I assume.

I was expected to respond to the letter in writing nor sooner had I received the letter I immediately received a call from an Observer reporter asking me if I had received the letter. My response was in the affirmative. I also received a call from The Times of Swaziland to which I confirmed receipt of the letter. On the 10th of January 2019, I received calls about a damning article in the Swazi Observer. The Observer was now stating that I was involved in a fraud at ESWATINI MOBILE. It is patently obvious that the said letter was drafted and served on me with the sole purpose of leaking the defamatory substance to the press so that it could be published. In a nutshell, the letter was being published and being placed in the public domain. It is for this reason that I have found it appropriate to take the advice of the numerous stakeholders who have called me and requested a press statement on this.

As an individual, I am an attorney of the HIGH COURT OF SWAZILAND and have been admitted for a period of 24 years. I am a Senior Partner in the Law Firm, S. V. Mdladla & Associates. I hold positions in various other interests. I have been Acting Judge of the High Court of Swaziland. I am a founder and a now ordinary member of Montessori Primary School. The law firm, S. V. MDLADLA & ASSOCIATE is a law firm which serves a multiple of corporate clients which operate in the financial sector. I am currently involved in public assignments, the collection of TV licences as well as the collection of scholarship. The recent appointment I have is the one where I was appointed by HIS MAJESTY THE KING MSWATI III to THE ROYAL COMMISSION. All the above appointments are in a position of trust and have automatically placed me in the public domain. This therefore means any allegation of impropriety and criminal nature will impact on me negatively and should be addressed appropriately as the citizens will be concerned. It is for this reason that the office has found it proper that there be a public statement on this issue.

The allegations made against me are levelled to me as an Executor of the ESTATE LATE VICTOR MFANA GAMEDZE. I find it proper that one details properly the mandate of an executor in an Estate, and by extension my mandate. An Executor is appointed in terms of the Administration of Estates Act. An executor's main responsibility is to liquidate the Estate of the deceased person. The executor is answerable to ALL beneficiaries of the Estate, ALL creditors and debtors of the Estate, as well as the office of the MASTER. An executor has to act independently, transparently, without fear or favour. The executor in terms of our law has to finalise its mandate of his appointment within 6 months of his appointment failing which, there has to be an extension. I, as an executor, I am not above these legal dictates. Upon completion of the Estate, I have an obligation to issue a liquidation and distribution account, if there is any individual be it, a beneficiary, creditor or debtor who objects, they do so in writing. This process is transparent.

Having stated the functions of the executor, I wish to state that so far I was performing same. I have been doing so in the interest of the Estate but not a singular individual. This is regardless of the manner in which I was appointed.

I now wish to turn to the matter at hand.

My first address is with regards to the report, the leading article to the effect that "LAWYER MDLADLA INVOLVED IN 25 MILLION FRAUD IN ESWATINI MOBILE". This article is shocking, misleading and extremely defamatory. I have never at any stage been involved in any fraud in Eswatini Mobile. The letter in which the said article is based on says nothing of that sort. I believe that ESWATINI MOBILE has dealt with the issue and I believe it should be attended to.

I now turn to the articles published as accusations against me. I wish to state that these allegations are baseless, vexatious, defamatory and specially designed to cause harm to

my name. The first accusation relates to me trying to defraud the ESTATE OF THE LATE GAMEDZE by approaching a certain THOKOZANI NKAMBULE to generate a fraudulent invoice in favour of ESWATINI MOBILE. I find this accusation not only to be senseless but it typifies this whole episode. The allegation as it stands, would be that the beneficiaries of the funds would be ESWATINI MOBILE and not SIDUMO MDLADLA. Such is the naivety of the accusation however, the important aspect is that the said THOKOZANE denies such allegations. I have in my possession a copy of the letter wherein he categorically denies me ever approaching him. I have attached a copy of the letter.

The second allegation relates to some purported sale of shares of STAGE 1 CONNECTIONS (PTY) LTD to MICHELO SHAKANTU. Again, this is denied. It is my belief that the actual developments which I believe are within the knowledge MR GAMEDZE have been deliberately been misrepresented. In a nutshell, there was never a sale of shares to MICHELO SHAKANTU.

The last aspect of the contents of the extremely defamatory letter relates to transfers of certain monies in certain accounts. Firstly, may I point out that these allegations themselves are not informed.

Firstly, I never ever transferred funds in the late VICTOR GAMEDZE's account. The true position is that I am the executor of the Estate and the signatory of the account and I act with the guidance of the Master's office. The account referred to is an Estate Account which was a current account. The funds in the account had been deposited by myself having collected same in my capacity as an Executor. I did not need to report to anyone to transfer these funds save for the Master's consent. In the circumstances, the funds were sitting in a current account which is a non-interest bearing account. As a means of protecting the interests of the Estate, I advised the bank through a written correspondence that it transfers the funds to the trust call account of S. V. MDLADLA & ASSOCIATES who are also the attorneys and executors of the Estate. This was pending the opening of a call account of the Estate. When instructing the bank, I made it clear that the interest earned from the funds will be to the benefit of the Estate and that is exactly what transpired. I am confident that when the funds were transferred to the current account and then finally the call account of the Estate at that point an interest of E 75,000.00 (seventy-five thousand emalangeni) had been accumulated. This amount benefitted the Estate. I fail to understand the complaint due regard being had to the fact that I acted in the best interest of the Estate Account. Furthermore, I had reported this development to the Master's office.

Having stated the above, it is clear that I have not at any point acted out of my mandate nor have I acted in such a manner as to prejudice the Estate account.

The allegations are therefore incorrect and they were made as some kind of blackmail to force my hand to accede to certain demands and to finally exit as an executor. I am aware that there will be other efforts to tarnish my name as long as I hold the office of executorship. I am prepared to withstand such insults, threats and acts of defamation, so long as I act as an executor and in the best interest of all stakeholders, not one.

The wording of the letter was highhanded, aggressive and very insulting. I am generally concerned by the fact that it may well be that there are some individuals who have seen the demise of the Late MR VICTOR GAMADZE as a spring board to success by constantly ill-advising MRS GAMEDZE whom our office still respects.

The above is our response to the incident which we believe is unfortunate. We have every intention of addressing this issue at the appropriate time and forum so as to vindicate ourselves. It is unfortunate that these allegations have been widely published and disseminated to other parts of the country and world when there was never any efforts to verify them. Lastly, I would like to assure and thank all individuals and corporate stakeholders for their response and concerned showed.

Having said the above, I am baffled that with all these defamatory allegations, as baseless as untrue as they are, there is no indication of any motive to secure any personal benefit on my part.

THANK YOU.

Lungile Hotencia Gamedze
P.O. Box 3627
Mbabane

10 January 2019

S.V. MDLADLA & ASSOCIATES
Lot No: 306, Lomadvokola Chambers
CNR. Lomadvokola & Nukwase Streets
MBABANE

ATTN: MR. SIDUMO V. MDLADLA

Dear Sir,

ESTATE OF THE LATE VICTOR MFANA GAMEDZE - ESTATE No. EL 15/2018

By way of background and with utmost good faith, I appointed you as the Executor of my late husband's estate out of trust, goodwill and I took due account, as well, the enduring friendship that you had with my husband.

However, you have been mischievously acting, in brazen disdain of your mandate, which inherently entails and engenders utmost good faith, honesty and irreproachable integrity. It has been very disconcerting that for self-serving reasons, you have been shamelessly and for self-serving reasons, taking instructions from third parties, who have no demonstrable interest in the estate, to my prejudice and that of the other beneficiaries (my daughters). Needless to say, I have been deeply hurt and disappointed by your dastardly deeds. For your benefit, I will, in this communicate, cite chapter and verse of the gist of what I am complaining about:

1. It has recently come to light that you forcedly induced Thokozani Nkambule at Swazi Mobile to generate an invoice and fraudulently state that my late husband owes Swazi Mobile E5 000 000.00 (five million Emalangeni); undeniably the overriding motive was to defraud his estate to the tune of the said E5 000 000.00 (five million Emalangeni). The said Thokozani Nkambule was so disgusted by your illegal gimmicks and shenanigans so much so that he is amenable to testify against you under oath.
2. More disappointingly, you were trying to sell 20% of the shares of Stage 1 Connections (Pty) Ltd to your "boss" Mitchell Shakantu for a mere E20 000 000.00 (twenty million Emalangeni) surreptitiously, that is blatantly behind my back and without my authorization. This machination happened despite the fact that you are privy to the fact that the value of the shares in question is worth in excess of E200 000 000.00 (two hundred million Emalangeni), but regardless you were amenable (for a transparent reason best known to yourself) to sell them to Shakantu for a measly E20 000 000.00 (twenty million Emalangeni).
3. For the record, from the outset you cunningly tried to put assets of the Trust's into the estate; your apparent stratagem was to inflate the value of the estate and as a consequence exponentially increase the commission/fee that will accrue to you. As a case in point, you secretly transferred E25 000 000.00 (twenty five million) (without my consent) from my husband's account into your personal account. When I got wind of this despicable act, I persistently badgered you for a statement of the bank account. But for fear of exposing your backside, you declined to cooperate and you only came to the party after you had transferred the said amount back to the bank.

As a gesture of friendship, my late husband appointed you a Legal Adviser to Swazi Mobile (not on merit necessarily). However, you have woefully failed to reciprocate by showing a modicum of appreciation and gratitude.

With the benefit of hindsight, in light of your lack of integrity, I deeply regret appointing you as the Executor of my late husband's estate.

For the foregoing blatant offences, I demand that you immediately resign your Executorship of my late husband's estate, that is, before the close of business on Friday, 11 January, 2019.

Yours faithfully



LUNGILE H. GAMEDZE

Cc: The Honourable Chief Justice

Cc: The Attorney General

Cc: The Kings Office

Cc: The Master of the High Court

Cc: Assistant Master of the High Court Siteki

Thokozani Nkambule
P. O. Box 6649
Mbabane
Swaziland

11 January 2019

S.V. Mdladla & Associates
P.O. Box 3798
Mbabane

Dear Mr. Sidumo Mdladla

Allegations on ESM Fraudulent Invoice as per Swazi Observer article

This letter is written in response to an allegation published within an article in the Swazi Observer dated 11 January 2019, page 3, wherein Thokozani Nkambule an employee of Swazi Mobile is cited as a witness to the alleged attempted fraudulent act of defrauding the late Victor Gamedze ESM.

It has taken me with shock to learn of such untruthful and unfounded allegations which are not only tainting my employer's image but also have a potential of eroding my reputation as a professional. I have under no circumstances been instructed by Sidumo Mdladla to generate any invoice relating to any claims between Mdladla's company and Victor Gamedze and/or his company. To the best of my knowledge, SV Mdladla runs an office with a fully fledged accounting department which is responsible for raising invoices for any obligations with third parties, thus it is confusing how a Swazi Mobile employee would then raise invoices on behalf of a third-party company.

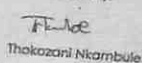
On another note, Mrs Lungile Gamedze has never engaged Thokozani on any talks relating to any claims whatsoever relating to the late Victor Gamedze's estate. It then follows that the claim made within the article that Thokozani refused to make the fraudulent invoice and is willing to testify under oath does not hold true.

As a Professional Accountant, I am required to comply by ethical requirements of the code of ethics for professional accountants. Within those codes, I feel the untruthful allegation wherein my name is cited breaches on:

1. Integrity
2. Objectivity
3. Confidentiality
4. Professional Behavior

With all that said, I am not willing to compromise professional or business judgement because of any form of bias, conflict of interest or undue influence. I therefore apologize for being falsely cited within such grave allegations made against you.

Yours Sincerely,


Thokozani Nkambule



S. V. MDLADLA & ASSOCIATES
Attorneys, Commissioners, Customs & Excise Tax Advisors, Trade Mark Agents,
Company Secretarial Services, Valuers & Auctioneers

Lot No.306, Lomadvokola Chambers, Cnr. Lomadvokola & Nukwase Streets
P. O. Box 3798, Mbabane 3110, Swaziland Tel: (+268) 2404 3818/2404 8155
Fax: (+268) 2404 8226
E-mail: s.v.mdladla@associates@swazi.net

15th March 2018

Our ref:
MDLADLA/jn/E0165

Your ref:

Swaziland Development & Savings Bank
Umlunguzi Wendlovu Building
Mbabane

Dear Sir,

RE: ESTATE LATE VICTOR MFANA GAMEDZE - EL 15/2018.

1. We refer to the above subject matter.
2. We confirm that an estate account has been opened with your good-selves for the ESTATE OF THE LATE MR GAMEDZE MFANA GAMEDZE.
3. We kindly request that the funds held in the said account in the amount of E 25,983,840.60 (TWENTY-FIVE MILLION NINE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY EMALANGENI SIXTY CENTS) be transferred into the Trust and Call account of S. V. Mdladla & Associates. The interest of the funds will be to the benefit of the Estate.

4. We thank you.

S. V. MDLADLA & ASSOCIATES

Per:



S. V. MDLADLA - BIL. LL.B. UNISWA
H.A. MDLADLA - LL.B. UNISWA
F.M. THWESHA - LL.B. UNISWA
S. OLAMBE - LL.B. UNISWA
S. SANDA - LL.B. UNISWA



16 NATIONAL NEWS

| INYANGA'S HORRIFIC MURDER: |

FEUD RAGES ON
AMONG FAMILIES

● "There is no way to change what happened, but the important thing is to make sure the deceased has a peaceful funeral, after which the families will have to try and find a way to move past this traumatic ordeal because life has to go on"

By Sifiso Dlamini
Mbabane

The feud between the Vilakati and Mkhalihi families in Nkonjwa rages on.

Siphofaneni police had to rush to the rescue on Saturday night after they were called to intervene in a situation where relatives of slain Nkonjwa traditional healer Gcina Vilakati (42) and his mother Liphinah Vilakati allegedly made threats to burn down the suspects' homestead.

The conflict between the families seems to be escalating as relatives of the murdered traditional healer are alleged to have made threats that they would burn down the suspects homestead on

Saturday. It is alleged that on Saturday night, a group of young men believed to be friends of the late traditional healer's younger brother had come to pay their condolences to their friend at his home.

The young men, who are alleged to have been indulging in alcoholic beverages, are said to have been heard talking about burning the suspects' homestead in an effort to avenge the late inyanganga.

Threats

The suspects family, after hearing about the threats, contacted Siphofaneni police and told them that a group of young men were threatening to burn their house down with them in it. They were afraid the men would execute their alleged plan since they were intoxicated and it was night time.

The police responded to the call promptly and diffused the situation before it could turn nasty.

The Siphofaneni police officers, who responded to the call, are alleged to have taken the young men to Siphofaneni Police Station in a bid to calm them down, they detained the young men. They were later released and no charges

were laid against them.

Sithobelweni Member of Parliament Bhekithi Dlamini commented on the events that transpired on Saturday night and pleaded with the families to try and control their tempers.

Painful

"I do agree that it's very painful for the families, especially because they are neighbours but the most important thing right now is to make sure that the funeral proceedings go smoothly.

"There is no way to change what has happened, so the important thing is to make sure that the deceased has a peaceful funeral and then the families will have to try and find a way to move past this traumatic ordeal because life has to go on," added Dlamini.

The MP said the Vilakati family plans to have the funerals this coming weekend but a date is yet to be set.

When contacted, Chief Police Information and Communications Officer, Inspector Phindile Vilakati, commented that the Siphofaneni police did respond to a call and amicably calmed down the situation on Saturday and no one was arrested or charged.

FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE...



LEFT BEHIND: Though the Mantsholo road have been revamped but some of the signage were left unattended like this sign at the Eveni junction. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Yet another teen attempts suicide

By Starsky Mkhonta
Sandleni

AS suicide cases continue to be on the rise in the country, yet another pupil has attempted to kill herself after ingesting a poisonous substance.

Ntobeko Ndelela (19), a pupil at Sandleni High School, is currently battling for her life at the Hlatikulu Government Hospital as doctors and nurses are reportedly trying to drain out the poisonous liquid she guzzled in annoyance of being refused to change schools.

She almost ended her life in front of family members on Sunday. The girl was doing Form Three last year and she obtained a third class pass in the recently released results. According to sources, she wanted to be allowed to enroll at a neighbouring school, Nkhungwini High for her Form Four, something which a close relative was totally against and advised her to continue in her current school where she had obtained the third class pass.

Change

Sources said the family had a meeting regarding Ntobeko's request to change schools and her father insisted that she should remain in her current school that she hatched the plan to end her life.

"It was while the (family) meeting was taking place that the girl sneaked into her grandmother's bedroom and prepared a mixture suspected to be for maize crops. After having drunk the pesticide, she was seen sprawling on the floor and writhing in pain," said a source.

Everyone who was part of the family meeting was shocked as to what was happening but there was suspicion that Ntobeko was planning to take her life because she

had been refused to change schools.

There was tension and means were made to save her life. First aid was conducted on her while means were being made to rush her to hospital," said a source.

The girl's father who is reportedly working in South Africa is also said to have witnessed the incident.

"Her father was there and he is the one who made efforts to rush her to hospital.

Poisonous

"She was already unable to utter a word and it was clear that the poisonous substance she had drank was piercing her. At the hospital, drips were planted all over her and efforts were made to drain whatever she had drunk. By yesterday (Monday), doctors and nurses were still doing everything to save her life," another relative said.

The girl's grandmother who was only identified as Gogo Ndelela (LaMkhalihi) who stays with her confirmed that she (granddaughter) attempted to kill herself.

"She is currently at the hospital where she was admitted after taking the poisonous substance," said the girl's grandmother.

Other speculations are to the effect that the girl was not happy as some of her siblings were seemingly given better preference and also taken to better schools.

"There is too much family politics in the whole issue. It's not just that she wanted to change schools but we have also been made to understand that some of her half sisters are given first preference. She feels she deserves equal treatment from her parents. She made it clear that she would rather drop out of school if not allowed to enroll at a school of her choice for her Form Four," a close relative said.

CURFEW...



ON GUARD: A security officer relaxes on top of guard rails while on duty next to the Ned Bank building yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Still no breakthrough in businesswoman's attack

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlango

POLICE have appealed to the public to assist them in finding assailants of the Mtsambama businesswoman who was attacked and almost butchered to death on Monday last week.

Siphiwe Dlamini (48), who is the owner of Enjabulweni Grocery at Mtsambama, is currently battling for her life at the Hlatikulu Government Hospital where she was admitted after unknown men who were armed with knives broke into her house and stabbed her. She was dragged out of the house and pulled to nearby fields where the attack contin-

ued which led to her sustaining almost 15 stab wounds around the body. After severely harming her and probably thinking they had finished her off, the hooligans went back to her house and ransacked it.

It is believed the motive behind the attack could have been money. It is suspected that a sum of over E4 000 which was kept in the house was taken by the attackers. It is still not yet known what else was stolen from the house apart from the money.

Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said a week had already passed since the incident took place but still no arrests had been made. She said as the police,

they were doing all within their powers to have all those behind such a heinous crime apprehended and brought to book.

"It's been almost a week and we have not yet made any arrests but we are confident that we will have a breakthrough very soon. We will not give up. As long as the people who have done this are in this planet, we are going to find them. We are requesting the public to come forward should there be someone with information which can assist us find the culprits so that they face the full might of the law.

"We are also appealing to those behind this to consider surrendering themselves because kute imphunga yelihlatsi," she said.



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

info@observer.org.sz

1 BILLION RISING REVOLUTION

SEXUAL VIOLENCE REMAINS A NIGHTMARE TO WOMEN

Sexual violence has always been, and still remains the one thing that is a nightmare to women in the country

ALMOST every day there will be a story or two in the newspaper about a woman who has been sexually violated in the country.

Those are just the stories that make it to the newspaper, there are stories that don't, and those that do not even get reported because rape has become so entrenched in women's everyday life that it has become normal.

The thing with sexual violence is that it is rarely perpetrated by strangers, it is always someone the victim is close to.

It could be a boyfriend, a relative like an uncle, a guardian and even one's husband.

One of the many reasons that women keep being victims of sexual violence is the toxic belief that sex is a man's right in a marriage.

The recent chilling statement by a senate is the very reason why rape is still rampant in the country.

The senator said that a husband can never rape his wife, and went on to say that if a woman does not want to have sexual intercourse with her husband, she must not sleep in the same room as him.

Implying that sleeping on the same bed with someone is an invitation to sex.

This very mentality is what makes men believe they have the right to sex. The woman's body no longer belongs to her, she has no body auton-

omy anymore.

This is why some women die of curable diseases, because the husband refuses her from going to the hospital.

Another belief that leads to sexual violence is the belief that girls are responsible for controlling a man's sexual urges.

Many a times women are shamed for the choice of their clothing and told it is 'too revealing'.

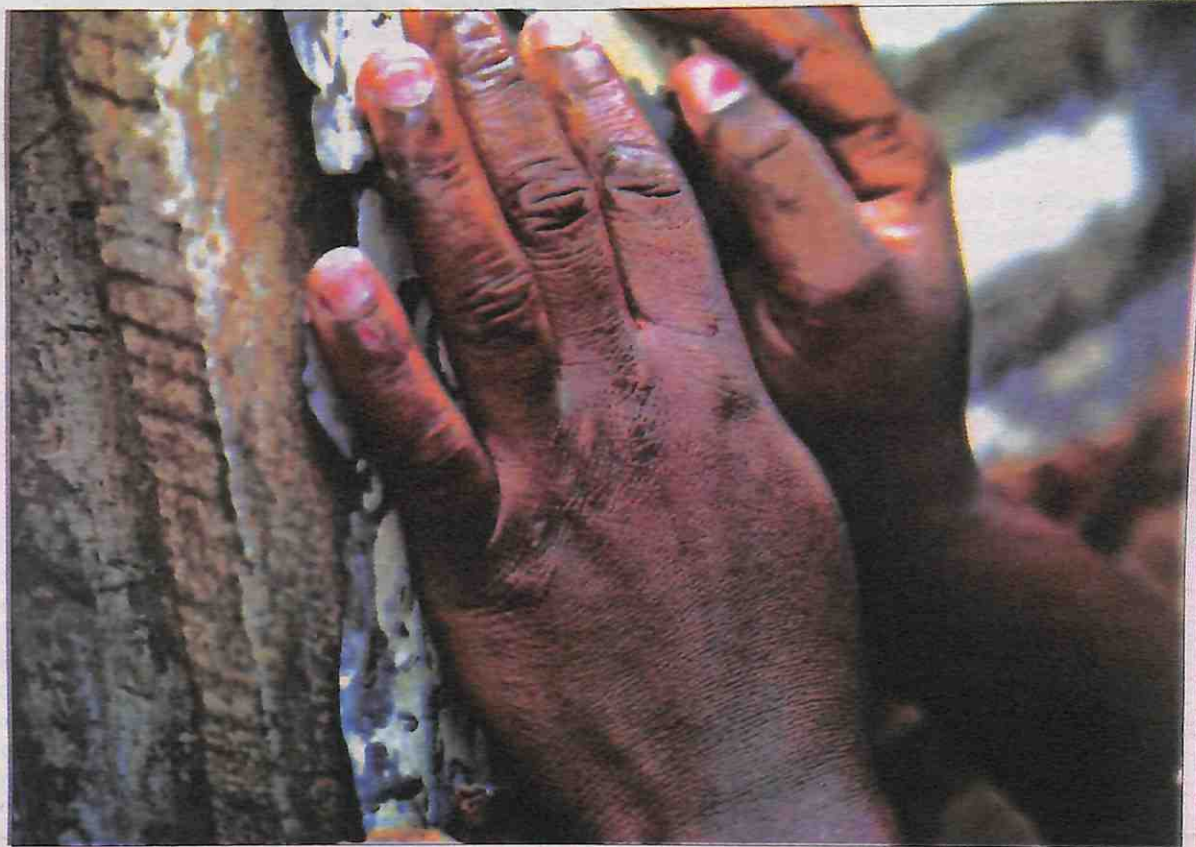
Sometimes women themselves feel it is their fault when a man rapes them because the skirt she was wearing was too short or too tight.

No one stops to consider the fact that women's clothing is rarely in the mind of a man, and believing that a woman is responsible for what happens to her is a sign of a sick society that needs help. Victims of rape should not be made to take the blame, men who rape must take full responsibility and be dealt with accordingly.

One of the other drivers of sexual violence is the belief that it can be used to put women in their place. It is a dangerous and harmful belief that women need a man if they are believed to be too difficult, 'too bossy'.

Corrective rape, hard to believe that this is even a thing, has been accepted across Africa as a way to turn lesbian women straight.

“This very mentality is what makes men believe they have the right to sex. The woman's body no longer belongs to her, she has no body autonomy anymore.”



