

JANUARY 20, 2019



PRICE: E7.00 (VAT INCLUSIVE)





PAGE 2

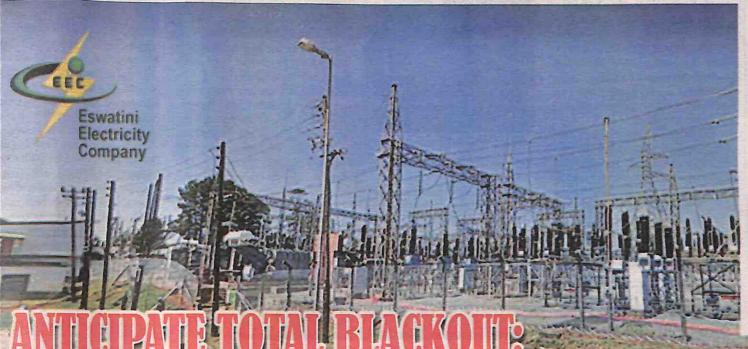
Doctor paid E250 000 sitting at home

Man faints

having sex in

bar toilet

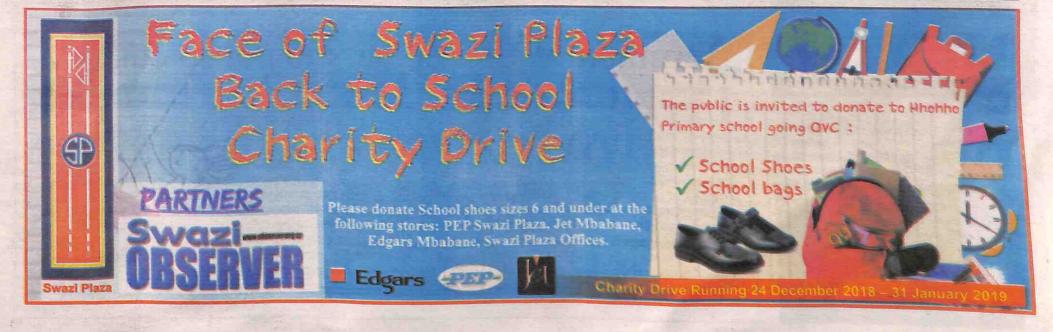
PAGE 11



...they complain of

delay in the alignment of their salaries

STORY ON PAGE 3



CLARIFICATIONS

MAN FAINTS WHILE HAVING SEX INSIDE BAR TOIL

hat was supposed to be an enjoyable session ended badly after a man fainted while having sex inside a bar toilet.

The incident that shocked the bar patrons of Blue Corner, happened two weeks ago. The popular bar is located at Mathendele (Nhlangano).

A reliable source said Blue Corner closes at midnight, or even at 1am when there is a huge demand of alcohol from the patrons.

The source said on that particular night while some patrons were enjoying themselves from alcoholic beverages, two of the revellers (male and female) started cuddling and were later seen kissing passionately.

The source said after a while the two love birds quietly disappeared unnoticed from the other patrons probably to finish what they had started in the toilet.



Mhlonishwa Tsabedze, a traditional healer from Mathendele.

"After some few minutes, we got a message that the male patron had fainted at the bar toilet while having sex. Suspecting that the man had suffered from likhubalo (traditional sexual sickness) a traditional healer was called to administer first aid and also

source. Mhlonishwa Tsabedze, the traditional healer from Mathendele confirmed that he helped a man who had fainted from the bar.

Bebamtsiyile loyo mfana, intfombi iyatsiywa if ungafuni bakugangele," said Tsabedze, which can loosely be translated to: "He had been trapped; this is done to prevent a girl from having multiple partners.'

Tsabedze said he was called to administer aid in the bar but due to the seriousness of the situation an ambulance from the Nhlangano Fire Station whisked him to his home, where he continued helping the man.

He said the man's private parts were swollen and he could easily detect that the sickness he was suffering from was likhubalo. He said if the man had not received proper assistance in time he could have died from

In fact, it transpired that some of

the patrons suspected that the illness could be traditional; hence they called the traditional healer.

One of the patrons when interviewed afterwards said the incident could have ended badly if the man had been rushed to hospital.

"Some of these illnesses cannot be treated by medical doctors and therefore, it would have been deadly if he was taken to hospital," he said.

Tsabedze said after administering his medication on the man he started showing signs of improving and eventually recovered. He said he charged the man E1 700 for healing him, but he has not come back to pay the amount.

He said he had helped a lot of people suffering from various diseases such as likhubalo and charges far less compared to what is being charged by other traditional healers fees.

The owner of the Bar Magugu Hlatshwako, when contacted on Wednesday said he was not aware of the matter because it had not been reported to him. However, he promised that he would find out from his employees. When called later, the bar owner did not answer his phone and a last attempt was made on Thursday but he still did not answer his phone.

Clients must question bill before paying - SwaziMed

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

waziMed recommends that clients who are billed by the Clinic Group for old bills should not pay but request for a breakdown of invoices because 95 per cent of these were paid.

According to the scheme's Marketing and Client Relations Officer Sicelo Mkhonta, who was responding to concerns from Observer on Saturday Editor Alec Lushaba who asked how it came about that patients were charged for old medical bills whereas the assumption is that SwaziMed had paid this

This was during a