The same, however, has never been said about gay men. In not so many words, this shows that women are there to please men sexually, and when they don't they can be forced to. Sexual activity, including rape, is believed to be a marker of male masculinity.

Applauded

If a man finds himself in the same room with a woman, he will be applauded by his friends if he can convince her to sleep with him.

And if he fails to convince her, he

will forcefully engage with her, just so he can brag to his friends.

A woman who finds herself in this kind of situation usually doesn't report because she believes it is either her fault, or she didn't do enough to fight him off.

She does not consider it rape.

Sexual violence is also considered taboo, that is why family and friends always try to convince the victim not to report, or that it should be 'dealt with' at home.

This puts the perpetrator off the

hook and puts more women at potential risk.

If there are young boys in the family, they will see this and think that it is ok to treat women that way and in turn do it when they grow older.

Abuse is a cycle, it does not stop until someone in the family breaks the cycle, or the law forces people to take responsibility of their actions.

The best thing to do is of course encourage women to report any form of violence they experience, and that experienced by someone they know.

NEWS EXTRA

PITCH BLACK AFRO REMAINS BEHIND BARS!

SA Rapper Thulani Ngcobo, popularly known as Pitch Black Afro, will have to spend several more days in custody before he can apply for bail.

He will remain in custody as the State concludes its verification of the address at which he would reside, should he be granted bail.

Ngcobo has been charged with premeditated murder and defeating the ends of justice after his wife, Catherine Modusane, died at a Johannesburg bed and breakfast establishment on December 31.

She had sustained injuries to her upper body.

Yesterday, the State told Magistrate Carlo Labuschagne in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court that it would have to interview the residents at the address where Ngcobo would stay, should his bail application be approved.

The case had previously been postponed to January 15, to allow for his address to be verified.

Emerg

However, it emerged yesterday that Ngcobo's aunt lived at the verified address. Her name was not provided in court.

Prosecutor Mzamo Mate said while it had been confirmed that Ngcobo had lived at the address at some point,

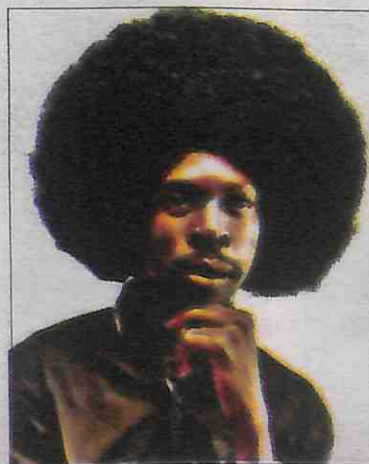
he had not lived there since 2010.

The case was postponed to January 18, so that Ngcobo's aunt could obtain an affidavit confirming that he would stay at the premises under her supervision.

Ngcobo's mother and aunt were in the packed courtroom yesterday, along with members of social justice group Vuka Mzansi Movement.

Speaking on behalf of Vuka Mzansi Movement, Khanyisani Vilakazi said the organisation's members had attended court proceedings in solidarity with Modusane.

"We are here to ensure that justice is served fairly and equally because



HELD: Pitch Black Afro.

Thulani is not above the law," Vilakazi told members of the media outside

court.

Vilakazi, who said he knew the couple personally, said he heard there had been a fight between the two on the night Modusane died. He said this led him to believe that Ngcobo had committed the crime.

Incident

"I went to visit the place where the incident happened. I received a call from a source inside. I was informed around 03:00 and so I went there. When I asked around I heard he did it," Vilakazi said.

"Apparently there was physical contact. They fought and apparently Trisha (Modusane) went outside to seek help and went back again," he said.

News24

ON THIS DAY

... January 16

1988 - Jimmy 'The Greek' Snyder was fired as a CBS sports commentator one day after telling a TV station in Washington, DC, that, during the era of slavery, blacks had been bred to produce stronger offspring.

1998 - Researchers announce that an altered gene helped to defend against HIV.

1991 - The White House announced the start of Operation Desert Storm. The operation was designed to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait.

1992 - Officials of the government of El Salvador and rebel leaders signed a pact in Mexico City ending 12 years of civil war. At least 75 000 people were killed during the fighting.

1998 - The first woman to enroll at Virginia Military Institute withdrew from the school.

1998 - NASA officially announced that John Glenn would fly aboard the space shuttle Discovery in October.

1998 - It was announced that Texas would receive US\$15.3 billion in a tobacco industry settlement. The payouts were planned to take place over 25 years.

1998 - Three federal judges secretly granted Kenneth Starr authority to probe whether US President Clinton or Vernon Jordan urged Monica Lewinsky to lie about her relationship with Clinton.

2000 - Ricardo Lagos was elected Chile's first socialist president since Salvador Allende.

2002 - US Attorney General John Ashcroft announced that John Walker Lindh would be brought to the United States to face trial. He was charged in US District Court in Alexandria, VA, with conspiracy to kill US citizens, providing support to terrorist organizations, and engaging in prohibited transactions with the Taliban of Afghanistan.

2002 - The UN Security Council unanimously adopted sanctions against Osama bin Laden, his terror network and the remnants of the Taliban. The sanctions required that all nations impose arms embargoes and freeze their finances.

2009 - The iTunes Music Store reached 500 million applications downloaded.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Max Joseph
(Reality Star) -
January 16, 1982
(37 years)



Sade
RnB singer
- January 16, 1959 (60
years old)



RAMAPHOSA SETS OUT A BOLD VISION FOR SOUTH AFRICA

AS South Africa heads for the polls in a few months time in its sixth democratic election, political party electioneering has begun in earnest.

President Cyril Ramaphosa kick started the governing African National Congress's (ANC) election campaign in his January 8th Statement celebrating 107 years since the birth of the liberation movement. This campaign continued with the launch of the ANC's manifesto at the Moses Mabhida Stadium in KwaZulu-Natal on January 12. An estimated 80 000 ANC members and supporters attended the launch.

The ANC declared 2019 the year for 'united action to grow South Africa'. This year sees a continuation of the dominant themes of

unity, hope and renewal, for both the troubled ANC and South Africa, which Ramaphosa has reiterated since he assumed the presidency in February 2018.

Ramaphosa noted that he was presenting a plan: that we have forged together to respond to the challenges of unemployment, inequality and poverty.

South Africa's political parties ● 285 are contesting the elections ● will soon be providing the country with their priorities and plans. The key question will be which plan is robust enough to turn the country around from the trajectory of despair that overwhelmed it under former president Jacob Zuma.

The same applies to the ANC. Are their nuggets of hope that

something different will transpire if it's elected for another five years? The majority of South Africans agree on the challenges, but does the party have effective solutions and the political will to implement them? Can the ANC's vision provide all South Africans with a common agenda and a renewed sense of purpose?

It won't be easy. The roar of support for Zuma as he left the stadium is a telling sign of the deep divisions within the ANC, despite the shows of solidarity. It's still an open question as to whether its change in leadership is enough to ensure that the party – and the country – doesn't make a u-turn and head back towards the path of despair.

For now, all the right noises are

being made to, as Ramaphosa put it, restore our democratic institutions and return our country to a path of transformation, growth and development.

But the ANC still needs to develop the toolbox for mobilisation and implementation to get this done.

The vision articulated by Ramaphosa has the seeds for galvanising South Africans to get back on the right path. It urgently needs a plan to make it happen.

The 'Rainbow nation' seems to have revealed all its ugly stripes over the past few years: a rise in incidents of racism, tribalism, xenophobia, factionalism and continued high levels of gender-based violence.

The Conversation

How to be a good VC running universities in turbulent times

AT least once a month a head-hunting firm calls me seeking advice on a search for a university vice-chancellor.

They want to pick my brains because of what I've learnt, sometimes the hard way, over seven years as a vice-chancellor, 12 years as an academic dean and two years as an administrator of struggling universities.

By the time the headhunter makes the call, the university would have advertised the position more than once but simply couldn't find the right person for the job.

I often advise on three starting criteria. In addition, my long tenure in higher education has also taught me that there's additional knowledge that's useful for a university leader to have, particularly in these turbulent times facing higher edu-

cation.

Let me start with the criteria that head-hunters should be looking for.

First, candidates need to be major scholars in their field of expertise. Your credibility as an academic is critical in a serious university. If your Senate cannot respect you, you will sound foolish trying to make the case for enhancing the standards of the professoriate or demanding quality scholarship in learned journals.

Second, a competent manager with broad knowledge across the range of university functions – from information technologies to residence management to internal auditing. No vice-chancellor is an expert in more than one of these managerial disciplines. But candidates must know enough to ask their directors or heads of department

the right questions.

And third, an inspiring leader who has the ability to connect with – and command the respect – of diverse people across the institution from workers to junior lecturers to senior professors.

● Some pointers for candidates Potential candidates should consider what they need to offer inspiring leadership and effective management to universities. Based on my experience, this is what you need to know, and how you need to be.

● A good dose of humility. The four opening words the best-selling book, in *The Purpose Driven Life* by evangelical pastor and author Rick Warren is all you need to read: It's not about you.

People will sing your praises but they will demand things from you.

They will look up to you but they will also blame you. In good times and bad, remember, it's not about you. You are privileged to lead your institution but on behalf of others. The adulation could go to your head. Keep telling yourself it is about the students, the academics, the staff and the workers. You exist to serve them. It definitely is not about you.

● A sense of your own limitations. A vice-chancellor stands or falls by the quality and cohesiveness of the senior team. It's crucially important that the absolute best people are hired as deputy-vice chancellors for the key portfolios such as finance, research, teaching and information technologies. These are persons who should complement the competency set of the vice-chancellor and

THE ANC MUST OFFER MORE THAN PROMISES TO WIN OVER SOUTH AFRICANS

LAUNCHING the governing African National Congress's (ANC) 2019 general election manifesto in South Africa, President Cyril Ramaphosa lauded the successes of the last 25 years of democracy.

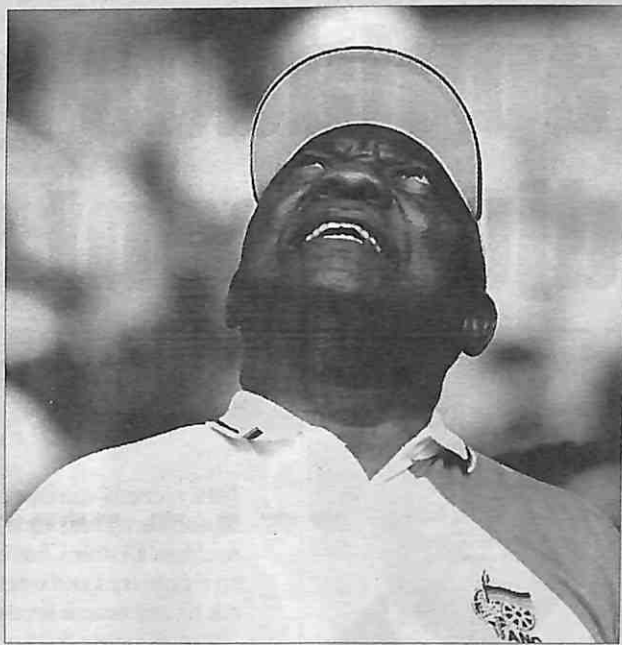
He claimed that the governing party had 'given substance to the promise of a better life for all'. He declared 2019 'the year of united action to grow South Africa', with a focus on economic growth and job creation:

Today, we are issuing a call to all the people of South Africa, to join us as we strive to accelerate change in our country, as we strive to build an inclusive economy that creates jobs and as we work towards a better future for our children.

He also emphasised that the ANC's aim was to create a developmental state which would put the people first, and that corruption and factional politics would not be tolerated.

He outlined the ANC's political agenda. This included mobilising for a decisive victory in the 2019 general elections; intensifying the renewal of ANC branches; fighting corruption in government, in the ANC and across society; and organising against social ills such as gender-based violence, substance abuse and racism.

But the same golden promises have been made before. They may not have the same shine any more given that South Africa is at a precarious point in its 25th year of democracy. The country faces massive socio-economic and socio-political challenges. Unemployment remains stubbornly high, particularly among



TOUGH TIMES: President Cyril Ramaphosa's party, the ANC faces a tough election.

young people. Economic growth is tepid and protests over the government's poor delivery of basic services are on the rise.

A survey by Afrobarometer — a non-partisan African research network — shows that South Africans generally believe their current economic conditions are bad. Not surprisingly, most believe that the government is dealing with economic policy badly. More than 60 per cent think the government's performance isn't satisfactory on this front.

More worrying is that South Africans are increasingly becoming disillusioned with democracy because of the government's anorexic delivery on the promise of a better life for all. While the ANC continues to make this

promise, its delivery remains elusive.

The next few months will be crucial. The ANC will need to take decisive action if it's going to win over sceptical voters.

Echoes of past manifestos
A cursory glance at previous ANC election manifestos shows that very similar promises and plans have been made ahead of previous elections.

In 1999, at the launch of its manifesto, the party urged South Africans to vote for it in return for speedy change and the delivery of services, to ensure a better life for all.

The 2004 manifesto, under the banner of "a people's contract to create work and fight poverty", stressed growing the economy,

creating sustainable livelihoods, accessing basic services, facilitating comprehensive social security as well as fighting crime and corruption.

Similar sentiments were expressed in the ANC's 2009 general election manifesto. The overarching theme of this manifesto was 'working together we can do more'. The party claimed that a

... vote for the ANC is a vote for a better life.

Focus areas were the creation of decent work and sustainable livelihoods, education, health, rural development, food security and land reform as well as the fight against corruption and crime.

By 2014 the promise of a 'better life for all' remained an elusive dream. Corruption, allegations of state capture, and predatory political factionalism undermined trust in the ANC's abilities to deliver on its 2014 promises. As in 2009, economic growth and job creation, rural development and land reform, addressing apartheid legacies, fighting crime and corruption, and delivering quality health and education were key priorities.

Will the electorate buy those golden promises? It's not clear that they will, given the decline in electoral support as well trust in the ruling party.

A time series by Afrobarometer shows both these trends very clearly.

Decline in electoral support and trust

The party's electoral support has shrunk. In 1999 the ANC held an overwhelming majority of 66 per cent. By the 2014 general elections, this fell to 61 per cent.

The Conversation



who are resolutely committed to the academic mission of the university.

The vice-chancellor's role is to keep them together (not always easy) and listen to their counsel.

● A singular ambition. Sitting in the main office, you tend to overreach by wanting to do everything on a long list of goals. Do one or two big things well and you are more likely to make an impact. That ambition may be to dramatically raise the academic standard of a mediocre university or to stabilise the finances of an institution after a near terminal crisis. Choose a few things that resonate with the university community and put all your energy into making those commitments real.

● A short line to your boss. Your nominal boss is the Chair of Council. It is the single most important relationship you should develop. Most universities that fall into crisis do because of a breakdown between

governance (Council) and management (Executive). Meet at least once a fortnight to build the interpersonal relationship, share your agenda and remind each other of the line that must not be crossed—managers do not govern and governors don't manage.

● Invest in your own development. Make sure you build into your contract negotiations with Council the necessary time off to continue your own research and writing especially when your goal is to re-enter academic life at a later stage. A vice-chancellor who

is academically active sets a powerful example to both staff as well as students. Furthermore, taking off regular time to rebuild your energies in a demanding job is the best way in which to continue doing your job well.

The Conversation

Wit and Wisdom

● "Do your thing and don't care if they like it."

- Tina Fey

● "What you do today can improve all your tomorrows."

- Ralph Marston

● "And you ask 'What if I fall?'. Oh, but my darling, 'What if you fly?'."

- Erin Hanson

"Nothing happens to anybody which he is not fitted by nature to bear."

- Marcus Aurelius

● "You don't have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great."

- Zig Ziglar

● "Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experiences of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired and success achieved."

- Helen Keller

● "Don't bend; don't water it down; don't try to make it logical; don't edit your own soul according to the fashion. Rather, follow your most intense obsessions mercilessly."

- Franz Kafka

● "Most of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done."

- Louis D. Brandeis

● "Everything will happen for you all of a sudden and you will be thankful you didn't give up. Blessings are coming. Believe that."

- Jay Shetty

● "Become the best in the world at what you do. Keep redefining what you do until this is true."

- Naval Ravikant

● "Strength grows in the moments you can't go on, but you keep going anyway."

- Unknown

● "I realized that I don't have to be perfect. All I have to do is show up and enjoy the messy, imperfect and beautiful journey of life."

- Unknown

● "Cry a river. Build a bridge. Get over it."

- Unknown

● "I'm not here to be average. I'm here to be awesome."

- Unknown

● "You don't want to look back and know you could've done better."

- Unknown

● "Your potential is endless. Go do what you were created to do."

- Unknown

● "How many success stories do you need to hear before you make your own?"

- Unknown

● "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."

- Arthur Ashe

● "The size of your success is measured by the strength of your desire, the size of your dream and how you handle disappointment along the way."

- Robert Kiyosaki

BUSINESS UPDATE

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	5.2%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E13.30 per litre
Replacement	E13.35 per litre
Diesel	E13.30 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.65 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 15 JAN 2019

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.8966	13.9466
British Pound/SZL	17.8536	17.9178
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.7532	7.7803
Swiss France/SZL	14.1340	14.1776
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3146	1.3305
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.9791	10.0164
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.4580	10.4948
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.9435	16.0009
Gold	1,291.2500	
Oil	58.88	

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Standard Bank

SARFED applauds govt's fiscal adjustment strategy

Stories by Majaha Nkonyane

SOUTHERN African Research Foundation for Economic Development (SARFED) has hailed the government for improving its fiscal challenges from E5 billion to E2.3 billion in three months.

SARFED Regional Coordinator George Choongwa applauded the government having taken a bold stance on improving its fiscal challenges, by having a successful adjustment by half from E5 billion to E2.3 billion within a short period of three months.

"However, it is relevant that government took prudent measures in ensuring that while fiscal improvements manifested, a growth friendly fiscal structure was maintained by ensuring that remedial measures were put in place to cushion disarrays in aggregate demand caused by the labour force," he said.

Growth

Fiscal policy, according to Choongwa, plays an important role in supporting strong, lasting and equitable growth. Many African countries, including South Africa, have faced a decline in their fiscal performance in the past five years due to the collapse of external markets, most of them suffered much slowdowns in economic performance like Eswatini.

Choongwa said restoring robust growth is essential for addressing the fiscal challenges, both present and ahead as it would be the only way to remain sustainable. This has a strong effect on the entire economic performance as it can make an important contribution to lifting potential growth.

"The fact that the improvements in the government of Eswatini's consumption spending seem to have



SARFED Regional Coordinator George Choongwa.

improved, while causing a constraint on the aggregate demand of goods and services as indicated by the zero increase in the wage bill, the government can also find alternative measures of cushioning the impact. This would make what can be termed as establishing a growth-friendly fiscal policy," he said.

In addition, Choongwa said the effectiveness of growth-friendly fiscal policy is enhanced when reforms reinforce each other and are accompanied by complementary structural reforms. Combining fiscal reforms, which include scaling up infrastructure investment, improving the public investment process increases their effectiveness.

Complementary reforms such as liberalising trade, labour and product markets can magnify the impact of fiscal reforms by promoting savings, stimulating investment, and unlocking productivity gains at the same time. Choongwa further noted that while fiscal policy is an effective tool for supporting economic growth, it is also a challenge to disentangle the impact of fiscal reforms from other factors and to determine causality with certainty.

...FISCAL ADJUSTMENT TO AFFECT MICRO AND MACRO LEVELS

THE recently-announced fiscal adjustment by the Prime Minister, Ambrose Dlamini, has been positively received and is set to affect micro and macro levels.

"It is relevant to point out that the positive dimension that government has taken in terms of its fiscal adjustment strategy has wider effects for the country in both short and long term basis on both micro and macro levels of the economy," he said.

The effect on macro level, according to Choongwa, touches on both short and long term macroeconomic stability, which was a prerequisite for achieving and maintaining economic growth, especially in strategic sectors.

On the other hand, it also touches on reduction, which is because in most cases large fiscal deficits reduce increased aggregate savings in the economy.

The adjustment also reduced inflation levels, reduction in interest rates which might in return boost the financial policy at both micro and macro levels; and causes a reduction in the balance of payment pressures, hence improving trade and foreign exchange.

"At micro level, the country can expect a well-designed tax and spending policies which would boost employment, investment, and productivity," he said.

Adding, Choongwa said both long and short term fiscal adjustments play a critical role in lowering the tax wedge and improv-

ing the design of labour taxes and social benefits, which strengthen work incentives and induce a positive labour supply.

This also helps in reforming capital income taxes to tax rents, reducing distortions and encourages private investment well-targeted tax incentives which can stimulate private investment and enhance productivity.

The fiscal adjustment at micro level also promotes efficient public investment, especially in infrastructure, which has the ability to raise the economy's productive capacity.

Adjustment

"We cannot safely state that government's first policy adjustment outcome is ultimate and will maintain a sustained trend in the long run, this is because empirical evidence suggests that the relationship between fiscal adjustment and growth depends on the level of the fiscal deficit a country was faced with," he said.

Choongwa said this was because from the long term perspective, fiscal adjustments have the potential solving the deficit challenge to the extent of reversing below a threshold of around one and a half per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

This would, in essence, bring about higher growth rates, but in the short run, highly responsive sectors, especially the labour force, must have temporary measures to cushion the shock.

Eswatini's headline inflation rate at 5.2 per cent

THE country's headline inflation rate in December, 2018 when compared to December 2017 stood at 5.2 per cent, which is 0.1 index points lower than the corresponding annual rate of 5.3 per cent observed in November 2018.

This is according to the ministry of economic planning and development's central statistical office Consumer Price Index (CPI) report for December 2018.

"The annual percentage change in the CPI in December 2018 compared with that of December 2017 for the country is 5.2 per cent. This annual rate of inflation is 0.1 index

points lower than the corresponding annual rate of 5.3 per cent observed in November 2018," the report said.

The month on month inflation rate which is the percentage change in the CPI in December 2018 compared with that of November 2018 is 0.1 per cent according to the report.

The lower headline inflation is associated to decreasing annual rates of change reflected in December in the price indices for, transport which decreased from 3.5 per cent in November 2018 to 2.4 per cent in December 2018.

The report revealed that operation of personal transport equipment like

lubricants largely contributed to the decreased index in this category. Miscellaneous goods and services decreased from 1.2 per cent in November 2018 to 0.9 per cent in December.

Category

Personal effects, such as jewellery, clocks and watches mainly resulted in the decreased index in this category.

Furthermore the report revealed that the decreasing rates were slightly counteracted by increasing rates of growth in the price indices for, furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance

which increased from 1.7 per cent in November to 2.6 per cent in December.

Household appliances like small electric household appliances and goods and services for routine household maintenance such as non-durable goods largely contributed to the increased index.

"Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased from 0.3 per cent in November 2018 to 0.5 per cent in December 2018. Non-alcoholic beverages, such as coffee, tea and cocoa and food largely contributed to the higher index in this category," the report said.

Public debt at E14.7 billion

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE Recent Economic Development (RED) report by the Central Bank of Eswatini (CBE) for November/December revealed that total public debt stood at E14.7 billion, an equivalent of 23.8 per cent of GDP at the end of December 2018.

"Preliminary figures indicate that total public debt stood at E14.7 billion, an equivalent of 23.8 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at end of December. This reflects a five per cent

increase from the E14.0 billion recorded the previous month," the report said.

At the end of December, according to the report, external debt stood at E5.4 billion, an equivalent of 8.8 per cent of GDP, indicating a marginal increase of 1.9 per cent from the previous month. The increase is mainly attributed to the depreciation of the Lilangeni against the US Dollar and other major currencies in which the country's external liabilities are denominated during the review period.

Domestic debt, on the other hand, was recorded at E9.3 billion at the end of

December, an equivalent of 15 per cent of GDP. This reflects an increase of 6.9 per cent when compared to the E8.7 billion recorded in November 2018.

This increase was due to an improved uptake of T-bills and issuance of CBE advance to government during the review period.

Participation

The report further revealed that while commercial banks continued to dominate participation in government securities on the shorter end of the yield curve, non-bank financial institutions dominate on the longer term securities.

In addition, analysis of data indicates that in the previous month, miscellaneous edibles were E1.343 billion, constituting 56.4 per cent of overall receipts in the month, continuing to be the leading export commodity in the country. Sugar and sugar confectionery exports were E525.4 million, reflecting a month-on-month decline of 9.3 per cent.

These exports, according to the report, accounted for 22.1 per cent of total merchandise exports in the month. Wood and wood articles remained among the top five exports for the country, posting export pro-

ceeds to the value of E95.1 million, decreasing by 33.5 per cent when compared to proceeds for November 2018.

Decrease

"Textiles and textile apparel were E191.7 million, showing a month-on-month decrease of 54 per cent in December.

"Major imports for the month included 'mineral fuels', 'Nuclear reactors, Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances', 'Vehicles other than railway, electrical machinery and equipment and cotton for 36.5 per cent of the import bill,' the report said.

ESEPARC HOSTS PUBLIC LECTURE ON SMES AND INDUSTRIALISATION

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE Eswatini Economic Policy Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC) is hosting a public lecture on the small and medium enterprises (SME) sector and its role in industrialisation.

The lecture, to be presented by Wits Business School Director and Professor of Finance, Dr Paul Alagide, will provide insights on new perspectives on SMEs and industrialisation in Eswatini, as well as options for transforming the SME sector and a new approach to industries of the fifth world based on balance in all spheres of economics.

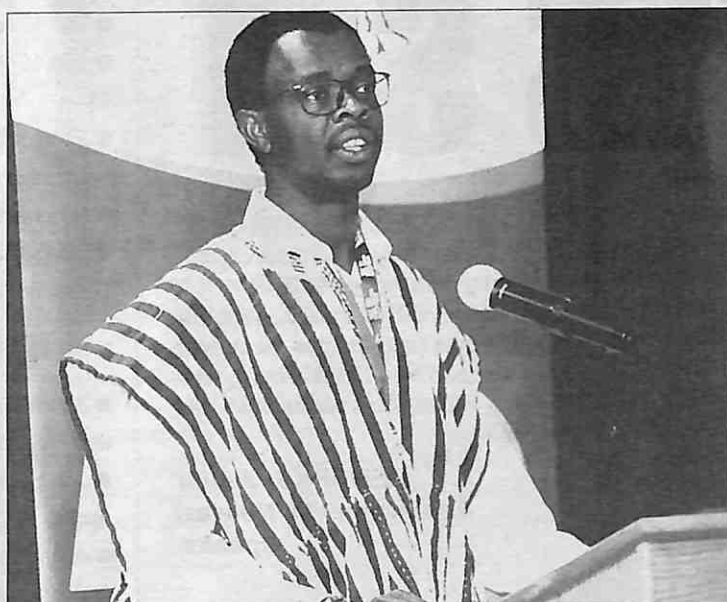
ESEPARC has partnered with the ministry of commerce, industry and trade's SME Unit to host the lecture, which is also receiving support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Eswatini. Also to be presented at the lecture are perspectives - anchored on research conducted by ESEPARC - on entrepreneurship and opportunities available for SMEs in Eswatini. The event, which is also open to SME practitioners and the public, will be held at Happy Valley Hotel tomorrow, starting at 9am.

ESEPARC Executive Director Dr Thula Sizwe Dlamini noted that the SME sector is a significant contributor to economic growth and development, as well as employment. He said SMEs had a crucial role to play in the national economy and, therefore, anchor on the roles of government, the business community, and public at large to harness and optimise the sector's development.

Lecture

Dr Dlamini said the lecture was in line with ESEPARC's mandate to build capacity within the economy, as well as the centre's drive to encourage domestic production and leveraging science, technology and innovation to develop and grow the SME sector, and by extension, the country's economy.

Adding, ESEPARC Research Economist Mangaliso Mohammed stated that reigniting growth in Eswatini was about expanding the



ABOUT PROFESSOR ALAGIDE

Dr Alagide is a Professor of Finance at the Graduate School of Business Administration, University of the Witwatersrand.

He holds a Master's degree in Economics and Finance (with distinction), and a PhD in Economics from Loughborough University, UK. The professor has a rich background in economics and finance and has held a number of visiting and permanent positions in academia. Among these are visiting professorships at the University of Greenwich, UK; the University of Cape Town; and the African Economic Research Consortium, Kenya. He has also been a visiting Scholar at the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research in Finland. He has worked as a full time

Lecturer in Economics at the University of Stirling (UK) and as an Associate Professor in Economics at Rhodes University.

He has published widely in leading peer reviewed journals, including the Review of Financial Economics, the Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance, International Journal of Economics and Business, Journal of Emerging Markets Finance and International Review of Financial Analysis. In addition to being the founding Editor-in-Chief of the accredited African Review of Economics and Finance (AREF) journal, he is also the Executive Director of the think tank, the African Finance and Economics Consult (AFEC), and an NRF-rated young researcher.

economic base - which is essentially the people who are actively engaged in economic activities by ensuring that Emaswati produce goods and services that can be flooded into the market.

He noted that Eswatini has a youthful population, so it is important to engage them in the economy as they are the future, particularly in the SME sector. Also, he emphasised that the private sector needs to play a huge role in turning the economy around instead of looking towards government for business.

"Currently, we are happy to be middlemen; we go into retail and import goods we have not produced yet the money (or value creation)

is in the production of these goods. We need a new stock of entrepreneurs to produce goods and services in Eswatini; we need to support local value chains that focus on goods made in Eswatini, so that we can increase the number of times our currency circulates within our economy before it leaves to other countries," he said, adding that the lecture will provide more insights into such issues and more.

Synopsis

Giving a synopsis of his lecture, Professor Alagide noted that although SMEs continue to dominate economic activity, they have not been sufficiently liberated to make a meaningful contribution to

job creation and closing the wide income and standard of living gaps.

"Eswatini, like many African countries is naturally endowed with rich arable land, a good climate, and a very sophisticated and diverse culture. Yet, like many economies on the continent, the rich endowments have failed to live up to the standard required of true Ubuntu, with significant inequalities in the midst of plenty, fettered growth, and fundamental distortions above and below and below and above," he said.

Economy

Adding, the professor said the National Development Strategy (NDS) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 8 and 9 seek to lift Eswatini's economy from its current state of lower middle income to a new trajectory of wealth and health.

He noted that the lecture will take the NDS and SDGs 8 and 9 as signposts, to present new perspectives on SMEs and industrialisation in Eswatini.

"While the United Nations' goals appear laudable on paper, a different strategy is required to transform them from mere proclamations to actual manifestations. We argue for a return to the land (and all its facets such as value creation) as a starting point for any serious transformative SME sector as well as a new approach to industries of the fifth world based on balance in all spheres of economics, that is, production, distribution, exchange, and consumption," he said.

"Eswatini, like many African countries is naturally endowed with rich arable land, a good climate, and a very sophisticated and diverse culture"

OK Foods not building new stores

By Mhlengi Magongo

OK Foods Director Lincoln Motsa has said they are not planning to open more stores this year.

The supermarket commissioned a total of eight stores last year and the director said their main focus this year will be to upgrade them.

In an interview with this publication, Motsa said they intend to upgrade the stores which they currently have. He revealed that there will be an addition of new features, as well as other improvements.

"This year we will be upgrading the stores that we have and also make sure those new developed features are also added to improve the work environment," he said.

The director also revealed that they will only be identifying sites to build more stores this year. He said they were planning to resume construction of more stores in 2020 after they have located the right sites to build them.

He said their main focus this year will be to identify sites will have a lot of consumers. The director attested to the fact that survival of a supermarket depends on the number of customers it has.

"We are not building anything new but we will be identifying new sites this year. We are planning to resume constructions in 2020 after we have carefully identified all the right places," he said.

Ok Foods Supermarket has increase chances of employment in the country, as the supermarket has employed more than 500 people to date.



OK Foods Director Lincoln Motsa.



FOLLOWING: Teachers following proceedings during the JA training yesterday.

JA KEY DATES SET

By Mhlengi Magongo

JUNIOR Achievement (JA) has set dates for their activities this year, which will be used by participating schools in their programme.

The organisation is currently training teachers who administer and assist the pupils in the In-School programme.

The week-long training commenced on Monday at the Institute of Development Management (IDM).

Notable in yesterday training was the issue of time. A representative of JA said teachers, as well as pupils should monitor how they use time. She related that many people fail to meet deadlines because of time.

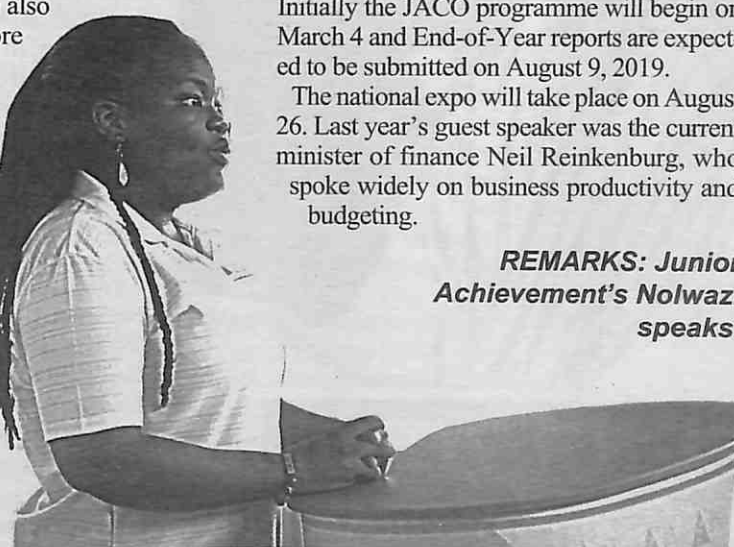
The representative also highlighted that more teachers should be involved in the program. She said if more teachers facilitate the pupils' JA programme, the results will improve.

According to the dates which have been set by the organisation, the head teachers' forum will take place on February 4, followed by schools presentations two days after.

Initially the JACO programme will begin on March 4 and End-of-Year reports are expected to be submitted on August 9, 2019.

The national expo will take place on August 26. Last year's guest speaker was the current minister of finance Neil Reinkenburg, who spoke widely on business productivity and budgeting.

REMARKS: Junior Achievement's Nolwazi speaks.



THE KEY DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Refresher TOT – January 14 - 15
- Head teachers' Forum – February 4
- Presentations – February 6 – February 20
- Start of Material Deliveries – February 25 – March 1
- Start of JACO Programme – March 4
- Week Three Submissions – April 19
- Business plan submission (deadline) – May 17
- Week Six Submissions – June 28
- Facilitators refresher training – June 12
- M&E Visits – May 13 – May 31/June 26 – July 10
- Week 9 Submissions – July 31
- End-of-Year Reports Submission Deadline – August 9
- Preliminary Judges' Orientation and Judging – August 21
- Week 15 Submissions – August
- Top 10 Announcement – August 26
- Top 10 Pupils' Orientation – September 12
- Final Judges' Orientation with top 10 – September 6
- National Expo – September 26
- *Regional Competition – First Week of December 2019

JOB SHADOW KEY DATES

- Submission of Job Shadow Application and Parent Consent Forms - March 29
- Job Shadow trainings (First term) – 1-5 April 1 – 5
- Attachments – April 22 – May 10
- Job Shadow trainings (second term) – August 1 – 7
- Attachments – August 12 – September 6

Vodacom's compensation claim labelled as 'lie'

JOHANNESBURG – Vodacom was at the centre of a social media storm on Monday after it said that it had reached a reasonable settlement amount for former employee Nkosana Makate for inventing the Please Call Me product.

Makate has been battling to get the telecoms company to compensate him for the Please Call Me product, which was commercialised in 2000, despite winning a Constitutional Court order three years ago.

Commenting on the Please Call Me matter, Communications Minister Stella Ndabeni-Abrahams told Vodacom on Twitter to 'just shut up'.

Her comments followed Gauteng Education MEC Panyaza Lesufi's Twitter comment that people must stand by 'Nkosana 'Please Call Me' Makate' against 'this bully called Vodacom'.

Settlement

The company said last Saturday that Chief Executive Shameel Joosub had reached a settlement amount with Makate's lawyers on a 'reasonable compensation' for the Please Call Me product. It said Joosub received oral



and written representations from both parties after the negotiations between the two parties had deadlocked. Oral hearings were held on October 4 and 5, 2018.

"The group chief executive has met with the legal representatives of Mr

Makate and Vodacom to convey his decision and determination. In the spirit of the confidentiality agreement both parties signed as part of the negotiating process, Vodacom will not disclose the amount set by the group chief executive as reasonable compensa-

tion. Vodacom considers the matter as finally settled and closed," the company said.

"Vodacom can confirm that Makate's funds will be transferred as soon as we have the banking account details," the company said. Makate said he had

not agreed on a settlement with Vodacom. He told SAFM it was a lie.

"My legal representatives went to Vodacom last week on Wednesday as called by the chief executive, and they were given an envelope that contains the ruling or determination from the chief executive, with the determination. There is no agreement in any way with Vodacom," said Makate.

Requesting

He also said Joosub should have outlined that he wanted banking details. "We don't have a letter requesting banking details. Why would you go to the media to ask for details?" He also accused the company of lying.

"It is just PR, because of the statement they released. Vodacom has been running the ticket of reasonable compensation," he said. The Constitutional Court ruled in April 2016 that the two parties should reach a consensus and negotiate how much Makate should be compensated.

Makate previously stated that Vodacom must pay him 15 cents from each Rand of revenue that Please Call Me generated, which could exceed R10 billion. Vodacom previously offered Makate R10 million, claiming it was not able to calculate the revenue derived from the use of Please Call Me.

Business Report

SA SLAMMED WITH RED MEAT BANS

...over foot-and-mouth disease

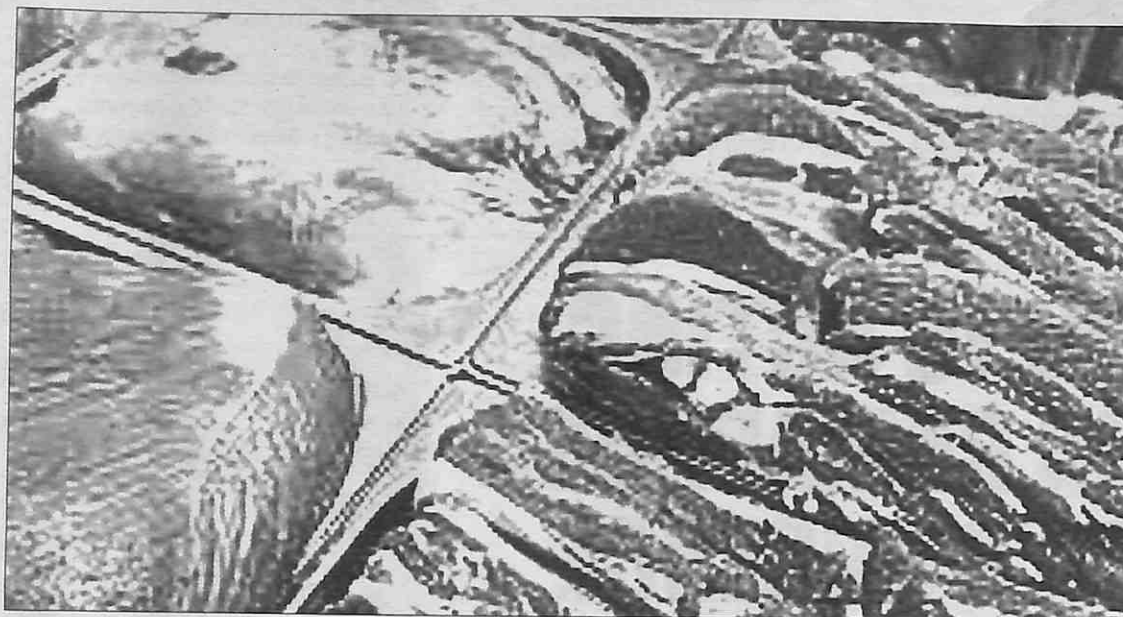
JOHANNESBURG - Countries neighbouring South Africa have banned the import of cloven-hoofed animals and their products over a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak in the northern Limpopo province, government said on Monday.

On Monday, Agriculture Minister Senzeni Zokwana confirmed the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), first identified a week ago in Vhembe district near the border with Zimbabwe.

The outbreak prompted the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) to lift the FMD-free status that the country has enjoyed since 2014, allowing it to boost red meat exports.

Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and eSwatini are among the countries that have outlawed imports of South African red meat over the past week.

"These bans have caused serious loss to the industry," the agriculture ministry said in a statement. "The



impact this has had to trade in the past week has been devastating to say the least."

Infected

The highly contagious viral disease, which causes lesions and lameness, has so far infected about 50 heads of cattle and the affected area has been placed under quarantine.

South Africa is a net exporter of chilled and frozen beef.

It produces around US\$145 million worth of exports in red meats annually, with agriculture being one of the highest contributors to GDP.

While the disease does not affect human beings, "the movement of such animals and their products,

originating from South Africa, is banned," Botswana's director of veterinary services said.

Agricultural economist Wandile Sihlobo cited Mozambique, Swaziland, Namibia, Lesotho, Mauritius and Angola among the key beef export markets.

News24

WHATSAPP UNDER FIRE

...after failing to delete chat history on recycled phone

CAPE TOWN - A security issue has reportedly been spotted on WhatsApp that could provide full access to your conversations when creating a new account for a new phone number.

According to a report by Softpedia News, an Amazon employee named Abby Fuller claimed that she gained access to another user's WhatsApp archive on her new phone because WhatsApp had failed to remove the chat history linked to the specific phone number.

The report stated that Fuller added

that the messages were in plain-text, and were not restored by a backup.

Fuller took to Twitter to announce the issue saying: "Logged into WhatsApp with a new phone number today and the message history from the previous number's owner was right there?! this doesn't seem right."

Fuller received backlash for her complaint and posts as many users started to describe the rules and regulations to her.

In response, she tweeted: "My

replies are full of people explaining WhatsApp to me. Guys, I get it (so pls stop explaining permissions and backups or 'maybe you did x wrong')!

My point is that this is not (or should not be) the correct behaviour. No one

should ever get someone else's messages."

According to WhatsApp's own support documents, the message history associated with a specific phone number is completely removed after 45 days of inactivity.

Still

However, Fuller claims that she had the number for longer than 45 days yet the person's WhatsApp history was still not deleted.

WhatsApp has yet to release an official statement or comment on the matter. *Business Report Online*



RESOLUTIONS TO HELP YOUR BUSINESS ROCK

CAPE TOWN - New Year's resolutions are a tradition to either start something good or stop a bad habit as a means to better your life in the coming year.

In this sense, entrepreneurs should take this opportunity to not only improve their personal lives, but examine and implement ways to improve their businesses this year.

Whether 2018 was your best year of business yet or one you'd rather forget, any successful entrepreneur will know that there is always space

for improvement and business growth. Here are five resolutions for small and medium enterprise owners to consider for 2019:

A business plan is your business road map and can be used to check whether the business is on track and where it is headed. It is not just a resource written for an investor then left in a drawer to gather dust - it should be regularly revisited to ensure that you are able to achieve your targets going forward and that the plan is still effective.

A new year is also a great opportunity to update the plan where necessary and re-share so everyone is on the same page.

Cash flow is the lifeblood of any business and effective management of this will allow more flexibility when there is a need to address any dilemmas during the year, such as late payments or unplanned expenditure. Regularly updating a budget and a cash flow statement will enable you to keep an eye on where money is spent, and allow

you to cut back where necessary.

A new year provides the opportunity to establish new and beneficial partnerships, and cement any present valued partnerships.

Building relationships with the right individuals and businesses is key to success in any business, due to the long-lasting and powerful effect a favourable relationship can bring. To meet this goal, consider attending more networking events and being more social on social media. *Business Report*

No currency, just a currency crisis

Zimbabwe's woes deepen

HARARE - Not having a currency of its own hasn't stopped Zimbabwe from sliding into a currency crisis.

A scarcity of foreign exchange has led to long queues for petrol, bread and medicine and sent prices surging across the southern African country.

Police clashed with protesters in the capital, Harare, on Monday as the main trade-union group started a strike after the government more than doubled petrol prices to US\$3.31 a litre over the weekend, the highest in the world, according to *GlobalPetrolPrices.com*

The roots of the pain lie in Zimbabwe's decision to scrap its own currency, the Zimbabwe dollar, a decade ago, and to adopt a basket of foreign units of which the greenback is the most widely used.

The central bank then started printing quasi-greenbacks to fund rampant government spending.

The result is a convoluted system of exchange rates, with consumers charged different prices depending on whether they pay in real dollars, electronic money or so-called bond notes - even though the government insists all three have the same value. It undermined that argument by saying that foreigners could still pay the old price for petrol of US\$1.32 a litre if they used cash dollars.

Situation

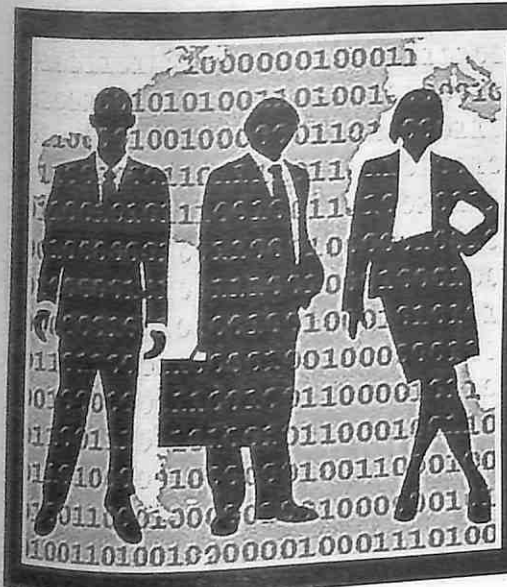
"There is a system of smoke and mirrors going on," said Stephen Bailey-Smith, senior economist at Danish money manager Global Evolution Funds, which invests across Africa. "It makes it extremely difficult to understand the real situation with the economy."

The crisis is a major headache for President Emmerson Mnangagwa, a 76-year-old former spy chief who promised better times for Zimbabweans when he won elections in July, taking over from long-standing ruler Robert Mugabe, under whom the economy began its descent.

Both were members of the same party when Mugabe was ousted by the military in late 2017.

Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube said on January 12 he'd introduce a new currency within a year. But he gave few details, beyond that the central bank was building reserves, which currently cover barely two weeks of imports. He's also trying to restructure billions of dollars of defaulted multilateral debts so that Zimbabwe can obtain new international loans.

Fin24



Focus on SA scene

#StateCaptureInquiry now set to resume today

JOHANNESBURG - The hearings of the judicial commission of inquiry into allegations of state capture, headed by Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo, will resume today, after a month-long hiatus, but will not hear any oral evidence. The inquiry was expected to resume

yesterday, but on Monday afternoon the commission said it would resume a day later.

"The public and the media are hereby notified that the application that was to be heard by the commission tomorrow morning (Tuesday January 15 2019) will now be heard on

Wednesday, January 16 2019, before the hearing of oral evidence," the short statement read.

The inquiry, which is investigating allegations of corruption and fraud in the public sector including organs of state, will deal with a procedural application on some of the upcoming evidence.

ing evidence.

For the rest of the week, the commission will hear oral evidence but the witness list has not yet been released.

In December, some of the witnesses who meant to testify became unavailable while others asked for a

postponement.

The so-called Zondo Commission has heard explosive testimonies from various witnesses, including former mineral resources minister Ngoako Ramatlhodi, head of government communications Phumla Williams and government spin doctor-turned-politician Mzwanele Manyi, among many others.

ANA

JEFF RADEBE IS ACTING PRESIDENT IN RAMAPHOSA AND MABUZA'S ABSENCE

PRETORIA - Energy Minister Jeff Radebe is Acting President of South Africa, in the absence of President Cyril Ramaphosa and his Deputy David Mabuza, who are on separate working visits, the Presidency said on Monday.

"The Minister of Energy Jeff Radebe, has been appointed the acting president of the Republic of South Africa until President Cyril Ramaphosa returns from his working visit to the Republic of Mozambique," Ramaphosa's spokesperson Khusela Diko said in a statement.

"President Ramaphosa has arrived in Maputo, in the Republic of

Mozambique, where he will meet his counterpart, President Filipe Nyusi, to discuss bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual concern. The President, who is accompanied by the ministers of defence, police and state security, is expected (to head back) to South Africa this afternoon (on Monday)."

Special

Mabuza has travelled to Ethiopia, in his capacity as Special Envoy to South Sudan, 'to strengthen the ongoing political efforts towards finding lasting peace and development for the people of South Sudan'.

Last month, Mabuza held various

bilateral political consultations with heads of state and governments from the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) on the implementation of a peace agreement for South Sudan. The Presidency said Mabuza had visited Uganda, Kenya and Sudan 'where all leaders and other relevant stakeholders have expressed urgent need for a full implementation of the peace agreement'. ANA



Gigaba, Mbalula's threats to sue public protector come to nothing

JOHANNESBURG - Former ministers Malusi Gigaba and Fikile Mbalula both threatened legal challenges to the public protector's damaging findings against them last year - but, at least for now, it appears they have not followed through.

The public protector's office on Monday afternoon confirmed that Advocate Busisiwe Mkhwebane had not been served with court papers by either of the former ministers.

"The public protector has not received any court papers from the two former ministers relating to their public announcements that they will take her reports on judicial review," her spokesperson, Oupa Segalwe, told TimesLIVE.

In October last year, Mkhwebane found that Gigaba had not only violated the executive ethics code, but also the country's constitution for "deliberately telling untruths under oath".

Her findings came after the North Gauteng High Court in Pretoria ruled in 2017 that Gigaba had lied under oath and violated the constitution in his conduct during a court battle over Fireblade Aviation, a company owned by the wealthy Oppenheimer family.

The application concerned the approval, allegedly granted by Gigaba during his first stint as home affairs minister, for Fireblade to operate a VIP terminal at OR Tambo International Airport.

It was alleged that Gigaba revoked the approval he originally granted under pressure from the Guptas.

Gigaba, who has denied wrongdoing, resigned weeks after the release of Mkhwebane's Fireblade report, after failing to persuade the Constitutional Court to hear his case. He could have sought to review the report in the High Court, but has seemingly chosen not to do so.

Times Live

Solly Msimanga accused of lying about ECG church safety compliance

PRETORIA - Tshwane Mayor Solly Msimanga deliberately lied in the aftermath of the Pretoria church stampede when he said the premises of the Shepherd Bushiri-led Enlightened Christian Gathering (ECG) church was non-compliant with fire and emergency by-laws, the African National Congress' Youth League (ANCYL) in Tshwane said on Monday.

"We wish to remind Mr Msimanga as we have done numerous times before, that indeed lies have short legs. Mr Msimanga lied to the people of Tshwane and South Africa in a press statement that the building used by the ECG church is non-compliant with regulations. We have proof in the form of a (compliance) certificate that was handed over to the church by City of Tshwane officials," said ANCYL Tshwane Regional Chairperson Lesego Makhubela.

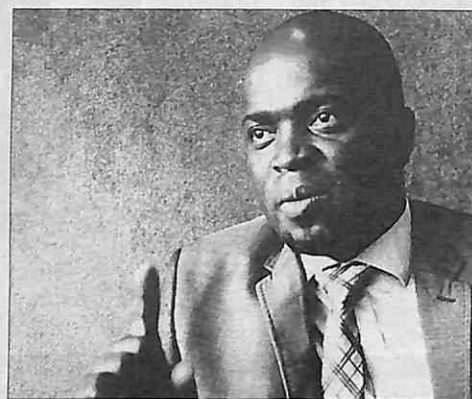
"The certificate gave the church permission to host an event on the 31 of December. The ANC Youth League is disgusted by these lies and views this as opportunistic, senseless and insensitive to the families that lost their loved ones during a stampede at that church in December."

The South African Police Service (SAPS) is investigating circumstances around the death of three female congregants at the ECG on December 28, during a reported stampede.

A case of defeating the ends of justice has been opened, relating to the removal of the bodies from the church premises.

Makhubela said Msimanga should take the blame for the lack of police officers at the venue where thousands of people gather on several days every week.

"We are further convinced that Mr Msimanga



used this lies to shield a relative whom he has employed as the chief of Tshwane Metro Police (Johanna Nkomo). ANA

Mantashe isn't welcome in Xolobeni, committee denies inviting him

JOHANNESBURG - The Amadiba Crisis Committee (ACC) action group yesterday contradicted the statement by Mineral Resources Minister Gwede Mantashe that he would be visiting the volatile Xolobeni community in the Eastern Cape once again on the invitation of the ACC.

This comes as the situation continues to escalate in Xolobeni ahead of Mantashe's planned visit today to the village to engage the community on mining and economic development prospects in the area.

In a statement on Monday, the department of mineral resources said that during his last meeting with the ACC

in November 2018, the ACC had requested Mantashe to come back and meet with the broader community in Xolobeni.

But the ACC said the department had falsely claimed it had asked Mantashe to come back and meet with the broader community in Xolobeni during that meeting at Wild Coast

Sun.

The ACC said in a statement: "At Wild Coast Sun in November, our induna Mr Mashona Wetu and the 18-person-strong delegation repeated one message: Any discussion about our land takes place at the Great Place (Komkhulu) of Umgungundlovu, and nowhere else. ANA

FOCUS ON ZIMBABWEAN PROTESTS

MNANGAGWA DEFENDS FUEL PRICE HIKE AS DEADLY PROTESTS RAGE ON

Harare - Several people were killed and some 200 arrested during protests in Zimbabwe on Monday, the government said, two days after it raised the price of fuel in an attempt to tame the worst economic crisis in a decade.

Police fired tear gas in the capital Harare and second city Bulawayo where protesters barricaded roads, burned tyres and chanted songs against President Emmerson Mnangagwa, who put up fuel prices in the hope of easing a currency shortage.

Security minister Owen Ncube said some people died at the protests, but

gave no further details. He blamed the unrest on the main opposition party and political rights groups. "Regrettably, this has resulted in the loss of life and property, including injury to police officers and members of the public. Full investigations are underway," Ncube said in a statement.

The Human Rights Forum, a collective of local groups, said it had received reports that five people had sustained gunshot wounds. The opposition Movement for Democratic Change said its Harare headquarters was torched late on Monday but the fire had been put

out. It did not say who was behind the attack.

The authorities are keen to avoid a repeat of post-election violence in August in which six people were killed after the army intervened.

Riot police patrolled downtown Harare as army helicopters circled above. Businesses closed early and schools called parents to pick their children, fearing violence.

The main labour union called for a three-day stay-at-home strike starting Monday and central Harare was deserted by 4 pm. Commuters walked home

from the city centre because there was no public transport.

"I am stranded in town now and I have no idea how I am going to go home," resident Leeroy Kabanga told Reuters.

Airline Fastjet cancelled its remaining flights to and from Zimbabwe on Monday due to the unrest.

Mnangagwa defended his fuel policy, saying prices in Zimbabwe were the lowest in the region.

Reuters

Zimbabwean military deployed to areas hit by fuel protests

HARARE - Zimbabwean soldiers on Monday were deployed to some areas of the capital where police were clashing with protesters over fuel hikes. Several people, including a bystander, were injured by gunfire.

An Associated Press journalist saw three military trucks with soldiers headed for Chitungwiza,

a large suburb southeast of Harare, the capital. Clashes between police and protesters have occurred in Chitungwiza.

The deployment of the military came one month after an official report said police and soldiers used "unjustified and disproportionate" force to kill six people during election

protests in 2018.

The report also said opposition leaders had incited violence ahead of the deployment of soldiers in Harare last year.

AP



STANDSTILL: Commuters were stranded in Zimbabwe as protesters burned tyres and used rocks to barricade roads in reaction to the fuel price hike.

Cross-border buses to Zim suspend service as unrest deepens

PRETORIA - The International Cross-Border Traders Association (ICTA) on Monday said it had withdrawn all buses travelling to different parts of Zimbabwe from neighbouring countries as protests spread in the country.

"As the International Cross-Border Traders Association we have withdrawn all buses. There will be no loading of buses till further notice," ICTA President Denis Juru told African News Agency (ANA)

in Pretoria. On Monday, the military and police were engaged in running battles with protesters in different parts of the small Southern African country.

The country's main cities -- Harare and Bulawayo -- were the worst affected, as angry protesters reacted to the weekend more than doubling of fuel prices by looting several businesses, burning tyres and barricading major roads.

Over the weekend, Zimbabwe's President

Emmerson Mnangagwa announced a more than 100 per cent rise in the price of petrol and diesel, a move he said would improve supplies, but a decision which attracted harsh criticism from the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU), civil society and rights groups. Earlier, ICTA issued a warning, advising its members and travellers in and around Zimbabwe "to avoid Zimbabwean borders and unnecessary movements". ANA

Mugabe-aligned party calls for Mnangagwa's resignation

HARARE - Zimbabwe's National Patriotic Front (NPF), which former Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe and his wife have voiced support for, has called on President Emmerson Mnangagwa to resign as protests over petrol prices continue.

Several people have been killed during clashes between demonstrators and security forces.

The political party said yesterday in a press release: "NPF wishes to register disquiet over reports of loss of life in Harare, Chitungwiza, and other parts of the country in the ongoing

demonstrations against the debilitating economic decay bedeviling our country."

"We hereby call on President Emmerson Mnangagwa and his government to resign en masse and pave way for a broad-based platform for different social groupings in the country, including, but not limited to, political parties, civic organisations and the church to negotiate for modalities to institute a democratic transitional government tasked with returning the country to constitutionalism and prosperity." ANA



WOUNDED: A woman with a wounded leg during clashes between protesters and police, is transported in a wheelbarrow, during protests over fuel hikes in Harare, Zimbabwe

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- 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 Mk1 1990-2001.....E899.00
- Almera / Sunny / Primera.....E999.00
- Mazda 6 2003-2014.....E1450.00

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.....E1150.00
- New Ford Ranger - 2018.....E1399.000

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

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

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Africa News

GABON PRESIDENT HOME FROM MEDICAL LEAVE ONE WEEK AFTER ATTEMPTED COUP

LIBREVILLE - President Ali Bongo returned to Gabon on Monday after a three-month medical leave during which a coup attempt was thwarted, two government sources told Reuters.

His return comes a week after a small military group took over the state radio station. The move to grab power was quickly halted but exposed growing frustration in the oil-producing country over Bongo's secretive absence.

Bongo suffered the stroke during a conference in Saudi Arabia in October and was flown to Morocco

● *Bongo suffered the stroke during a conference in Saudi Arabia in October and was flown to Morocco in November for treatment.*

in November for treatment.

He has appeared in closely choreographed television clips in recent weeks, including a New Year's address in which he slurred his speech and appeared unable to move his right arm. It is not clear if he can walk.

Bongo appointed a new government on Saturday in an apparent effort to shore up his political base,

including the nomination of Julien Nkoghe Bekale as Prime Minister.

The new government will be sworn in in Bongo's presence on Tuesday, the two sources said. The media will not be allowed to attend.

The Bongo family has ruled Gabon for over 50 years. Ali Bongo took over upon his father Omar's death in 2009. Ali Bongo won re-election

in 2016 by fewer than 6 000 votes amid widespread accusations of fraud, sparking deadly clashes between protesters and police during which the Parliament was torched.

Reuters



Petition to challenge court over Uganda presidential age limit

KAMPALA - Uganda's Supreme Court yesterday began hearing a petition to challenge a Constitutional Court decision removing an age limit cap of 75 for presidential candidates.

Critics of the decision argue it would allow President Yoweri Museveni, 74, to seek re-election for a sixth term in 2021.

A Bill removing the limit was signed into law in December 2017 after a chaotic passage through Parliament that saw MPs engaging in fisticuffs. The Constitutional Court upheld the amendment in a ruling in July 2018.

Opposition lawmaker Winnie Kiiza and activist Kassim Male Mabirizi of the Uganda Law Society filed the

petition challenging the Constitutional Court decision.

They want the court to decide whether the amendment violated the Constitution as it "was rushed through Parliament amidst violence and chaos, where members of the opposition were either arrested or beaten by police and army", Kiiza's lawyer Ladislaus Rwakafuzi told AFP.

"The other element of our appeal is for the court to decide whether the president, who was elected before the constitutional amendment lifting the age limit cap of 75 years, should remain in office after clocking 75 years," he added.

Having seized power at the head of a rebel army in 1986, Museveni is the only president most Ugandans have known in a country where the median age is less than 16.

In 2005, Museveni scrapped a two-term presidential limit which has allowed him to keep running for office.

Young Ugandans have recently been energised by pop star-turned-MP Bobi Wine, who spearheaded protests against the age-limit amendment and has rapidly become a thorn in the government's side.

AFP

Nigeria Chief Justice forced from office, faces trial

ABUJA - Nigeria's Chief Justice is scheduled to be arraigned at the Code of Conduct Tribunal in Abuja on charges of failing to declare his assets and for holding foreign bank accounts.

The federal government ordered Justice Walter Samuel Nkanu Onnoghen to immediately vacate his office as head of the country's judiciary on Saturday.

The Chief Justice has a key role in resolving election disputes and Nigeria will vote for a new pres-

ident in February. This is the first time a Nigerian Chief Justice is standing trial.

On Monday a team of 94 lawyers arrived at the tribunal to defend Onnoghen, whose appointment had suffered unprecedented delay by President Muhammadu Buhari.

The Coalition of Niger Delta Agitators argues that Onnoghen is being wrongly prosecuted and threatened to resume attacks on oil wells.

AFP

BRIEFS

MDC headquarters burns in Zim rage

HARARE - Four people were feared dead on Monday while more than 20 people were treated for gunshot wounds as violent protests swept through Zimbabwe after government increased the price of fuel.

News broke on Monday that the headquarters of the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) were attacked by people using petrol bombs. In a Zanu-PF-led government statement, they blamed the protests on the MDC and civil society.

The opposition has steadfastly refused to accept the result of last year's elections.

ANA

Boko Haram attacks military base

LAGOS - Boko Haram fighters attacked a military base in remote northeast Nigeria, setting fire to shelters for those made homeless by the conflict, military and humanitarian sources told AFP yesterday. The attack in Rann, some 175 kilometres northeast of the Borno state capital, Maiduguri, began late on Monday afternoon and forced civilians to flee. It followed a pattern by the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) faction of Boko Haram that has called into question government claims the group is virtually defeated.

AFP

Fayulu says country's ruling party is desperate

KINSHASA - Democratic republic of Congo's presidential runner-up Martin Fayulu, who is challenging his election loss in court, says the government deployed armed soldiers around his headquarters because of the ruling party's "desperation." Fayulu is legally challenging his defeat, saying that he won 61 per cent of the vote, citing figures compiled by the Catholic Church's 40 000 election observers across the vast Central African country. Those figures say that election winner Felix Tshiedeki only received 18 per cent of the vote.

AP

Minister blames MDC for chaos

BULAWAYO - The Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), Zimbabwe's main opposition party, has been blamed for the violent protests which erupted in Harare and Bulawayo on Monday, as citizens protested over fuel hikes. Owen Ncube, the minister of state for national security, said the protests were "well-orchestrated", given the widespread scenes of looting, burning of tyres and barricades across roads in both cities. "The prevailing security situation in the country is a culmination of a well-orchestrated series of events by the MDC Alliance, working in cahoots with NGOs, civic society, youth organisations, pressure groups and individuals," said Ncube in a statement late on Monday night. Reuters

World News

US TELLS SAUDIS TO HOLD KHASHOGGI KILLERS 'ACCOUNTABLE'

WASHINGTON - US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he told the king and crown prince of Saudi Arabia on Monday that the Trump administration expects the kingdom to hold accountable "every single person" responsible for the slaying of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who was killed inside one of the country's consulates after writing columns critical of the government.

In talks with Saudi King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who has been accused by some of complicity in the murder, Pompeo said he had been clear about the administration's expectations.

At the end of a trip to Riyadh

that also focused on Mideast crises and countering threats from Iran, Pompeo said he had raised the Khashoggi case in his meetings with the king and crown prince along with other human rights issues, including the fate of women's rights activists detained in the kingdom.

"We spoke about the accountability and the expectations that we have. The Saudis are friends and when friends have conversations you tell them what your expectations are," the secretary said. "Our expectations have been clear from early on: Every single person who has responsibility for the murder of Jamal Khashoggi needs to be held accountable."

He said the Saudis understood

and had reiterated pledges to pursue the case wherever it leads. He would not comment on US intelligence that has suggested the crown prince may have ordered the killing. The relationship between Riyadh and Washington remains tense following the killing of Khashoggi, who lived in Virginia and wrote columns for The Washington Post, at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul in October.

Saudi Arabia has charged 11 people in the death, including several officials close to the crown prince but US lawmakers have been critical of its response, demanding that America withdraw its support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen in response.

AFP



CONFIRMS: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Chinese court sentences Canadian to death as diplomatic row deepens

BEIJING/OTTAWA - A Chinese court on Monday sentenced a Canadian man to be executed for drug smuggling, prompting Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to accuse China of using the death penalty arbitrarily.

The ruling, and Trudeau's reaction, could aggravate already sour relations between Beijing and Ottawa following the arrest of a senior Chinese executive in Canada and China's subsequent detention of two Canadians.

The Dalian Intermediate People's Court in China's northeast province of Liaoning re-tried Robert Lloyd Schellenberg, who had appealed his original 15-year prison sentence, and decided on execution, the court said in a statement.

Schellenberg was told in court he had the right to appeal to Liaoning High Court within 10 days upon receiving the ruling, the intermediate court said in a second statement.

"It is of extreme concern to us as a government, as it should be to all our international friends and allies, that China has chosen to begin to arbitrarily apply (the) death penalty ... as in this case," Trudeau told reporters in Ottawa.

Schellenberg's aunt, Lauri Nelson-Jones, said the family's worst fears had been confirmed.

"It is rather unimaginable what he must be feeling and thinking. It is a horrific, unfortunate, heartbreaking situation," she told the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

China-Canada ties turned icy in early December after Meng Wanzhou, chief financial officer of Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei Technologies Co Ltd, was arrested in Vancouver on a US extradition warrant.

China denounced her arrest, warning of unspecified consequences unless Meng was released, and detained Michael Kovrig, a Canadian diplomat on unpaid leave from the embassy in Beijing, and Michael Spavor, a Canadian consultant, on suspicion of endangering state security.

Reuters

Trump uses one of the worst massacres to mock Elizabeth Warren

WASHINGTON - One hundred years after US soldiers killed and maimed hundreds of Sioux men, women and children at the Wounded Knee massacre, Congress formally apologised in 1990 by expressing its "deep regret on behalf of the United States."

On Sunday night, President Donald Trump used that same massacre as a punchline in his latest broadside against Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., the Democratic presidential hopeful whom he regularly calls "Pocahontas" in jeering reference to her claims of American Indian heritage.

Critics found that message jarring, even from a president who has repeatedly ignored calls from

● *Trump's tweet came amid another extraordinary late-night Twitter barrage as the president - battered by public blame for the ongoing government shutdown and new bombshells about his links to Russia - also lashed out at Post owner Jeff Bezos and quoted from a racially charged immigration column by Pat Buchanan.*

politicians on both sides of the aisle, historians and Native American groups to stop calling Warren "Pocahontas."

Tweeted

"+300 of my people were massacred at Wounded Knee. Most were women and children," tweeted Ruth H. Hopkins, a Dakota/Lakota Sioux writer who has contributed at Teen Vogue, the Guardian and elsewhere. "This isn't funny, it's cold, callous, and just plain racist."

Trump's tweet came amid another

extraordinary late-night Twitter barrage as the president - battered by public blame for the ongoing government shutdown and new bombshells about his links to Russia - also lashed out at Post owner Jeff Bezos and quoted from a racially charged immigration column by Pat Buchanan.

Race

His attack on Warren, who officially jumped into the 2020 presidential race last month, drew perhaps the biggest reaction online thanks to its invocation of a particularly

disgraceful chapter of American history.

In late 1890, 470 US soldiers intercepted a group of Chief Big Foot's Sioux, who had been heading south across the plains toward a refuge, according to an account by Mark Hirsch, a historian at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. The soldiers led the Sioux, who had 106 warriors and roughly 250 women and children, to a camp at Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota.

The Washington Post

BRIEFS

Trump says 'never worked for Russia'

WASHINGTON - "I never worked for Russia and you know that answer better than anybody," Trump told reporters at the White House. "It's a disgrace that you even ask that question. It's all a big fat hoax." Trump's angry comments followed a New York Times report that the FBI investigated suspicions that Trump might be acting on Russia's behalf after he sacked the bureau's director in 2017. A separate Washington Post report said that Trump had also aroused concerns by going to unusual lengths to prevent even his close aides from knowing the contents of conversations he had during summits with President Vladimir Putin. AP

Man sentenced for killing, dismembering mom

HONOLULU - A man who admitted to killing and dismembering his mother during an argument in their Honolulu apartment has been sentenced to 30 years in prison. Yu Wei Gong was charged with murder after he called police in 2017 to turn himself in after a suicide attempt. He admitted killing his mother Liu Yun Gong about six months earlier, according to court documents. When officers asked where his mother was, he said "in the fridge." Police found human remains, including two arms with hands and a decapitated head, in numerous trash bags, court documents said. Last year, he pleaded guilty to manslaughter, avoiding a life sentence. AP

Scientist eaten alive by 5m crocodile

TOMOHON - A scientist was attacked and eaten alive by a crocodile as she fed it at a research centre. Deasy Tuwo is believed to have been dragged into the enclosure when the 17ft (about 5.1m) reptile reared up on its hind legs and snatched her from the top of an 8ft wall. The 44-year-old had been throwing meat into the enclosure at the research facility in Indonesia last Friday morning. Horrified staff at the CV Yosiki Laboratory in the city of Tomohon, North Sulawesi, only discovered what had happened later that day when they spotted a "strange shape" in the water. Daily Mail

Toddler found dead outside home

NEW HAMPSHIRE - A toddler found dead early on Monday outside her New Hampshire home in bitterly cold weather apparently left her house just before dawn but couldn't get back inside. Newport Police said the death of the 2 1/2-year-old, whom the family only identified as Sofia, is not suspicious and "appears to be a bad accident". The girl's grandfather, Lindsay Van Schoick, said through text message that a neighbour had found the girl. He said the family is still trying to understand what happened. "It's rough," he said. "It was a terrible accident, a terrible accident. She (his daughter) is doing horrible. AP



NEWS

REVIEWS

STAR SIGNS

CELEBRITY WATCH

CARTOONS

EX-BEAUTY QUEENS SPEAK OUT ON MISS SD PAGEANT

- Vinah Mamba-Gray blames the people running the pageant
- Still insists Eswatini will never compete in Miss World or Universe
- Being Miss Eswatini also requires intelligence - Nozipho Shabangu

Stories by Andile Dlamini and Nokwanda Sibandze

FOLLOWING an article published by the Entertainment Desk earlier this week, the public made it clear that they do not know who the current Miss Eswatini Nosipho Dlamini was.

The public shared how the brand of Miss Eswatini beauty pageant has changed over the years.

Yesterday, the Entertainment Desk spoke to some of the well-known

former beauty queens who participated in the Miss World beauty pageant during their reign such as Vinah Mamba-Gray, Nompilo Mncina and Nozipho Shabangu. They shared their different sentiments about the beauty pageant.

Vinah Mamba-Gray who was the country's first beauty queen to compete in Miss World in 1975, said the reason the reigning Miss Eswatini was not known was because of the people running the pageant (which is Pageants Eswatini). Mamba-Gray said the people running the pageant

'No Miss World nor Universe for her'

THE current Miss Eswatini cannot compete in the Miss World or Miss Universe pageants.

This was said by pageantry expert and former Miss Swaziland Vinah Mamba-Gray.

Mamba-Gray said this was due to the fact that the rules of the Miss World pageant state that all participating countries must have their respective pageants run by individuals not associations.

"The Miss Eswatini pageant is now run by the government through these associations and, therefore, does not qualify to participate in the Miss World pageant," she

said.

"When I stopped running the pageant, Miss World representatives told me that if I wanted to step back, then one of the former queens who had been to Miss World should take over the pageant," said Mamba-Gray.

Interest

"None of the former queens have shown interest in running the pageant," she said.

The last time Miss Eswatini participated in the Miss World pageant was in 2009, and the country was represented by then reigning queen Nompilo Mncina.

were not teaching the contestants what they were supposed to teach them as they are not aware of neither the rules nor standards of Miss World or any beauty pageants. "I feel that the pageant would be better off being

run by someone with some experience with the Miss World pageant as they would have better knowledge how to run a pageant and train the contestants to compete in the Miss World pageant," Mamba-Gray added.

She needs a mentor - Nozipho Shabangu

FORMER Miss Eswatini 2002/03 Nozipho Shabangu also shared her views on the matter. She said the current Miss Eswatini needs a mentor.

Shabangu said they too, had a mentor during their reign, which came in handy when they had to deal with a lot of situations.

"Vinah Mamba was our mentor and she helped us understand the industry. I think she needs a mentor and that should be someone who has vast experience in beauty pageants," said Shabangu.

Shabangu advised that Miss Eswatini needed to understand that her reign it was not just a position but she was the country's ambassador and that means she had to stay humble at all times.

"She has to understand that she is a brand and that means

she has the power to speak for herself and represent the country everywhere she goes. Being Miss Eswatini also requires intelligence because she needs to know what to do and when," she said.

The former beauty queen said because many young women look up to her, she has to be vigilant about everything she does. "She has to create her own agenda and do whatever that she likes, in that way she will be able to interact with the public and be more visible," she added.

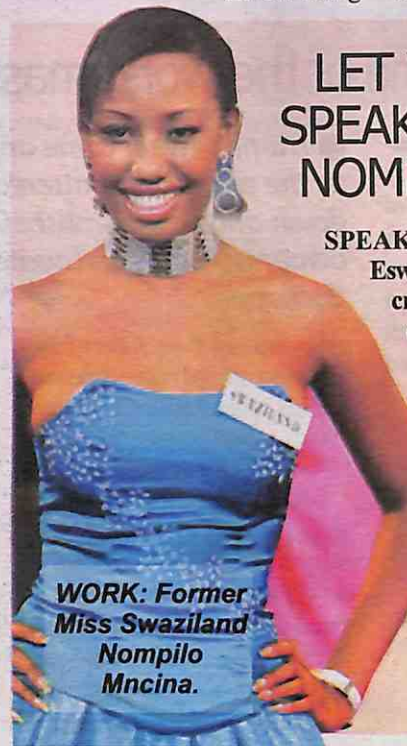
"I would like to wish her the best in all her future endeavours and I wish to meet her," said Shabangu.

LET YOUR WORK SPEAK FOR ITSELF - NOMPILO MNCINA

SPEAKING to another former Miss Eswatini Nompilo Mncina, who was crowned in 2009, she said it was unfortunate that the current Miss Eswatini was not visible to the public, as she is holding an important title.

"I really do not know what to say, but she needs to let her work speak for itself because maybe she is doing something.

"So I can only say she must continue to work hard and I personally wish her all the best in her reign," she simply said.



WORK: Former Miss Swaziland Nompilo Mncina.

TOP TO BOTTOM: Vinah Mamba-Gray and Nozipho Shabangu.

M-Triggerson dishing out more music

By Nokwanda Sibandze

REGGAE, Dance hall and hip hop artist M.Triggerson is at it again.

The rapper is kicking off 2019 with a brand new single titled 'Wami'.

The artist said he was excited about his new music and he wanted people to be as excited as he was.

The song features a group of rappers named SillahMusic.

Speaking to this publication on Monday, the rapper mentioned that he was ready for the year and he would continue to dish out music and nothing will ever stop him from dishing out good music to his fans. "I want my people to get ready for everything I am about to do, but first, I want them to get ready for

this song," he said. According to the rapper, the song is basically about a young man who is deeply in love with a girl. In the song, the young man tells the girl not to give up on him.

The artist further explained that love was close to his heart, which made it easy for him to write such songs.

"It is also an easy way to get your fans to relate to a song because everyone knows the feeling of being loved," he said. M.Triggerson hopes to have a successful year as he was nominated for the MTN SWAMA Awards last year in the Best Reggae category.

The musician has become the new found prodigy in the music industry. He is a versatile player and undoubtedly one of the best performers and recording artists in the kingdom.

Music Business Workshop tickets out

By Nokwanda Sibandze

TICKETS to the Music Business Workshop to be hosted by Leserato Events and Morolong Inc are now available at different outlets.

The tickets cost E100 for what is said to be a four-hour presentation. They are available at Nomakunini outlets such as OK Stores: Mbabane, Manzini, Mhlaleni, Logoba, Ngwane Park, Kwaluseni, Mathangeni, Spar Moneni, Sidvokodvo, Big Bend, Saverite Stores, Galp outlets, Futis, Shaks Cellular Nhlalano, Pick Yours Mhlume and Nokuphila Restaurant Siphofaneni.

This was revealed by Leserato Events

Manager Siphiwo Nxumalo yesterday. According to Nxumalo, the workshop will be held on March 2 at Sibane Hotel.

The workshop is set to start at 6:30pm. The main speaker for the day will be Dumisani Motsamai, a renowned entertainment law practitioner and music business consultant.

The speaker most recently presented at the Iziko National Gospel Music Conference at the Durban ICC, last year November.

Topics to be covered on the day include production, licensing, publishing, marketing and promotion.

"We are excited to host this work-

shop with Morolong Inc. as it emanates from our passion to grow our artists, both as musicians and music business-people. It is important for all artists to attend and get an understanding of this industry before making commitments that are to their detriment," said Nxumalo.

"We invite all aspiring musicians and artists (all genres) to this amazing opportunity for growth at the beginning of 2019, and we assure them it will be a life changing experience.

"The cost has been subsidised by both partners to ensure it is affordable for a number of our artists. We have had a lot of interest already and we urge those who are interested to secure their seats early, as the venue has limitations," she added.

SWAZI JIVE CREATING JOBS FOR THE YOUTH

By Andile Dlamini

...No tertiary certificate required

FOLLOWING the revelation that Swazi Jive is making a comeback, the management is now contributing to the country's economy as they are currently hiring the unemployed youth for their 2019 strategies.

In a series of posts on social media; Instagram, Facebook and Twitter to be precise, Swazi Jive Director Sakhile Nkambule revealed that Swazi Jive is hiring and that people can now send their Curriculum Vitae (CV)

and portfolios through.

"We have no degree requirement because we went through the same education system and we understand," said Nkambule on Twitter.

"Our aim is to train and employ as many young people, not everyone has had the opportunity to complete their tertiary and they may be very talented and willing to learn," he said during an interview with this publication yesterday.

Nkambule further mentioned that they were receiving applications

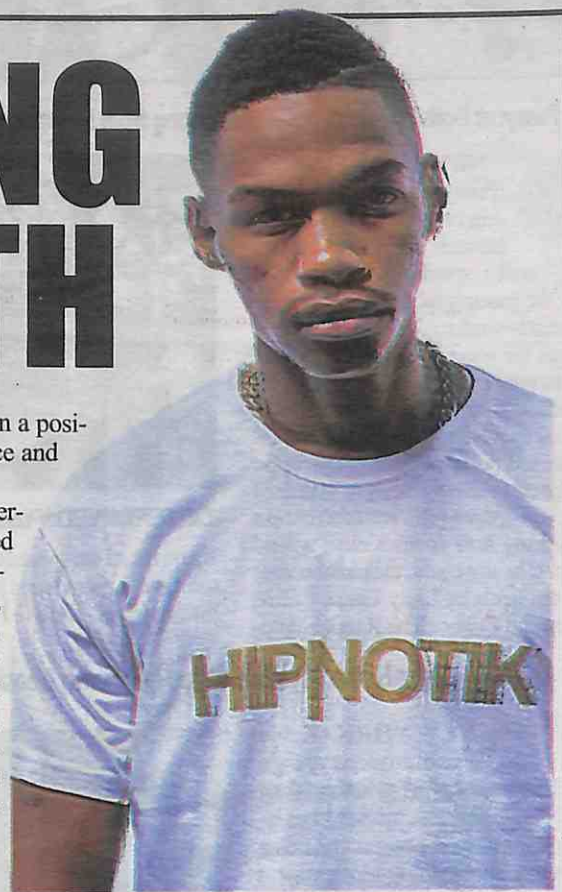
and the response is quite overwhelming.

There are currently 15 vacancies available, according to the young entrepreneur.

Swazi Jive Entertainment is a full service media and entertainment company that provide events management, marketing, promotion, brand management and development for reputable corporations in the SADC region. Swazi Jive Entertainment also owns and operates multiple brands that include music festivals and a record label and venues that

all strive to maintain a positive market presence and reputation.

Last year, the entertainment entity closed down due to unforeseen circumstances, and early this year, it was reported by this publication that they were back and ready for new interest, as they will be embarking on coordinating events countrywide.



SPHAMANDLA BIRTHDAY TOUR ESWATINI EDITION LINE-UP OUT

By Nokwanda Sibandze

AS reported by this publication that the Sphamandla Birthday Tour will be coming to Eswatini, the line-up is finally out.

Joining the South African DJ duo of Distruction Boyz is a

Gqom music duo from Durban; Junior De Rocka and Beast, who are also from South Africa.

Distruction Boyz is a Gqom music duo from Durban, South Africa which consists of recording artists and record producers Thobani 'Que' Mgobhozi and Zipho 'Goldmax' Mthembu. Their debut album Gqom Is the Future attained the gold status by RISA, making it the first Gqom album to ever achieve this status.

Junior De Rocka known for his songs 'Amadimoni' and 'Ngiyamthanda lona', also has a daughter with South African actress Duma Ntando.

The event set to take place at Solani's Shisanyama on February 1. The show will also see local DJs such as Jnr B, Abafana Base Royal, DJ Boonuu, K Dot, Blaq Rhythm, Frenzy, Rhythmic Soul, M'euge, Ayacity, Dope Deep, Bloss and Yung Yas on the turntables.

MC for the night will be Nicky and tickets will be available at the gate costing E120 before 12am and E150 afterwards. The tour will then continue to Mozambique, Botswana and then Lesotho.

SI-ON: South Africa's duo Distruction Boyz and Junior De Rocka.

RK juggling music, education

By Andile Dlamini

THE 21-year-old Ndzaba Mngomezulu is proving that being a musician and getting an education is possible.

Mngomezulu whose stage name is R.K, said he started recording music in 2012 and at the time he felt like he could do music on a full-time basis.

"I felt like that until I matriculated and was exposed to the real world and real people and realised that I needed a back-up plan. I am now studying Computer Science," said Mngomezulu.

The young artist has six mixtapes, one EP that was dropped last year and his most recent project is a playlist titled 'Summer 18', which was dropped last December.

The music is available on Sound Cloud and Audio Mac. Mngomezulu said his music was inspired by life, and that he wanted to incorporate his faith into his music as opposed to rapping about money and materialistic things. "I am also very versatile as I did a track with a Chinese friend of mine from school, and it worked out quite well," he said.



'Gcoki Uniform Es'kolweni' show slated for February 2

By Nokwanda Sibandze

INSPIRED by Zulu Makhathini's hit song; 'Gcoki Uniform Es'kolweni', the country will see the first ever back to school show which is slated for February 2.

Schools are about to open and this show dubbed 'Gcoki Uniform Es'kolweni' sets to celebrate all pupils who are going back to school.

The show will be held at Bosco Skill Centre in Manzini.

The show is brought to you by Video

Waves Studios and Sjaiva Snomakanjani.

Not only will this show be a day of fun, dance and music, but the organizers said they were also looking into remembering the fun days of school.

Advising

"We are advising people to come wearing their school uniforms, including the artists, performers and obviously the crowd.

"So start now to organise your own khakis, tunics, toughees, grey, white or black (school socks), neckties, scarves and not forgetting school bags," said one of the organisers Mr SEY

They said the hit track by Zulu Makhathini "Swenka nge Uniform" would be the order of the event.

Art

"We also want to promote art in schools.

This is very important to our generation because we are a generation of artists," he said.

He said everyone was invited to come to the show, pupil or not.

Entry fee is E20 when wearing a school uniform and E30 if you are not wearing which is the theme of the show.



International
Celebrity News

Pussycat Dolls line up to pull R. Kelly song from streaming services

NEW YORK - The Pussycat Dolls are working on kicking R. Kelly to the curb, digitally, and financially, speaking. Our sources say the group's label, Interscope, is currently working behind the scenes to get the song 'Out Of This Club' featuring R. Kelly removed from all streaming services. The song, produced by Kelly, was released in 2008 to mixed reviews. One music critic referred to the track as a "standard sex you up fare (you wouldn't expect anything less from Kelly, would you?)" In any event, the move comes on the heels of Lady Gaga, Celine Dion and Chance The Rapper jump-

**DETERMINED: Pussycat Dolls.**

ing on board the #MuteRKelly movement after Lifetime aired the docuseries, 'Surviving R. Kelly.' **TMZ**

Kevin Gates says there's no beef with Boosie

NEW YORK - Kevin Gates claims everything's cool with fellow Louisiana rapper Boosie now, but he has a warning shot to anyone else thinking about doing him dirty.

The Baton Rouge MC sat down with Raquel Harper for a new episode of BET's 'Raquel Rants,' and he insists rumours of a long-standing feud with Boosie are overblown.

Boosie was tried and acquitted in the murder of one of Kevin's rap affiliates.

Kevin now claims he doesn't have problems with anyone, but also told Raquel, he wouldn't hesitate to "do a life sentence" if anyone tests him.

You gotta see how he says it. It's pretty intense, especially because

**GOOD TERMS: Kevin Gates and Boosie.**

his toddler son was sitting right next to him at the time.

For what it's worth, Boosie did seem to confirm they'd squashed all hate last year by recruiting Kevin to play his music festival.

(**SHOWBIZ**)

Sremmurd's Slim Jxmmi not leaving group, says 'Sremm 4 Life'

LAS VEGAS - Rae Sremmurd is here to stay. That whole Slim Jxmmi episode hinting he was leaving the group? Chalk it up to just a squabble with his bro that is, apparently, water under the bridge now.

The Sremmurd-panic started when Slim went on a mini Twitter rant over the weekend, saying he was no longer living the 'SremmLife.' He also strongly insinuated he was going solo when he tweeted he would 'sink or swim by myself.'

But, now our sources say Slim's not going anywhere and he'll remain

**STAYING: Rae Sremmurd.** half of the duo with his bro, Swae Lee.

It's unclear what exactly triggered the rant, other than some sort of brotherly squabble. We're told Slim and Swae are all good now. **TMZ**

Alexis Skyy Down to date Rob Kardashian, after his WCW post

LOS ANGELES - Rob Kardashian shoots, Rob Kardashian scores!

Blac Chyna's ex is catching the eye of 'Love & Hip Hop' star Alexis Skyy after shouting her out with a #WCW post, on Monday, mind you. Sources close to Alexis tell us she saw Rob's Snapchat, and she's definitely feeling him too.

In fact, Skyy was so open to hanging with Rob, she was at his house just a few hours after he posted the tribute to her.

Seems like Rob has had a thing for Alexis for a while. He captioned the Snap, "my wcw, i've been wanting you for so long.."

Alexis is already trying to make nice with the Kardashian clan --

**TO DATE: Rob Kardashian and Alexis Skyy.**

after Rob's post, she started following Kris, Kim, Kendall, Kylie and Kourtney on IG. **TMZ**

SA Celebrity News

Nomvula Mokonyane tells haters to leave Zodwa alone

DURBAN - Minister of Environmental Affairs Nomvula

Mokonyane has come to the defence of Zodwa Wabantu calling on the nation to stop judging the dancer.

Zodwa's provocative fashion sense and racy dance moves have resulted in her being banned from some African countries and she's even been a topic of parliamentary debates across the continent.

The minister, who recently bumped into Zodwa at Eyadini in Durban, had a clear message for those who

**DEFENDS: Nomvula Mokonyane.**

shot down the star.

After Zodwa called Nomvula her 'inspiration' and praised her, Nomvula gave a short speech on Zodwa's uniqueness.

She said she spoke for all women and encouraged the star to carry on doing her thing.

"I represent every woman and nobody must start with you. You are who you are by your choice

and they must respect it. Keep it that way."

Fans were quick to react to the video, with many commenting on how similar the two looked. **Times Live**

Sjava reflects on getting dumped

DURBAN - Musician Sjava has once again reflected on the difficulties he faced while trying to break into the industry, including the toll the hustle took on his relationships.

The Abangani hitmaker took to Twitter recently to share how he was once in a relationship with a woman who was not happy about his constant touring and sacrifices for his career.

Sjava said she believed that he was wasting his time and making a fool

**REFLECTS: Sjava.**

of himself because he was too old. **Times Live**

Nomzamo on Arthur selfie outrage

PRETORIA - Following the major public outcry that has surrounded a selfie she took with Arthur Mafokate over the weekend, Nomzamo Mbatha has come out to reiterate her stance on gender-based violence.

Nomzamo came under fire after Arthur shared a picture of them from the ANC manifesto launch over the weekend on Instagram.

Social media users roasted Nomzamo and questioned her stance as an 'activist'. Nomzamo issued a public apology through a statement issued by her management on Monday afternoon.

"I apologise unreservedly for that

**APOLOGISES: Nomzamo Mbatha.**

and want to reassure the public and my supporters that I firmly oppose abuse of any kind."

Times Live

Nomuzi Mabena is unfazed by the backlash

AUCKLAND PACK - Despite receiving major backlash for the fake car crash stunt that caused chaos on social media, Nomuzi Mabena has "no regrets" and "would do it again".

A video of Nomuzi which was doctored to show the TV presenter crashing her car during an Instagram Live chat with fans went viral on Thursday night.

After hours of speculation it was confirmed that the purported car crash was part of a VW and Drive Dry campaign to raise awareness about drinking and driving. Followers were far from impressed and expressed

**BACKLASH: Nomuzi Mabena.**

their anger under the hashtag #RoastNomuzi.

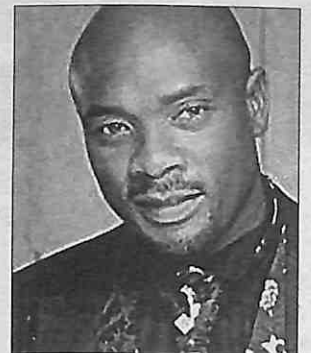
Addressing the backlash on eNCA over the weekend, Nomuzi said she had no regrets.

Sowetan Live

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

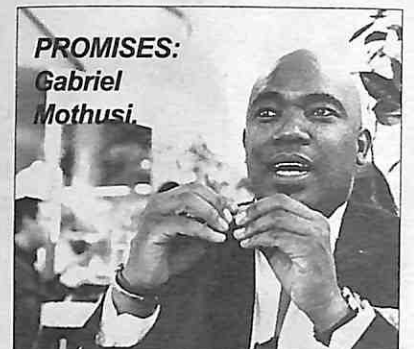
TODAY

**REASONS: Mpiyakhe Zungu.**

While Mpiyakhe tries to be reasonable, Dabula refuses to budge from his plans. Iris confesses her worries. Phumelele thinks Siphokazi should come clean and Ngwebedla has had enough!

ISIDINGO

TODAY

PROMISES: Gabriel Mothusi.

Mayor Gabriel Mothusi promises to make HD great again. Hendrik goes away and Lalage goes into meltdown. Morongwa lets Cebisa know just what she thinks of her.

Muvhango

TODAY



Gizara and Mulalo need to be taken in for questioning. Gugu and Moliehi get into a catfight. KK tells Imani to be patient with Lethu.

ADVISE: KK.

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY



Kop pays Gadifele a final visit. Suffo surprises Mzi over Pearl. Valentine is full of surprises.

SOURPRISES: David.

PICTURE OF THE DAY

When Zulus say "angizwanga?" They don't mean repeat what you just said. They're giving you a chance to take back whatever rubbish you said

No chill in Mzansi



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22 - JANUARY 19

A talent for a new field that you might never have tried before could come to light, Capricorn. This might involve modern technology in some way or writing, drawing, or both. Communication with others should be warm, congenial, open, and honest. You can expect to gain a lot of pleasure from relationships of all kinds. Expect at least one of your conversations to turn to the fine arts or metaphysics.



awareness not only of them but also of yourself. It could make a big difference in any creative projects. Don't let the day go by without making this feeling work for you in some way.

CANCER JUNE 22 - JULY 22

A number of exciting people could attend a party or group meeting at your home. You're in just the right space to be a great host, Cancer, and you're likely to meet some interesting new people. Much of the conversation could focus on computers and other forms of technology or perhaps on astrology or other occult subjects.



LEO JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

A rally or other sort of mass meeting could take place in your neighborhood today, Leo. It could be the most exciting thing that's happened to your community in a long time. Expect to meet a number of interesting people. Social events, perhaps connected to this rally, could take up a lot of your time, almost to the point of wearing you out. Don't try to do too much.



VIRGO AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

Today you might try to put computers or other forms of advanced technology to work for you, Virgo. This could be of great benefit to you. You might be blown away by the advantages of it. Your mind should be quick enough to grasp any new software or equipment that you will want to use. The innovation could also help raise your earning power. Isn't technology wonderful?



LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 23

You might feel especially adventurous today, Libra, and wish to go away for a while with a romantic partner. A spiritual retreat or a workshop in metaphysical disciplines might be an option to consider. This is a good time to go, especially if you're thinking about traveling by air. You should have a wonderful time. Let go of some misgivings, experience deep insights, and make new friends.



SCORPIO OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 21

A group that shares your interest in an intellectual or spiritual discipline might meet at your home today, Scorpio. This could be a stimulating event, especially since new members could become good friends. A lot of plans could be made, perhaps for future activities. Fascinating discussions could take place. Don't let the meeting run too late. You will want to unwind before bedtime.



SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 21

Communications with friends should go well, Sagittarius. You have what it takes to express yourself clearly and honestly and give information without confusing the issue.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



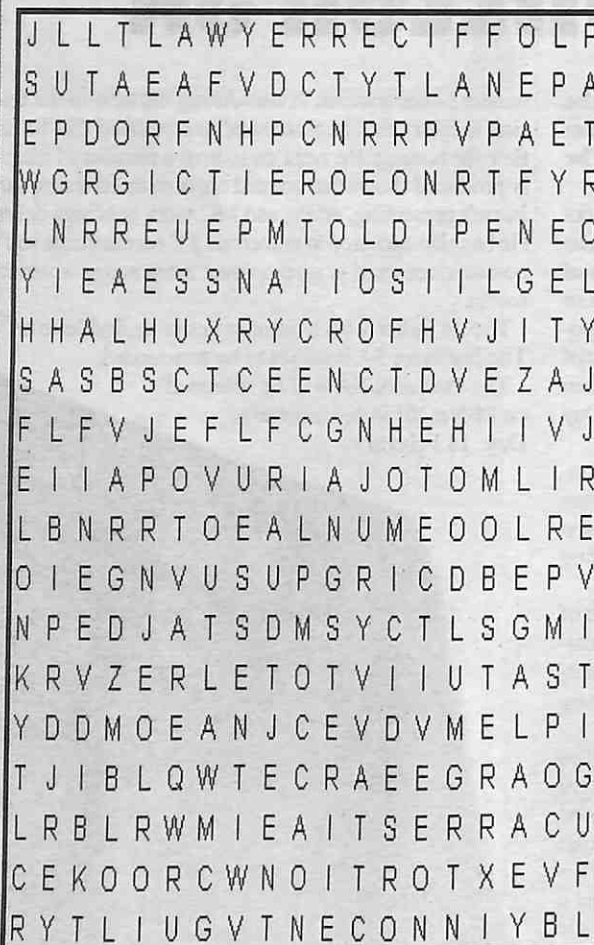
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



HOME WORDSEARCH

PUZZLE CHOICE

Can you detect the hidden words? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.



Accomplish, Alibi, Arrest, Bail, Charge, Clue, Cops, Crime, Criminal, Crook, Detective, Evidence, Extortion, Felon, Fine, Forgery, Fraud, Fugitive, Gangster, Guilty, Homicide, Hoodlum, Illegal,

Innocent, Jail, Judge, Jury, Larceny, Lawyer, Mobster, Officer, Outlaw, Patrol, Penalty, Perpetrator, Police, Prison, Private Eye, Proof, Robber, Sheriff, Sleuth, Suspect, Thief, Witness.



Computer

Why did the computer get cold?

Because it forgot to close windows.

USELESS FACTS

1. The thumbnail grows the slowest, the middle nail the fastest, nearly four times faster than toenails.
2. The Human eyes never grow, but nose and ears never stop growing.
3. The 57 on Heinz ketchup bottles represents the number of varieties of pickles the company once had.
4. Tom Sawyer was the first novel written on a typewriter.
5. If Texas were a country, its GNP would be the fifth largest of any country in the world.

BRAinteasers QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterday's Brainteaser:

1. Without it, I am dead. If I am not, then I am behind. What am I?
Answer: Ahead

2. If you wrote all of the numbers from 300 to 400 on a piece of paper, how many times would you have written the number three?
Answer: 120 (100 threes in the hundreds place + 10 threes in the tens place + 10 threes in the ones place)

Today's Brainteasers

1. You are in a place called Jack's World and there is only one law. There is a mirror, but no reflection. There is pizza with cheese, but not sausage. There is pepper, but no salt. There is a door, yet no entrance or exit. What is the law?
2. I come in different shapes and sizes. Parts of me are curved, other parts are straight. You can put me anywhere you like, but there is only one right place for me. What am I?

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUNE 21

Today you could feel like you have one foot in another world. It's a great feeling, Gemini, with a lot of love and wisdom mixed in. This could prove useful in relating to others. It increases your





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NEWS



Get to know the hunky Kofi Siriboe! – Queen Sugar

KOFI Siriboe is the definition of tall, dark and handsome with a killer smile! Get to know all about him here.

Oga

Kofi joins a line of incredibly handsome Hollywood actors of Ghanaian descent: Kofi Kingston, Idris Alba and Boris Kodjoe. We would like to take this moment to thank Ghana for blessing our eyes with the beauty that are these men.

Thespian

Kofi has been acting since he was a teenager. He has starred in *Longshot*, *Prom*, *Whiplash*, *Straight out of Compton* where he played the block dude and *Girl's Trip* as Jada Pinkett-Smith's love interest.

He now acts as Ralph Angel Bordelon on *Ava Duvernay* and



Oprah's *Queen Sugar*.

Family Business

Kofi is one of three boys and they are all hitting Hollywood by storm, the 'K Brothers'. His older brother Kwesi Boakye starred in Tyler Perry's *Manny in I Can Do Bad All By Myself* and his younger brother Kwame Boateng starred in *Everybody Hates Chris* as Albert.

Model

Kofi is also a model, obviously with that physique! He is signed to

the prestigious *Wilhelmina Models* out of Dallas and it's paying off.

Mommy's Boy

Kofi's favourite meal is his mother's fufu and groundnut soup.

The soup has peanut butter, potatoes or yams, carrots, tomatoes, garlic, paprika, pepper and chicken or beef. Kofi has stated that in four years' time he wants to have settled down but that he is currently single. So ladies if you're looking for a grounded handsome man, get yourself a flight to New Orleans.

Rosemary and Victor's Big Day – OPW

ALL the elements that made their perfect wedding.

What's a wedding though without the list of things that would make your special day extra special?

For Rosemary and Victor, the bride's wedding gown, the rings, as well as the food made it to the list. Now, Victor has quite the taste there, for his ring was a Rolex. Yep, you heard right! A Rolex ring! See below how their ring fitting went. Every bride wants a wedding gown that will "make traffic stop", right!? So, it's no surprise that Rosemary was only content with the second gown she bought. One could tell she and Vele had the fun times at her fitting. Check it out, here.

The day before the wedding is the last day to do final checks and our couple headed over to their caterer Audrey to get a taste of what she'd be serving their guests at the wedding. They opted for a wide range of African cuisine to cater for all their guests coming from the different parts of the continent. See what Audrey whipped up for them below.

And with that, Rosemary and Victor ticked off all the items on their Wish List and had themselves a beautiful wedding.

Tune into *Our Perfect Wedding* to share in more Mzansi couples' love stories on Mzansi Magic, DStv channel 161.

JASON GREER THE RIGHT MAN TO HOST M-NET'S THE BACHELOR SA

EARLIER this year, M-Net announced that it will be bringing viewers the local version of the immensely successful international reality dating show franchise, *The Bachelor*.

M-Net also revealed that local heartthrob, former *Sharks* rugby player, international model and business owner Lee Thompson, would be the lucky man vying for the hearts of 24 beautiful and accomplished South African ladies from different backgrounds. Today M-Net confirms that popular presenter Jason Greer will be at Lee's side as the host of the very first season of *The Bachelor South Africa*, when the show kicks off on a romantic note on Valentine's Day in 2019.

Well-respected in the industry, Jason has presented a number of successful shows, including M-Net's award-winning *All Access* and the popular game show *Spellbound*. Jason is also the narrator on M-Net's wedding show, *The Wedding Bashers*.

"To have been selected as the host for the local version of the most successful internationally recognised reality dating show is an incredible honour," Jason says. "I'm excited for the show and I look forward to sharing this journey with the rest of South Africa."

During his role as host on *The Bachelor SA*, Jason will be facilitating the iconic rose ceremonies where he will arrive at the most crucial moments of the elimination ceremonies. In addition to his hosting duties, Jason will also serve as the mentor figure to Lee throughout his *Bachelor* journey.

Says M-Net's Head of Publicity, Lani Lombard: "Jason is an industry professional and his warmth, kindness, charisma, and sincerity will stand him in good stead as the host. He is also a mature family man and perfect wingman for *The Bachelor*. We're excited to have him on board!"

Jason Greer has been involved in the South African entertainment industry for over 15 years, having started as a

master of ceremonies. It was during his time in the television industry that he flourished and realised that he had a flair for hosting. He went on to host a number of hit locally produced shows that opened the door to his acting career. Jason's presenting, acting and MC work is in high demand. He has also appeared in numerous TV commercials and corporate videos and is a voice-over artist across a variety of media.

The 24 ladies with a burning desire to find love on *The Bachelor SA* have yet to be announced.

The Bachelor SA will be screened on M-Net 101 from Valentine's Day, 14 February.



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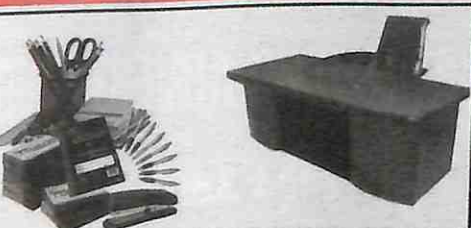
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1. CHANGE OF SURNAMES

PHILA ENOCK DLAMINI, of Shiselweni Region wish to assume surname **NXUMALO**. Reason being that **NXUMALO** is my natural surname. Any objections should be sent to P.O. Box A624 Swazi Plaza or Shiselweni Regional Secretary.

R/N 205947 19 dec, 02 Jan, 09 Jan, 16 Jan

THABSI NGWENYA, of Lubombo Region wish to assume surname **MNDVOTI**. Reason being that **MNDVOTI** is my natural surname. Any objections should be sent to P.O. Box 710 Manzini or Lubombo Regional Secretary.

R/N 205947 19 dec, 02 Jan, 09 Jan, 16 Jan

THULANI PERCY DLADLA, of Hhohho Region wish to assume surname **NKAMBULE**. Reason being that **NKAMBULE** is my natural surname. Any objections should be sent to P.O. Box 2937 Mbabane or Hhohho Regional Secretary.

02 Jan, 9 Jan, 16 Jan, 23 Jan

MFANISENI BANELE NDWANDWE, of Shiselweni Region wish to assume surname **NDLANGAMANDLA**. Reason being that **NDLANGAMANDLA** is my natural surname. Any objections should be sent to P.O. Box 110 Sidvokodvo or Shiselweni Regional Secretary.

R/N 205957 02 Jan, 9 Jan, 16 Jan, 23 Jan

PHUMZILE MALAMBE, of Shiselweni Region wish to assume surname **MASUKU**. Reason being that **MASUKU** is my natural surname. Any objections should be sent to P.O. Box 8 Nhlalanga or Shiselweni Regional Secretary.

R/N 205780 16 Jan

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Cavani 'surprised' at Qatar's Copa America inclusion

DOHA - Uruguay's Edinson Cavani admitted on Monday that Qatar's inclusion among teams in this year's Copa America was a "surprise" but backed the Gulf state's first ever tournament appearance.

The 31-year-old, who plays for Qatari-owned French champions Paris Saint-Germain, said allowing the World Cup 2022 host in to South America's biggest international competition could prove "special".

"To have Qatar is a surprise and I think it is going to be something very nice," the Uruguay striker said to reporters at PSG's winter training camp in Doha.

"To have a team from this continent

at the Copa America, it's something very special to bring a new culture and to mix with the South Americans."

The 2019 tournament will take place in Brazil in June and July this year.

Arguably

It was announced in May that Qatar would be one of the 12 teams taking part. Japan have also been invited.

The same month it was also announced that Qatar's state-owned airline, Qatar Airways, would be the shirt sponsor of arguably South America's biggest club side, Boca Juniors of Argentina.

Qatar Airways has subsequently also become the official "global airline partner" of CONMEBOL, the South American

football confederation.

Uruguay are the nation with the most Copa America titles, 15, and Cavani said there was a real possibility they could win again.

Chances

"We have very good chances, we have been playing very well in recent years and had a good competition in Russia," he said.

"Historically, Uruguay is a team smart enough to have won it the most times.

"This, I think, gives prestige to Uruguay in this competition."

The draw for the event takes place on January 24.

AFP



ADMITTED: Uruguay's Edinson Cavani.

A FATHER DOES NOT CRITICISE, HE EDUCATES:

PELE OFFERS SUPPORT TO 'SON OF SANTOS' NEYMAR

RIO - Brazil legend Pele has offered his support to compatriot and Paris Saint-Germain forward Neymar.

The 26-year-old Neymar has scored 18 goals in 21 appearances for the Ligue 1 outfit this campaign.

Three-time World Cup winner Pele has opened up on his relationship with Neymar, who joined PSG for a world-record £198million in the summer of 2017.

"A father does not criticise, he educates," Pele told France Football. "He is a son of Santos".

"I want the best for him, for Brazil, for our national team.

"I will do anything to help and move him forward."

Neymar has formed part of the lethal attacking triumvirate with Edinson Cavani and Kylian Mbappe for PSG but

his stay in the French capital has often been called into question. He has been linked with moves to Barcelona and Real Madrid.

Eye-watering

The plan for Neymar when he left Barcelona in 2017 was always very clear - win the Champions League and Ballon d'Or in Paris and then make one more eye-watering, record breaking transfer, probably to Madrid.

PSG face Manchester United in the last 16 of the European competition while the elusive Golden Ball was awarded to Luka Modric.

Neymar and his team-mates have travelled to Qatar for a four-day winter training camp - a trip PSG make every year for training and sponsorship reasons.

Daily Mail



SON OF SANTOS: Brazil legend Pele and Neymar. (AP)

Juventus and AC Milan to 'hold talks

TURIN - Juventus and AC Milan are set to hold showdown talks in the coming days to discuss the future of Gonzalo Higuain after the Serie A champions rejected Chelsea's 18-month loan offer.

The Argentine striker is currently on loan at the San Siro but Chelsea want to bring him to Stamford Bridge in this month's window and Higuain wants the move too.

Maurizio Sarri is desperate for a new striker with the Blues struggling in front of goal and current forward Alvaro Morata also looks to be heading for the exit.

According to the Evening Standard, AC Milan and Juventus will hold talks when they meet in the Italian Super Cup final in Saudi Arabia tonight.

The Bianconeri have rejected the Blues' offer to take Higuain on loan for the rest of the season or for 18 months. Instead, Juventus want Chelsea to take over the terms of the 31-year-old's deal which entails an initial £16m fee with obligation to buy at £32m.

AFP

SWC WINNER MENOTTI HIRED AS ARGENTINA'S TEAMS DIRECTOR

BUENOS AIRES - Argentina have hired former World Cup winning coach Cesar Luis Menotti as director of their national teams, the country's football association (AFA) announced on Monday.

"Welcome home Cesar," said AFA in a tweet, adding that Menotti would begin his new role on February 1.

His main task will be to put into action AFA president Claudio Tapia's 10-year plan for Argentina's various national teams.

Menotti, 80, guided Argentina to their first World Cup triumph in 1978, beating the Netherlands in the final on home soil.

He was also coach four years later when as champions they were eliminated in the second group round after losing three out of five matches, including to eventual winners Italy and arch rivals Brazil.

AFP

Silva is again dominant in the PSG defence

PARIS - At 34, veteran centre-back Thiago Silva has re-emerged this season as the pillar of the Paris Saint-Germain defence as the French champions prepare for an assault in Europe.

The PSG captain spoke to AFP in Qatar as his side prepares for a second half of the season in which they will resume their campaign for a long-coveted first Champions League trophy with a last-16 tie against resurgent Manchester United.

"I think I've already enjoyed some good times in my career," he said, when asked about his form this season. "But at this age it is better. You always have quality, and time gives you the experience. When you put the two things together, you go up a level."

Thiago Silva was one of the scape-

goats in 2017 when PSG blew a 4-0 first-leg lead in second round against Barcelona, collapsing 6-1 as they conceded three times after the 88th minute.

"I heard a lot of things: 'I'm not a leader, I'm not this or that,'" he said. "It wounds you, but after that it's also the kind of thing that motivates you the most."

The Brazilian's rebound form has come after Thomas Tuchel replaced Unai Emery as coach.

"He's given me the tranquility to play. "He tries to solve problems as quickly as possible and he talks to me to discover the best solution," he said, adding that Tuchel involves him in decision-making.

"That's something I've never felt before, so I'm giving something extra."

He pointed to a 3-0 victory away

to 10-man Amiens in Ligue 1 at the start of December.

"Against Amiens, I played for him," he said. "He suggested that I play just 45 minutes, but at the end of the first half, the score was still 0-0. I could not leave my team in that position just so I could have a rest for upcoming matches. I told him 'I'll play to the end.' When the team needs me, I'm there."

Thiago Silva agreed with suggestions that this might be the strongest PSG team since he arrived in 2012.

"It's not only the players but the way we play," he said. "We're playing more as a team."

Thiago Silva said that Tuchel's direct and open approach to players helped explain the improved productivity of the team in general and Neymar in particular. AFP



DOMINANT: Thiago Silva.



BARCLAYS

ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



OLE'S UNITED KINGDOM

Solskjaer rule is just perfect says Pogba

MANCHESTER - Paul Pogba believes Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's successful start to management at Manchester United is because he "knows the mentality" of the club.

The Manchester United midfielder had a key role in United's sixth win out of six since the former striker took interim charge of the side after the departure of Jose Mourinho.

It was felt that the Portuguese never really got to grips with the philosophy of the club.

But in 11 successful years serving under Sir Alex Ferguson, there is little anybody can teach Solskjaer about

that. An impressed Pogba said: "As a player he knew the mentality of this club. He has come back to help us and it is going very well. The season is long so let's see how it goes."

History

The pair have a long history with Pogba joining the United academy in 2009 when Ole Gunnar Solskjaer was midway through his two-and-a-half year stint as the club's full-time reserve coach.

He was still only 16 when he was first called up to the reserves in December of his first year at the club, and made three more cameo substi-

tute appearances later in the same season after spending most of his time in the under-18 team.

Two more starts the following season took his tally of games to just six before Solskjaer left to join Molde as manager in December 2010.

"It's a pleasure to be reunited with him," Pogba said. "I knew him from the academy and the reserves, when his nickname was 'Super Sub'. He is doing a really good job."

"Before the coach arrived back I was in the shadows, on the bench, and I accepted that. It is a pleasure to play again. *Daily Star*

CHELSEA CHARGED OVER ALLEGED RACIST CHANTING

LONDON - UEFA have opened disciplinary proceedings against Chelsea following allegations of racist chanting at a Europa League match in Hungary.

It was claimed that Chelsea supporters used anti-Semitic language in a derogatory chant about Tottenham during the 2-2 draw against Vidi last month.

UEFA's control, ethics and disciplinary body will deal with the case at its next meeting on February 28.

If Chelsea are found guilty, the minimum sanction the club could face includes a partial ground closure.

The reported incident in Budapest on December 13 came just days after Chelsea and police launched investigations into alleged racist abuse directed towards Manchester City's Raheem Sterling at Stamford Bridge.

Actions

Chelsea Chairman Bruce Buck condemned the actions of "a few mindless individuals at some of our recent matches", and added he "will not rest until we have eliminated all forms of discrimination from our club". Chelsea have since launched a campaign to raise awareness and educate about anti-Semitism in football. *Daily Mail*

WAGNER LEAVES HUDDERSFIELD BY 'MUTUAL CONSENT'

LONDON - Huddersfield announced the departure of Manager David Wagner by mutual consent on Monday, with the club rooted at the bottom of the Premier League.

Saturday's goalless draw at Cardiff halted a club-record nine straight defeats in all competitions but they have won just twice in the league all season.

"David Wagner has departed his role as head coach of Huddersfield Town by mutual consent," said a club statement.

"The 47-year-old leaves Town

after detailed discussions with the board of directors, with both parties agreeing this is the correct move for the future of the club."

Wagner, who signed a new three-year deal in May last year, led Huddersfield into the top tier from the Championship and kept them up last season.

Huddersfield Chairman Dean Hoyle said: "I'd like to begin by thanking David for all he has achieved at Huddersfield Town over the last three-and-a-half years. *AFP*



READY: Ryan Bennett trips Raheem Sterling during their recent match.

MAN CITY READY TO POUNCE ON ANY LIVERPOOL SLIP-UPS

MANCHESTER - Pep Guardiola said his Manchester City team will be poised to pounce if Premier League leaders Liverpool falter, following a comfortable 3-0 win over Wolves on Monday that left City four points behind Jurgen Klopp's side.

Two first-half goals from Gabriel Jesus, either side of a straight red card for Wolves' French defender Willy Boly, allowed City to demonstrate that they had banished their shaky December form.

The City manager was in no mood to analyse the table and insisted he is interested only in his own team's performances. "We cannot play the games against Liverpool, we cannot do anything about them," said

Guardiola. "All we can do is win our games and be there. We've spoken to our players about it and the fact we cannot control what they can do."

All we can do is be there and maybe one day they fail. But if they don't lose, then they'll be champions.

"We've done incredible numbers after last season, but one team has done better than us so far. All we can do is be there until the end and the results will dictate who will win." Two weeks into 2019, City have scored a remarkable 21 goals in four home games this year and have hit 99 in all competitions already in the current campaign. *AFP*



COMFORTABLE: Maurizio Sarri's Chelsea comfortably sit fourth in the Premier League, with Arsenal and Manchester United both six points adrift, but uncertainty risks rocking the boat this month. We are half way through the January transfer window and the Blues have plenty of work to do. (AFP)

CHELSEA 'TO DEMAND £100M FROM REAL MADRID'

LONDON - Chelsea will only consider a bid of £100million from Real Madrid if Eden Hazard tells them he wants to leave.

The Belgian has 18 months remaining on his contract at Stamford Bridge and is yet to agree on an extension.

The Spanish giants are long-term admirers of the 28-year-old attacker, who has made no secret of his wish to play for the European champions, and Hazard continues to be linked with

a move away from Stamford Bridge.

Now, according to The Telegraph, Chelsea are bracing themselves for an offer from Los Blancos if Hazard admits he wants to leave but will not accept a penny less than £100m.

Keen

Hazard believes he will know for certain if Real are truly keen on signing him by the end of this month and the Blues are keen to resolve the future of their star man. Chelsea signed

Borussia Dortmund winger Christian Pulisic for £58m earlier in the January transfer window and the club are adamant that Hazard is worth double that fee. The figure may prove slightly problematic for Real, who don't have a large transfer budget available. It is hoped that Mateo Kovacic could act as a makeweight in any deal with the Croatian currently on a season-long loan from the Bernabeu. *Daily Mail*



RESULTS FROM DAY 2

Men

Round 1

Taro Daniel (JPN) bt Thanasi Kokkinakis (AUS)	5-7, 4-2 retired
Denis Shapovalov (CAN x25) bt Pablo Andujar (ESP)	6-2, 6-3, 7-6 (7/3)
David Goffin (BEL x21) bt Christian Garin (CHI)	6-0, 6-2, 6-2
Marinko Matosevic (ROU) bt Marcel Granollers (ESP)	6-3, 6-4, 6-4
Ryan Harrison (USA) bt Jiri Vesely (CZE)	6-0, 7-5, 6-3
Daniil Medvedev (RUS x15) bt Lloyd Harris (RSA)	6-1, 6-2, 6-1
Fabio Fognini (ITA x12) bt Jaume Munar (ESP)	7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (9/7), 3-1 retired
Leonardo Mayer (ARG) bt Nicolas Pietrangeli (CHI)	7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/3), 4-6, 6-3
Ilya Ivashka (BLR) bt Malek Jaziri (TUN)	4-6, 7-6 (8/6), 6-1, 4-0 retired
Pablo Carreno-Busta (ESP x23) bt Luca Vanni (ITA)	6-7 (5/7), 2-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4
Philipp Kohlschreiber (GER x32) bt Zhe Li (CHN)	6-2, 6-2, 6-4
Joao Sousa (POR) bt Guido Pella (ARG)	7-6 (7/2), 4-6, 7-6 (7/5), 4-6, 6-2
Ivo Karlovic (CRO) bt Hubert Hurkacz (POL)	6-7 (5/7), 7-6 (7/5), 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (7/5)
Kai Nishikori (JPN x8) bt Kamil Majchrzak (POL)	3-6, 6-7 (6/8), 6-0, 6-2, 3-0 retired
Alexander Zverev (GER x4) bt Aljaz Bedene (SLO)	6-4, 6-1, 6-4
Alex Bolt (AUS) bt Jack Sock (USA)	4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2
Gilles Simon (FRA x29) bt Bjorn Fratangelo (USA)	7-6 (7/2), 6-4, 6-2
Hyeon Chung (KOR x24) bt Bradley Klahn (USA)	6-7 (5/7), 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 6-2, 6-4
Pierre-Hugues Herbert (FRA) bt Sam Querrey (USA)	5-7, 7-6 (8/6), 6-3, 6-1
Borna Coric (CRO x11) bt Steve Darcis (BEL)	6-1, 6-4, 6-4
Marion Fucsovics (HUN) bt Albert Ramos (ESP)	6-3, 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-3
Evgeny Donskoy (RUS) bt Laslo Djere (SRB)	6-7 (5/7), 6-4, 6-1, 7-6 (7/5)
Lucas Pouille (FRA x28) bt Mikhail Kukushkin (KAZ)	6-1, 7-5, 6-4
Alexei Popov (AUS) bt Mischa Zverev (GER)	7-5, 7-6 (9/7), 6-4
Stan Wawrinka (SUI) bt Ernests Gulbis (LAT)	3-6, 3-1 retired

Women

Round 1

Alize Cornet (FRA) bt Lara Arruabarrena (ESP)	6-2, 6-2
Carla Suarez (ESP x23) bt Clara Burel (FRA)	7-5, 6-2
Eugenie Bouchard (CAN) bt Peng Shuai (CHN)	6-2, 6-1
Serena Williams (USA x16) bt Tatjana Maria (GER)	6-0, 6-2
T. Bacsinszky (SUI) bt Darya Kasatkina (RUS x10)	6-3, 6-0
N. Vkhlyantseva (RUS) bt Varvara Lepchenko (USA)	6-7 (2/7), 6-2, 6-4
Johanna Konta (GBR) bt Ajla Tomljanovic (AUS)	7-6 (7/4), 2-6, 7-6 (10/7)
Garbine Muguruza (ESP x18) bt Zheng Saisai (CHN)	6-2, 6-3
Camille Giorgi (ITA x27) bt Dalila Jakupovic (SLO)	6-3, 6-0
Madison Brengle (USA) bt Misaki Doi (JPN)	6-4, 6-0
Karolina Pliskova (CZE x7) bt K. Muchova (CZE)	6-3, 6-2
Tamara Zidansek (SLO) bt Daria Gavrilova (AUS)	7-5, 6-3
Laura Siegemund (GER) bt Victoria Azarenka (BLR)	6-7 (5/7), 6-4, 6-2
Hsieh Su-wei (TPE x28) bt Stefanie Vogele (SUI)	6-2, 6-1
Wang Qiang (CHN x21) bt Fiona Ferro (FRA)	6-4, 6-3
Aleksandra Krunic (SRB) bt Zarina Diyas (KAZ)	3-6, 7-5, 6-1
Bianca Andreescu (CAN) bt Whitney Osuigwe (USA)	7-6 (7/1), 6-7 (0/7), 6-3
A. Sevastova (LAT x13) bt Mona Barthel (GER)	6-3, 6-1
Elise Mertens (BEL x12) bt AK. Schmiedlova (SVK)	6-2, 7-5
A. Potapova (RUS) bt Pauline Parmentier (FRA)	6-4, 7-6 (7/5)
Madison Keys (USA x17) bt Destanee Aiava (AUS)	6-2, 6-2
Elena Svitolina (UKR x6) bt Viktorija Golubic (SUI)	6-1, 6-2
V. Williams (USA) bt Mihaela Buzarnescu (ROU x25)	6-7 (3/7), 7-6 (7/3), 6-2

NICK KYRGIOS DUMPED OUT IN FIRST ROUND

SYDNEY - Nick Kyrgios will tumble further down the rankings after losing in the opening round to Milos Raonic.

The Australian paid for dropping outside the top 50 by drawing 16th seed Raonic and is now likely to be around 70 when the standings are updated following a 6-4 7-6 (5) 6-4 loss.

Kyrgios received treatment to his right knee throughout the match and made no secret of his irritation at another injury problem with some colourful language.

Raonic hit 30 aces and never faced a break point in a dominant performance.

It was the seventh meeting between the pair and the first since 2016, and Raonic has now taken a 4-3 advantage.

Their first three meetings were all in majors, with Raonic winning at the French Open and Wimbledon in 2014 and Kyrgios at Wimbledon



in 2015. Raonic next plays former champion Stan Wawrinka, who advanced when his opponent Ernests

Gulbis retired in the second set of their match with a back injury. **AFP**

'SERENA-TARD' DEBUTS AT AUSTRALIAN OPEN

SYDNEY - Serena Williams unveiled her latest fashion statement at the Australian Open yesterday, and helpfully ended any confusion about what to call the striking garment.

Some suggested it was a onesie, others said it resembled a romper suit, but for the item's famous creator there could be only one name.

"It's a Serena-tard," Williams told reporters when quizzed about her latest look.

Made of jade-green lycra with a black-and-white waistband, the skin-tight outfit looks like a pair of disco-era hot-pants attached to a builder's singlet. Williams matched it with fishnet stockings, which she explained were a health measure designed to avoid deep-vein thrombosis (DVT).

Williams almost died in 2017 when blood clots formed in her lungs after she gave birth to her first child, daughter Olympia. She said she still lived in fear of the condition returning and wore compression tights to help stop clots forming. "(I'm) definitely still concerned. I have had some issues and they're not done. So it's just something I just have to do for pretty much probably the rest of my career," she said. "But I'm always at the doctor. With DVTs, it's very scary. I know a lot of people - they're very common. A lot of people have them. Especially for me it's incredibly frightening."

Williams is renowned for her on-court outfits, including a body-hugging black catsuit at last year's French Open that caused controversy when

organisers said she would not be able to wear it this year. **AFP**

Osaka powers into Aussie Open 2nd round

MELBOURNE - Japanese fourth seed Naomi Osaka overcame a nervous start and distraction from flying bugs to ease into the Australian Open second round yesterday.

The US Open champion downed Magda Linette of Poland 6-4, 6-2 in just under an hour to set up a meeting with Tamara Zidansek of Slovakia in the next round.

"I felt really nervous walking onto the court but then when I started playing I just felt really happy and grateful that I'm able to play in front of such a great crowd," she said. The 21-year-old said she enjoyed the warm Australian conditions but had to call for a ballboy's help when a bug was fluttering on court as she prepared to serve for the match.

"I'm not really that great at catching them, I'd accidentally squish it maybe, so it's probably not a good idea" she said. Osaka quickly put aside her brush with Australian wildlife and sealed the match with an ace. Bookies have installed her as second favourite to lift the Australian title after Serena Williams, who she beat in last year's US Open final, sparking the American's infamous meltdown at the umpire. **AFP**

Djokovic sets up second round clash Jo-Wilfried Tsonga after win

SYDNEY - Novak Djokovic is up and running at the Australian Open, beating qualifier Mitchell Krueger of the United States in straight sets.

The world number one advanced into round two with a 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 victory that took a little over two hours on the Rod Laver Arena.

The top ranked seed will play Jo-Wilfried Tsonga next in an eye-catching encounter - a repeat of the 2008 final.

Djokovic is going for a record seventh Australian Open title and his 15th Grand Slam singles championship.

He received the luck of the draw ahead of the tournament when both his major opponents, number two Rafael Nadal



THROUGH: Novak Djokovic.

and third-seeded and defending champion Roger Federer were drawn in the opposite half. It means the highest-

ranked opponent in Djokovic's route to the final is number four Alexander Zverev, who also won yesterday. **AFP**

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BRIEFS

Masutha takes charge of Maccabi FC

JOHANNESBURG - Maccabi FC have confirmed the appointment of former Chippa United coach Joel Masutha. Masutha was sacked by Chippa last week, having also been fired by Black Leopards in December. However, he has landed back on his feet at the mid-table National First Division outfit, who next visit struggling Cape Umoya United on Sunday.

Kick-Off

Nyirenda explains Baroka FC clearout

JOHANNESBURG - Baroka FC coach Wedson Nyirenda has highlighted a lack of professionalism as the reason for his surprise decision to release nine players recently. Mpho Kgaswane, Hussdein Shabani, Davies Nkausu, Zama Dlamini, Toriq Losper, Bheki Maliba, Richard Matloga, Charles Molapo and Thabo Moseki have all been shown the exit door at Peter Mokaba Stadium.

Sport24

Options for Mabedi after Chiefs exit

JOHANNESBURG - The Siya crew has been alerted of the options available for Patrick Mabedi as he works towards getting an opportunity to further his career with another club, after parting ways with Kaizer Chiefs. Mabedi has been unattached since early in December after Chiefs relieved him of his duties as the team's assistant coach after the club had also terminated the contract of Giovanni Solinas - the last coach the Malawian former defender served with under the Soweto giants. Meanwhile, the Siya crew has learnt that Mabedi has again attracted interest from his country's senior national team - The Flames of Malawi.

Soccer Laduma

Zakri returns to Maritzburg United

DURBAN - Yannick Zakri has returned for Maritzburg United after he went awol for the start of the second round of the Premier Soccer League. Players were given a short Christmas break after the last game of 2018 against Baroka FC at Harry Gwala Stadium in Pietermaritzburg. All the players were expected to report back for camp on December 27 but Zakri failed to pitch up. The club couldn't even get hold of him. Coach at the Team of Choice, Muhsin Ertugral, confirmed that Zakri has returned for United. "Zakri has returned. He came back yesterday (Sunday) but he won't feature (against Sundowns). He couldn't get an entry to South Africa because the embassy was closed until the 5th of January. He got the letter from the embassy explaining that," Ertugral said.

IOL

MCCARTHY SADDENED BY RANTIE'S INACTIVITY

CAPE TOWN - Cape Town City coach Benni McCarthy is sad things didn't work out with former Bafana Bafana striker Tokelo Rantie at the club.

City granted the ex-Orlando Pirates hitman indefinite leave in December without him kicking a ball for the coastal outfit, who are yet to officially confirm his departure.

The 28-year-old, who played alongside McCarthy at Pirates, was initially signed as a free agent in August last year, having walked out on Turkish team Genclerbirligi towards the end of 2017.

McCarthy says personal problems prevented 'TK' from showing what he can do at the Citizens.

"I have a personal relationship with TK. He was my ex-teammate

at Pirates. Ja, I have a soft spot for him," said McCarthy.

"I was hoping that he was the perfect player to delight this league.

"When you have personal problems, sometimes you don't know the extent and sometimes it gets the better of a human being.

"Unfortunately for us we couldn't be able to overturn and change what was going on behind the closed doors, in TK's lifestyle, his life, his personal life.

"Football was not enough. It needed much more than football to save him.

"It's so sad to see such a talented player robbed of the opportunity to excel and play one of the best sports."

Rantie is currently back home in the Free State. *Kick-Off*



ANGRY: Tokelo Rantie and Cape Town City coach Benni McCarthy.

Davids joins Pirates as assistant coach

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates Football Club yesterday announced the appointment of Fadlu Davids as their new assistant coach in place of Benson Mhlongo.

The 37-year old was assistant under (current Kaizer Chiefs head coach) Ernst Middendorp at Maritzburg United before taking over the reins last season.

The former striker was joined on the technical bench by his brother Mahier until he was sacked by the Team of Choice just three weeks ago.

Davids joins the Buccaneers' technical team of head coach Milutin Sredojevic and assistant Rhulani Mokwena.

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"I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr Davids

to Orlando Pirates," said club Chairman Dr Irvin Khoza.

"What was gratifying when I introduced the coach to the technical team there was an instant cordiality and rapport between them.

"It is also quite exciting to have two emerging talents in Rhulani and Fadlu complementing each other."

Davids took up his position yesterday.

IOL Sport

NEW CLUB:
Fadlu Davids.



Maritzburg United negotiate with AmaZulu over Khenyeza's retirement

MARITZBURG - Mabuthi Khenyeza's retirement could be short-lived as Maritzburg United explore deploying the 36-year-old upfront in their bid for survival.

Khenyeza recently called time on his career when on the books of AmaZulu, paving the way for him to become an assistant coach at Maritzburg under Muhsin Ertugral in the new year.

However, relegation-threatened United are struggling for goals this season and are con-

sidering fielding Khenyeza on the park, in which case they will have to pay Usuthu for the six months that was left on his playing contract.

"Maritzburg United did approach us last week and we are still communicating with them," confirmed AmaZulu Manager Qedi Dlamini.

"Our deal with United was for Khenyeza to be their assistant coach.

"If he wants to play again, then they have to pay because he had six months left on his

contact with us as a player."

Usuthu coach Cavin Johnson says he wouldn't be surprised if Khenyeza laces up his boots again.

"Honestly, it is not shocking," Johnson said.

"Khenyeza still has time on his side to play, so we will wait and see."

Khenyeza is the PSL's all-time second top scorer with 110 goals - 13 goals shy of AmaZulu's Siyabonga Nomvethe.

Kick-Off

Modise's future in football yet to be decided

CAPE TOWN - Cape Town City midfielder maestro Teko Modise's future in football is yet to be decided with his deal with the Citizens expiring in June this year.

Modise has played an influential role for City since joining the side in 2017 from Mamelodi Sundowns, however, he will be 37 in December.

The veteran play-maker was a part of the squad that won the MTN8 earlier

this season and it appears

he is still a favourite of coach Benni McCarthy.

In 2018/19 the former Bafana Bafana superstar has made 11 appearances in all competitions for the Mother City based outfit.

Nonetheless, McCarthy has explained to reporters that 'The General' has to undergo talks with club boss John Comitis to determine his future as well as the versatile Thamsanqa Mkhize whose deal also expires in June.

He said: "These are two very important players in the team. Teko, with his experience.

"I think Teko and his agent will need to sit with the chairman [John Comitis].

"But as far as I am concerned, these players, when I am in a suitable position, I put them in."

Another Citizens star with his deal coming to an end is Austrian Roland Putsche who produced a Man-of-the-Match display against Baroka at the Cape Town Stadium on Saturday.

Sport24



REGIONAL LOGS

STANDINGS

SIBUSISO DLAMINI

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Green Mamba	14	10	1	3	28	7	21	31
Buffaloes	14	8	4	2	21	9	12	28
Highlanders	14	8	4	2	18	12	6	28
Leopard	13	8	3	2	22	8	14	27
Swallows	14	8	2	4	18	12	6	26
Sundowns	14	5	3	6	15	18	-3	18
Sea Birds	14	5	3	6	17	19	-2	18
Malanti	14	4	5	5	12	18	-6	17
Vovovo	14	4	4	6	10	14	-4	16
Pirates	14	4	3	7	14	21	-7	15
Tambuti	14	3	4	7	11	17	-6	13
Wanderers	14	3	3	8	14	23	-9	12
Citizens	14	1	8	5	11	18	-7	11
Matsapha	13	2	1	10	8	21	-13	7

MTN National First Division log

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Black Swallows	12	8	2	1	18	7	11	26
Madinye	12	6	5	1	16	7	9	23
Rangers	12	6	4	2	17	12	5	22
Milling	12	6	4	2	18	11	7	21
Tinyosi	12	7	1	4	17	11	6	21
Tycoons	12	5	4	3	13	8	5	19
Seven Dreams	12	4	4	4	12	11	1	16
Red Lions	12	3	4	5	10	13	-3	13
Hub Sundowns	12	3	2	7	6	15	-9	11
Mbabane City	11	3	2	6	8	13	-5	11
City Warriors	12	1	2	9	5	17	-12	5
T. Callies	11	1	2	8	8	19	-11	5

Swazi Trac Hhohho Super League E77 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Burning Spear	11	6	5	0	16	7	9	23
Umbebebe	11	7	1	3	14	13	1	22
Imbumba	11	6	3	2	16	7	9	21
H. Shooting Stars	10	4	4	2	14	8	6	16
Billy Ocean	11	4	4	3	9	9	0	16
Swazi Sun	11	4	3	4	16	10	6	15
eMajukujuku	10	3	4	3	13	12	1	13
Community	11	4	1	6	10	9	1	13
PMT	11	3	2	6	9	16	-7	11
Wizards	11	2	5	4	10	18	-8	11
Sibovini	11	1	5	5	10	19	-9	8
Kupheleni	11	1	3	7	10	19	-9	6

Northern Zone

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Vultures	11	9	1	1	21	4	17	28
Manchester	10	6	4	0	17	7	10	22
Mvuma Hotspurs	11	6	3	2	20	12	8	21
Horo Spinners	10	6	3	1	17	10	7	21
Khanjama Rovers	11	4	3	4	12	19	-7	15
Machibini Rovers	11	3	3	5	10	13	-3	12
Pachanga	10	3	2	5	16	18	-2	11
Kappa Kappa	11	2	5	4	10	12	-2	11
Mshweni	11	3	1	7	15	15	0	10
N. Swallows	10	2	3	5	10	14	-4	9
Sigodlo	11	1	6	4	10	16	-6	9
Mshinande Arsenal	11	0	4	7	4	22	-18	4

Mandla Mahewu Mbabane League E70 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Corporation	14	10	1	3	31	13	18	31
Amawele	14	9	3	2	34	17	17	30
Sandia	14	9	3	2	29	16	13	30
Inter Stars	14	8	3	3	29	20	9	27
Mbabane Celtics	14	7	5	2	19	11	8	26
Real Tec	14	7	4	3	31	15	16	25
Mvakweli	14	5	6	3	23	16	7	21
Sidwashini United	14	5	5	4	25	27	-2	20
White City	14	5	4	5	32	25	7	19
Classic	14	5	4	5	22	22	0	19
Pine Valley	14	2	6	6	15	21	-6	12
Double Action	14	2	6	6	18	28	-10	12
Veni Cosmos	14	3	3	8	14	24	-10	12
Pot' O Gold	14	2	5	7	22	40	-18	11
Super Sport	14	2	2	10	17	31	-14	8
Mbabane Arsenal	14	1	0	13	16	51	-35	3

B. Division

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
FC Vaal	14	11	1	2	47	14	33	34
Mpolonjeni	14	11	1	2	45	18	27	34
Free Style	14	9	4	1	39	16	23	31
Royal Dynamos	14	8	2	4	36	24	12	26
Dangerous Darkies	14	7	2	5	41	26	15	23
Mphalati	14	7	2	5	23	24	-1	23
Hurricane	14	6	2	6	28	24	4	20
Mangwaneni FC	14	5	4	5	24	25	-1	19
The Waiters	14	5	3	6	24	21	3	18
Lusoti	13	5	2	6	24	25	-1	17
Junction Stars	14	5	1	8	23	32	-9	16
Mantsholo Utd	14	4	4	6	17	33	-16	16
Mbabane United	14	2	5	7	21	28	-7	11
Mantsholo F.C.	14	3	2	9	15	42	-27	11
National Rangers	14	2	2	10	11	35	-24	8
Mbabane Movers	13	2	1	10	16	47	-31	7

FutisNkhaba Regional League E30 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Atletico	13	8	4	1	35	14	21	28
Majotini	13	7	5	1	29	13	16	26
Ngwenya Utd	12	7	4	1	27	12	15	25
Barcelona F.C.	13	7	3	3	20	15	5	24
Nkhaba Fast Movers	12	7	2	3	21	14	7	23
Dribbling Stars	13	7	2	4	18	16	2	23
Crocodiles	13	5	2	6	22	20	2	17
Mhlosheni	13	4	4	5	21	30	-9	16
Bafana	13	4	3	6	16	18	-2	15
Super Stars	13	4	2	7	28	38	-10	14
Manyisa United	13	4	1	8	16	31	-15	13
Nkoyoyo Jnr	12	2	6	4	19	19	0	12
Lubhedze	12	3	3	6	16	22	-6	12
Kasle XI	13	2	3	8	17	36	-19	9
Moshane R Rovers	12	2	1	9	14	27	-13	7

Pots Construction Sigangeni League E30 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Promotion								
R. United	9	8	0	1	18	5	13	24
Ntsetse	9	6	2	1	20	4	16	20
Real Touch	9	6	2	1	20	8	12	20
Kangaroo	9	5	1	3	23	12	11	16
M. Celtics	8	5	1	2	11	7	4	16
Sigangeni	9	4	3	2	13	10	3	15
Total XI	8	3	1	4	13	16	-3	10
L. Nationals	9	2	1	6	10	18	-8	7
M. Chiefs	9	1	4	4	6	14	-8	7
Y. Fighters	9	1	3	5	8	14	-6	6
U. Eagles	9	1	2	6	7	16	-9	5
Villa Sport	9	0	2	7	4	29	-25	2

Bakhanyisele&Gongz Maphalaleni League E50 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Eastern Stream								
Juniors Stars	13	11	2	0	32	9	23	35
Young Lovers	14	11	1	1	51	14	37	34
Rangers	14	9	2	3	29	16	13	29
Blue Birds	14	8	4	2	32	13	19	28
Professionals	14	8	2	4	31	20	11	26
Manchester	13	7	2	4	29	10	19	23
Umkhokha	14	7	1	6	33	33	0	22
Thuluzobona	14	6	3	5	19	18	1	21
Young Stars	14	5	5	4	20	14	6	20
XI Experience	13	5	3	5	27	19	8	18
Hotspurs	13	6	0	7	20	27	-7	18
Barcelona F.C.	13	3	1	9	13	44	-31	10
Killers	14	2	3	9	19	54	-35	9
Luvunjelo	14	2	1	11	22	44	-22	7
Khulungwane	13	1	2	10	14	38	-24	5

Western Stream

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Hill Stars	10	8	1	1	15	4	11	25
Jubukweni United	10	7	2	1	22	7	15	23
Love & Peace	10	6	2	2	12	5	7	20
Happy Tigers	10	6	2	2	14	10	4	20
Lunkanka	10	5	3	2	22	15	7	18
Siphambanweni	10	4	2	4	11	14	-3	14
Mighty Birds	9	4	1	4	16	12	4	13
Happy Fighters	8	1	4	3	12	10	2	7
Top Classic	9	2	1	6	12	16	-4	7
Academy	9	1	3	5	6	14	-8	6
Rollers	9	1	1	7	7	19	-12	4
Sunrise	10	1	1	8	11	28	-17	4

South Star Mzimba Regional League E65 000

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Promotion								
Monaco	13	7	5	1	29	15	14	26
Green Sea	13	7	4	2	21	14	7	25
Sibuyeni	12	7	3	2	25	12	13	24
Timbongulu	13	7	3	3	23	16	7	24
Rangers	13	6	5	2	27	16	11	23
Amacabane	13	7	1	5	25	22	3	22
Nhlokweni Cosmos	13	6	3	4	28	18	10	21
Mzimba Arsenal	12	5	4	3	16	14	2	19
Vusweni Killers	12	5	3	4	18	18	0	18
Kasiko	13	4	4	5	21	21	0	16
Chiefs	13	3	4	6	17	25	-8	13
Swallows	13	3	3	7	10	15	-5	12
Sundowns	13	2	5	6	15	21	-6	11
Bush Bucks	13	3	2	8	12	29	-17	11
Ntsintsa Rebels	13	2	3	8	16	33	-17	9
Black Mashuba	12	2	2	8	14	23	-9	8

B. Division

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Highlanders	8	6	2	0	20	9	11	20
Rhumba Stars	8	6	0	2	26	13	13	18
Litje Barcelona	8	4	2	2	12	11	1	14
Rhinos	8	4	1	3	16	7	9	13
Driekoppies	8	3	1	4	12	14	-2	10
Top Centre	8	2	4	2	11	15	-4	10
All Stars	8	3	1	4	11	18	-7	10
Africa Stars	8	1	1	6	7	15	-8	4
United Bombers	8	0	2	6	7	19	-12	2



BASOP I-KAPPA KAPPA ON WEDNESDAY

Unity is Strength

With: Muzi Matsentjwa

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

EMABUTFO PROPEL MANZINI SUNDOWNS TO LAST EIGHT!

MANZINI Sundowns Football Club host Tambuti Football Club tonight at Mavuso Sports Centre.

The game starting at 1830 will precede a Moneni Pirates versus Mbabane Highlanders fixture.

Entrance is E40 for this double header. Manzini Sundowns Football Club would be going for gold and all three points.

This is a home game and we have not lost a game at Mavuso Sports Centre in the 2018/19

season.

We are looking at maintaining that record but more than anything, we are desperate for the points which will assist the team in achieving its annual objectives.

WELCOME TO ESWATINI PAPIC

MANZINI Sundowns Football Club is thrilled at the idea of having Kosta Papic as the National team head coach.

Papic comes with glittering credentials and vast experience. He has an added advantage in the fact that he perfectly understands Southern African soccer as he had various attachments in South Africa. Sundowns thank the Eswatini Football Association of (EFA) for this appointment. It is dawn to a new era in Swati Football. We take this opportunity to encourage all other football stakeholders to support the new head coach and guide him through the labyrinth of Swati Soccer. Eswatini will be 'great again'. Welcome to Eswatini Mr Kosta Papic.



IN SUPPORT: Emabutfo came in numbers to watch Manzini Sundowns training session at Ecinisweni Sports Ground.



BUCKLE UP! 'DOWNS VS SWALLOWS

MANZINI Sundowns Football Club is up against Mbabane Swallows Football Club in the Last Eight of the Ingwenyama Cup.

The epic clash billed for Somhlolo National Stadium is one of the biggest games in the 2018/19 season. It is a battle that Sundowns would have preferred to fight at a later stage of the tournament.

Dubbed 'Part 3', the psychological aspect favours Mbabane Swallows after having won against Manzini Sundowns four days ago. They have won all three editions of the Ingwenyama Cup and are current defending champions. They wouldn't want to endure a quarterfinal exit. In fact, Mbabane Swallows have won all the games they have played in the Ingwenyama Cup.

They have never lost a game! Sundowns go to this clash as clear underdogs. However, the team has ambitions of its own. Swallows triumphs are history. Driven by a highly motivated youthful squad; of which most were suckling on ice block at school when Swallows was winning Ingwenyama Cups, the team is looking beyond this game. Much of the talking shall happen in the field of play. It is a huge fixture that surely has the potential of being a thriller. Supporters are invited to come in numbers for the Ingwenyama Cup games this weekend. They will be played this weekend and this weekend only. Football fans are further encouraged to observe all the rules and regulations surrounding road usage for a safe 2019.

Sundowns Shall Never Lose...
BASOP!

THE BOSS IS BACK: RINGA NGELUARI

MANZINI Sundowns Football Club host Tambuti Football Club tonight at Mavuso Sports Centre.

The game starting at 1830 will precede a

Moneni Pirates versus Mbabane Highlanders fixture. Entrance is E40 for this double header. Manzini Sundowns Football Club is going for gold and all three points. This is a home

game and we have not lost a game at Mavuso Sports Centre in the 2018/19 season. We are looking at maintaining that record but more than anything, we are desperate for the points which will assist the team in achieving its annual objectives.



MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG

P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	POINTS
14	5	3	6	15	18	-3	18

MTN SCOREBOARD

Kingu Pemba Kevin	3
Linda Maphalala	3
Vusumuzi 'Pokwane' Mashaba	2
EnzoMotsa	1
Phumlani 'Mkhize' Mtsetfwa	1
Mkhuleko Magagula	1
Phumlani Dlamini	1
Reagan Kangumbu	1
Sibusiso Mkhonta	1
MuhleShiba	1
TOTAL	15



MTN Premier League 2018/19

PREVIEWS

Compiled By
Mthunzi Maziya

SOCCER – If Green Mamba FC are able to maintain their three points lead at the top of

the standings, Young Buffaloes and Mbabane Highlanders will only be able to catch up with

them on points if they win their matches.

Manzini Sundowns will be look-

ing to surpass the 20 point mark against relegation threatened Tambuti FC.

'DOWNS SEEK REDEMPTION



Mzn. Sundowns vs Tambuti FC
Today at Mavuso Sports Centre
6.30pm

SOCCER - MANZINI Sundowns go into this game after their disappointing defeat by title contenders Mbabane Swallows. They are well placed in mid-table, and have little worries about relegation. This game presents them with a chance to create a formidable buffer between themselves and the relegation zone.

On paper, the 'Kappa Boys' should have enough quality to dislodge Tambuti FC in this game, but complacency

has let down many teams in the recent past. Therefore, Sundowns would do themselves justice by getting their minds focused on getting a good result in this game.

Separated

Tambuti FC goes into this encounter separated by only two points from the teams in the drop zone. The danger for them is imminent.

A win against Sundowns is a must if they are to establish a cushion into mid-table, especially because by all expectations, their compatriots at the bottom, Manzini Wanderers, are expected to lift themselves out of the drop zone sooner than later.

2019 RECORD

SUNDOWNS –	Played: 2	Won: 1	Lost: 1	Drawn: 0
TAMBUTI FC –	Played: 2	Won: 0	Lost: 1	Drawn: 0

KEY PLAYERS

SUNDOWNS –	Vusumuzi Mashaba, Phumlani Dlamini, Enzo Motsa
TAMBUTI FC –	Zwakele Dlamini, Siciniseko Ndlangamandla, Neliso



Bull face wounded Sea Robbers

M. Pirates vs Mbabane Highlanders
Today at Mavuso Sports Centre 8.30pm

IT was a woefully attacking display by the Moneni 'Buccaneers' when they lost 1-2 to Royal Leopard over the past weekend.

They will meet a buoyant Mbabane Highlanders side that will be intent on punishing every mistake.

Surely, Pirates must come into this game with a better game plan than the one that led to their loss against Leopard.

Victory would lift the 'Buccaneers' as far as eighth on the standings, but they need goals because their goal difference of minus seven is not good at all.

Highlanders, on the other hand, will catch up with Green Mamba FC at the top of the log with victory, provided the log leaders lose against Sea Birds.

It is an exciting game in prospect, and hopefully the fans that will cram the Mavuso Sports Centre will get value for their money.

2019 RECORD

PIRATES –	Played: 2	Won: 0	Lost: 2	Drawn: 0
LANDERS –	Played: 2	Won: 2	Lost: 0	Drawn: 0

KEY PLAYERS

PIRATES –	Lwazi Mamba, Thabo Vilakati, Menzi Simelane
LANDERS –	Vusumuzi Zungu, Melusi 'Slender' Dlamini, Menzi Sithole



Log leaders host unpredictable Sea Birds

Green Mamba vs Sea Birds
Today at Somhlolo National Stadium 6.30pm

IT must have been a disappointment for the log leaders, Green Mamba FC, when they dropped points against Matsapha United last week.

They could be well clear at the top of the standings had they won that game, but they will be presented with another chance to do just that when they face Manzini Sea Birds this evening.

Sea Birds have been a surprise package thus far, with a performance that has seen them occupy seventh spot after 14 matches. This is evidence that Green Mamba have a tough game on their hands, and if they do not take it seriously, they might suffer the same fate as last week.

Victory for them is essen-



2019 RECORD

GREEN MAMBA FC –	Played: 1	Won: 0	Lost: 0	Drawn: 1
MANZINI SEA BIRDS –	Played: 1	Won: 0	Lost: 0	Drawn: 1

KEY PLAYERS

GREEN MAMBA FC –	Banele 'Makonose' Dlamini, Mthunzi 'Xavi' Mkhontfo, Njabulo Tfwala
MANZINI SEA BIRDS –	Sibusiso Dlamini, Goinzivi Dlamini, Muzi Tsabedze

tial because anything less will open the chance for them to be caught by both

Mbabane Highlanders and Young Buffaloes.

SUPERB BUFFS AIM FOR TOP SPOT

Y. Buffaloes vs Matsapha United
Today at Somhlolo National Stadium 8.30pm

IT was a vintage performance by Young Buffaloes when they completely dominated Manzini Wanderers over the past week.

Should they carry that form into this game against Matsapha United; the rookies will have no chance of getting anything out of the game. Against Wanderers, Buffaloes played like real champions, and they would look at this game as a chance to catch Green Mamba at the top of the standings.

It is an important game, no doubt, and Buffaloes must score enough goals if the opportunity avails itself because Green Mamba have a far superior goal difference at the top.

As for Matsapha United, they were thrown into the lion's den unexpectedly when ordered to play in the elite league after the demise of the original Matsapha United. Victory for Matsapha will leave them bottom, but they will only be two points away from safety.

2019 RECORD

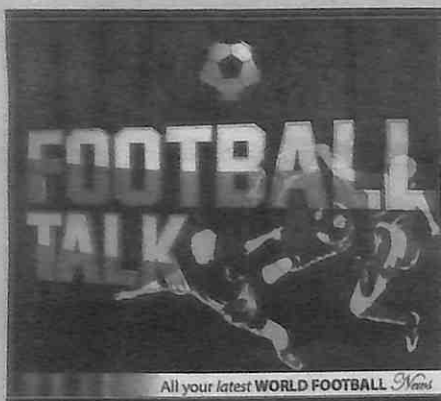
Y. BUFFALOES –	Played: 2	Won: 2	Lost: 0	Drawn: 0
MATSAPHA UTD –	Played: 2	Won: 1	Lost: 1	Drawn: 0

KEY PLAYERS

Y. BUFFALOES –	Fanelo Mamba, Sandile Gamedze, Nhlanhla Gwebu
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MATSAPHA UTD –	Sifiso Dlamini, Sihawu Dlamini, Muzi 'Mzo' Dlamini
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● Arsenal manager Unai Emery is happy to allow German playmaker Mesut Ozil, 30, to leave the club in order to free up funds for two new signings. Ozil is currently Arsenal's highest-earning player on a £350 000-a-week contract. *(Mail)*

● Chelsea will demand £100m if Belgium playmaker Eden Hazard, 28, tells the club he wants to join Real Madrid. (Telegraph) Tottenham striker Harry Kane fears he may be out for at least a month with the ankle injury he suffered against Manchester United. *(Guardian)*

● Spurs are weighing up a loan move for Barcelona forward Malcom, 21, with uncertainty over striker Harry Kane's fitness. *(Star)*

● West Ham striker Marko Arnautovic, 29, will seal a £35m move to Chinese Super League side Shanghai SIPG before the end of the week. *(Sun)*

● Shanghai SIPG will test West Ham's resolve by raising their bid to around £45m for Austria international Arnautovic. *(Times - subscription required)*

● The Hammers will target Bournemouth striker Callum Wilson, 26, if they let Arnautovic leave this month. *(Sky Sports)*

● Sevilla have given up on signing Chelsea's Spain striker Alvaro Morata, 26, as he is too expensive, having had an offer worth £40m rejected. *(Evening Standard)*

● Morata is willing to take a pay cut to join Atletico Madrid, who will need to sell another player to bring in the former Real Madrid striker. *(Marca)*

● Newcastle United manager Rafael Benitez says 26-year-old midfielder Jonjo Shelvey, who has been linked with Fulham and West Ham, is not available in the January transfer window. *(Chronicle)*

● Manchester United keeper David de Gea, 28, wants to stay at the club but is waiting for an offer worth around £300 000 a week. *(Mail)*

Former Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho cannot talk about his departure from the club during stints as a pundit because of a confidentiality clause inserted in his severance package when he left the Old Trafford outfit. *(Times - subscription required)*

● Manchester United players increasingly want caretaker manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer to take over permanently at the end of the season. *(Telegraph)*

● Solskjaer wants to offload Marouane Fellaini and could let the 31-year-old Belgium midfielder leave on loan in January. *(Talksport)*



MBABANE CITIZENS THRASH WANDERERS IN U-17 OPENER

Stories By Sibusiso Dlamini

Mbabane Citizens (4)5
Manzini Wanderers (0)1

SOCCER – NEWCOMERS in the Esibayeni Lodge bankrolled Under-17 league Mbabane Citizens announced their arrival in style after trashing Manzini Wanderers 5-1 yesterday.

This was during the opening round of games matches played at the country's soccer Mecca, the Somhlolo National Stadium.

Citizens came in as the under-

dogs in the match, but were quick to get control as they scored in the first minute through Sibane Gamedze, who converted from an easy-tap in after a quick interchange of passes.

Three minutes later, Citizens doubled the lead after capitalising on a slumbering Wanderers. Ngcobo Maseko linked up well with gifted Captain Simentelwe Ngwenya before slotting past the goalkeeper.

The youngster was back at it again in the 27th minute when he converted from the spot after being

fouled by Mcebo Nkambule.

The lanky youngster sent Lusanda Mkhathwa, who was manning the Weslians post, the wrong way to claim his brace.

Grasp

Whilst Manzini Wanderers were still trying to grasp what was happening and adjusting, especially in the middle of the park, Wakhile Sibanyoni made it worse, scoring the fourth for Citizens with a wonderful volley.

The match went to recess with the blue and white side leading by the four-goal advantage.

After the break, Citizens still came back controlling the match, albeit the fact that Manzini Wanderers were now dominating possession, as skillful youngster Lindani 'Chocco' Mkhathwa made things happen in the final third, but their finishing let them down.

Citizens put the final nail in the coffin just three minutes before time, through Sibane Gamedze, who slotted the ball past an oncoming Lusanda. Wanderers got their consolation from the spot-kick, which was converted by Sakhile Mngomezulu at death.

'Late registration was a let-down'

SOCCER – MANZINI Wanderers development coach Psychology Hlatshwayo believes his side could have done better had they registered all their players in time.

The mentor said this during a post-match interview after his charges suffered a 1-5 defeat in the hands of newcomers Mbabane Citizens.

"Most of my key players were not part of this game.

"The main problem is that we started registering players late; you know the struggle of dealing with parents and youngsters, especially in December. Some parents will fight over the documentation, whilst others don't want their children to play soccer regardless of the

potential they have.

But coming back to the match, we lost to a better team. They deserved the victory, we just need to get our house in order and I promise that next game, we'll be much more improved," he said.

Meanwhile, his Citizens counterpart Sicelo Simelane said his side was still going to get better.

"You'd be shocked to know that we still haven't properly trained because of holidays and all, but then look at our performance.

We outdid ourselves but I saw certain loopholes that we need to work on before facing the much more formidable opponents," he said.



STARS: Mbabane Citizens Under-17 players pose before their match against Manzini Wanderers in the opening fixture played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. The team won 5-1. (Pic: Sibusiso Dlamini)

'Swazi Bolt' for Pretoria training camp

By Mthunzi Maziya

ATHLETICS – LOCAL sprinter Sibusiso 'Swazi Bolt' Matsenjwa will leave the country next Thursday for a training camp in Pretoria, South Africa.

This training camp signals the start of 'Swazi Bolt's' preparations for the World Championships to be staged by Qatar in late September. Interviewed yesterday, Matsenjwa said the Pretoria camp would help him gauge his level ahead of a variety of competitions he has to take part in so that he qualifies for the world champs.

"Qualifying for this year's championships is through a ranking system by the International Athletics Association Federation (IAAF). It means I have to run in many high profile events to garner enough points to qualify," he said.

This will be the first of two camps that 'Swazi Bolt' will attend in Pretoria as another one is slated for the 20th of

next month.

He has a long list of major events lined up in countries like Switzerland, Germany, South Africa (Grand Prix), and another race in Angola, which he can use to get the points needed to qualify him for the world championships.

"The bigger the events you compete in, the more points you gain.

I will be working hard with my coach to improve on my time so that I can be in a good position to get as many points as possible," he said.

'Swazi Bolt' is the fastest 200 metres runner in the country. He also specialises in the 100 metres, and will use this year's events to prepare for the Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan next year.

His best 100 metres time is 10.31 seconds achieved in 2017, and his personal best for 200 metres is 20.09, which he clocked in Pretoria last year.

Matsenjwa says he is targeting a time of 10.10 seconds in the 100 metres this year, and 20.30 in the 200 metres.



FOR CAMP: Sibusiso 'Swazi Bolt' Matsenjwa.

MRPA AGM at St John Bosco on Saturday

By Mthunzi Maziya

POOL – The Manzini Regional Pool Association (MRPA) will stage its Annual General Meeting (AGM) at St John Bosco Primary School in Malkerns on Saturday.

Chairman of the MRPA, Muntu Dlamini confirmed this yesterday. He said the meeting would start at 2pm and that they would be welcoming new teams that have joined the association.

"We would like to invite more teams to join us as there is still time to do so. We have extended the deadline for registration to Saturday, and we hope teams will use this time available ahead of the AGM," he said. Dlamini added that they were happy to welcome more teams into the association because their sponsor, Dixies International, has increased the package from E20 000 to E40 000 for the new season. "Part of the agenda of the AGM is to agree on the prize breakdown of the new sponsorship. We urge our members to attend the meeting without fail," he said. The Chairman also pointed out that they would use the AGM to allow teams to sign the new code of conduct as required by the Eswatini National Sports and Recreational Council (ENSRC). "We have been tasked with taking the lead in the re-establishment of the national association, and because of that we will be visiting the Shiselweni and Lubombo regions soon after the AGM to check on pool activities there," he said.

The Agenda

1. Welcome remarks
2. Registration
3. Renewal of by-laws
4. Agreement on prize breakdown
5. Kick-off date
6. A.O.B

BULL, VOVOVO FC CHARGED BY PLE

By Mthunzi Maziya

SOCCKER – Both Mbabane Highlanders and Vovovo FC have been charged by the Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) for the violence that occurred at Nsukuwansuku Stadium.

The case relates to the ugly scenes that erupted before the teams abandoned the Ingwenyama Cup match two weeks ago. Highlanders' fans are alleged to have blocked Vovovo FC's supporters, players, and officials from entering the stadium, which led to a skirmish that disturbed an earlier match between Moneni Pirates and Matsapha United. PLE's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Simanga Nhleko confirmed that both teams were charged. He said he would not reveal the exact nature of the charges because certain rules prevented his office from doing so.

"It is only the prosecutor that can state

...both face maximum fine of E110 000

the nature of the charges. What I can confirm is that both teams have been charged and are expected to appear before the Disciplinary Committee (DC) on Thursday (tomorrow) evening," he said.

Enquiries

Asked whether the charges also cover an incident that occurred during the replay at Somhlolo National Stadium, when a Vovovo FC fan was stabbed, Nhleko referred all enquiries to the prosecutor. Mbabane Highlanders' Public relations Officer, Magidzeludzakeni Masilela confirmed that they have received correspondence from the PLE on the matter. He said the team has been charged with contravening Article 10.3 (d) and (f) of the 2018/19 Ingwenyama Cup rules and regulations.

Reads 10.3 (d); "Assaulting a referee (s) or match official (s) or club official

(s) or player (s) or fan (s) or supporter (s) or spectator (s) – a minimum fine of E10 000 and a maximum fine of E100 000."

It is said Highlanders' marshals were involved in trying to block Vovovo FC from getting closer to their team's bus, and the fracas was later joined by fans from both teams, which led to an uncontrollable situation spotted by officials on duty at the stadium.

Reads 10.3 (f); "Failure by a club (s) to control their officials or players or supporters or fans – a minimum fine of E3 000 and a maximum fine of E10 000 by the DC."

Vovovo FC's Chief Executive Officer, Stan Dlamini said they had not received anything from the PLE by late afternoon yesterday. He said he would only comment once he was clear on what his team had been charged for.

REMARKS:
Swaziland Epilepsy Organisation (SEO) Director Mbusomuni Mahlalela making his remarks during the launch of the Epilepsy Half Marathon race at Dvokodweni yesterday. The inaugural race will be held at the area on February 17. (Courtesy)



E40 for Ingwenyama Cup quarters

By Sibusiso Dlamini

SOCCKER – FANS will have to part ways with E40 to watch this week's Ingwenyama Cup round of eight games.

This was revealed by the Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Simanga Nhleko yesterday.

"Fans will have to pay E40 on both days to watch the Ingwenyama Cup quarterfinal games this weekend," he said briefly.

The games will be headlined by a fixture pitting the defending champions in Mbabane Swallows against Manzini Sundowns On Sunday starting at 4pm. The clash will be preceded by an encounter between Mbabane Highlanders against Matsapha United.

The games will start on Saturday where Malanti Chiefs will lock horns with National First division outfit Tinyosi while Royal Leopard have a date with Young Buffaloes in a much anticipated derby scheduled to kick off at 4pm. All games will be played at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

THE FULL INGWENYAMA CUP QUARTERFINALS DRAW	
Royal Leopard FC	Young Buffaloes FC
Manzini Sundowns FC	Mbabane Swallows FC
Malanti Chiefs FC	Tinyosi FC
Mbabane Highlanders FC	Matsapha United FC

ON SATURDAY AT SOMHLOLO NATIONAL STADIUM

Malanti Chiefs	vs	Tinyosi FC	2pm
R. Leopard	vs	Y. Buffaloes	4pm

ON SUNDAY AT SOMHLOLO NATIONAL STADIUM

Mb. Highlanders	vs	Matsapha United	2pm
Mzn. Sundowns	vs	Mb. Swallows	4pm

EFA to conduct club licensing spot checks on premier league teams

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER – The Eswatini Football Association (EFA) will be conducting Club Licensing spot checks with the 14 Premier League teams in the country.

The check-ups are a follow-up to the submissions of documentation by the clubs for the 2018/19 season licensing requirements.

According to a statement released by Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) CEO Simanga Nhleko yesterday, the spot checks will be conducted by the football mother body on different days starting today.

Defending

Some of the teams to be checked today include MTN Premier League defending champions Mbabane Swallows, Malanti Chiefs, Mbabane Highlanders and Royal Leopard, amongst others.

TODAY JANUARY 23, 2019

Malanti Chiefs	Manzini Wanderers
Mbabane Swallows	Manzini Sundowns
Mbabane Highlanders	Moneni Pirates
Mbabane Citizens	Green Mamba
Royal Leopard	Young Buffaloes
Vovovo	Matsapha United
Manzini Sea Birds	Tambuti

The next session will be held next Tuesday and will involve hub giants Manzini Wanderers, Manzini Sundowns, Moneni Pirates and security forces sides Young Buffaloes and Green Mamba.

Exercise

The final check will only be for two teams in Tambuti and Matsapha United on January 23. Nhleko appealed to the team to cooperate fully with the EFA during the exercise.



BEST: Premier League Best players for the month of December Msimisi Dlamini from Tinyosi and Manzini Sea Birds' Muzi Tsabedze. (Pic: Sibusiso Dlamini)

MUZI, MSIMISI ARE DECEMBER'S BEST

By Sibusiso Dlamini

SOCCKER – SPEEDY Manzini Sea Birds right-winger Muzi Tsabedze and Tinyosi center-back Msimisi Dlamini are December's best.

The two were presented their awards for being the finest of the month at the Sigwaca House yesterday.

MTN Senior Manager Consumer Meshack Maseko congratulated the players. He said the sponsor was impressed with the efforts put in by the players, coaches and fans in making the league a success.

"As a sponsor, we would like to congratulate the two on being the best players in December. They have worked hard and have put themselves up for an opportunity to win player of the season. We would also like to thank all stakeholders, from the technical teams to the PLE and then last but not least, the most important people, the fans," he said.

Sea Birds' Muzi Tsabedze who has netted seven goals in the season, two of which were in December said he was humbled by the award.

He added that they were happy to be working with a former Sihlangu coach in Antony Mdluli who brings valuable experience from international football.

"Firstly, I would like to thank all my teammates and everyone who helped me achieved the award. To be recognised as the Best Player in the League for December is a big deal for me, and I am truly humbled.

As a team, we just got a new coach, and I think we will improve because he has valuable experience from international football and is an easy person to work with. Meanwhile, the Tinyosi defender expressed delight at the recognition.

"All we want is to make sure that we gain promotion to the Premier League and everyone is focused and dedicated to achieving it," he said.

RESULTS

MTN Premier League

Wanderers	1-0	Citizens
Vovovo	0-3	Leopard
Malanti	0-2	Swallows

FIXTURES

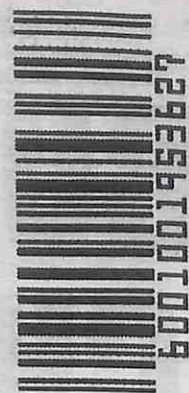
MTN Premier League

Playing today

Tonight at Mavuso Sports Centre		
Manzini Sundowns	vs	Tambuli 6.30pm
Moneni Pirates	vs	Mbabane Highlanders 8.30pm
Tonight at Somhlolo National Stadium		
Green Mamba	vs	Sea Birds 6.30pm
Young Buffaloes	vs	Matsapha United 8.30pm

SWAZI OBSERVER

Sport



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Wednesday January 16, 2019

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Green Mamba	14	10	1	3	28	7	21	31
Leopard	14	9	3	2	25	8	17	30
Swallows	15	9	2	4	20	12	8	29
Highlanders	14	8	4	2	18	12	6	28
Buffaloes	14	8	4	2	21	9	12	28
Sea Birds	14	5	3	6	17	19	-2	18
Sundowns	14	5	3	6	15	18	-3	18
Malanti	15	4	5	6	12	20	-8	17
Vovovo	15	4	4	7	10	17	-7	16
Pirates	14	4	3	7	14	21	-7	15
Wanderers	15	4	3	8	15	23	-8	15
Tambuli	14	3	4	7	11	17	-6	13
Citizens	15	1	8	6	11	19	-8	11
Matsapha	13	2	1	10	8	21	-13	7



WANDERERS EASE RELEGATION WOES

...Hub giants snatch 1-0 victory against Mbabane Citizen to jump to 11th spot on MTN Premier League log standings

By Sibusiso Dlamini

Manzini Wanderers... (1)1
Mbabane Citizens... (0)0

SOCCER – Not only was it newly-appointed Manzini Wanderers head coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati's first win, but t h e

hub giants eased their relegation woes after bagging the maximum points last night.

The maroon and white outfit recorded a narrow 1-0 victory against Mbabane Citizens at the Mavuso Sports Centre last night.

Wanderers came into this game in dire need of a win, having lost two matches since the appointment of the former Mbabane Swallows coach, a feat that saw them plunge into the relegation zone with 12 points, only five points above bottom-placed Matsapha

United and a point above second placed-Citizen. They have now jumped to position 11 on the league table with 15 points. The team started the match as the brighter side as Mike Dombo and youngster Njabulo Magongo proved to be troublesome on the wings and a bit too much to handle for the Citizens defence led by Wandile Sacolo. Wanderers dominated play and eventually broke the deadlock 26 minutes into the game through dreadlocked forward Mfanafuthi 'Taribo' Bhembe, who headed home a Njabulo Magongo cross to send the

home fans into frenzy. 'Taribo' nearly doubled the lead seven minutes later, but Sandile Dlamini was up to the task and saved it for a fruitless corner kick shot. The match went to recess with the solitary strike. After the break, the Charles Manda-led-side came back stronger and started moving the ball more swiftly. Both coaches made chances as Citizens introduced Samkeliso 'Fela' Dlamini for Bongani Matsenjwa whilst Wanderers brought in the hard-tackling Nkosiyaazi Maphosa for Dombo.

As Citizens pumped in the pressure, cracks started showing with Wanderers becoming more physical, a move that led to midfielder Willie Alfred Djemba being sent off for a reckless tackle on Dan Shabangu. With a man down, Wanderers held on for the maximum points, whilst Citizens huffed and puffed for the equaliser until the very last minute. The Mbabane based side remains second from bottom on the log, with a meagre 11 points in 15 games played.

THE TEAMS

Wanderers

Romanus Ugonna, Jose Machoda, Mphumuzi Ginindza, Sihle Mkhonta, Makhosi Mthethwa, Willie Alfred Djemba, Mfanafuthi 'Taribo' Bhembe (Mhlengi Mngomezulu) Mancoba Maseko, Ugochukwu Ohakwe, Njabulo Magongo, Mike Dombo (Nkosiyaazi Maphosa)

Citizens

Sandile Dlamini, Wandile Sacolo, Ayanda Kunene, Siyabonga Ndlangamandla, Sizwe Khumalo, Dan Shabangu, Andile Sukati, Lungelo Mngometulu, Linda Nkhambule, Bhelinkhosi Mlota, Bongani Matsenjwa (Samkeliso Dlamini)

LEOPARD MARCH ON WITH 3-0 VICTORY

By Mthunzi Maziya

Vovovo FC..... (0)0,
R. Leopard..... (1)3.

SOCCER – Royal Leopard performed a routine march at the Somhlolo National Stadium last night as they effortlessly dispatched Vovovo FC 3-0.

It was not the most brilliant of displays, but it was enough in the end as the police side's opponents failed to threaten their goal for much of the proceedings. The first goal of the game came as early as the second minute.

It was a dream start for Leopard, and it came from a free kick awarded about two yards from the 18-area box. Muzi 'Mzoro' Dlamini took responsibility and found the top corner with a beautiful strike to hand his team an early advantage. It took Vovovo FC quite some time to settle into the game, as they allowed the opposition to attack relentlessly. Not to say the game was fast-paced and exciting, but Leopard had too much joy as they released shot after shot from the edge of the box. Had they converted the chances they created in the first half, the deficit could have been much worse for Vovovo at

half-time.

Coach Gcina 'Magiyane' Dlamini was forced into an early change in the 35th minute, as his team struggled to find rhythm. Linda Mkhonta came in for Soto Tekwa, but he did little to affect the game as the referee soon sent the teams to the tunnels with the hosts trailing. Leopard started from where they left off in the second half and scored early on once again when 'Mzoro' crossed beautifully on the right flank to allow Sifiso Matse to head into the bottom corner. Vovovo had no response to Leopard's surge as two soon became three. 'Mzoro' seemed to be on the end

of all of Leopard's attacks, as he latched onto a long ball from mid-field to fire his team into a 3-0 lead in the 66th minute. It was no wonder when he received a round of applause from he made way for the returning Lungelo Tsabedze in the 73rd minute.

Vovovo tried to reach for the opposition's defensive areas on a couple of occasions, but poor finishing on the day was their major downfall. In fact, Leopard's goal-keeper Phephisani Msibi had no threatening shot to deal with for three quarters of the game.

Leopard jump to second spot with 30 points, one behind log leaders Green Mamba, who play Manzini Sea Birds tonight.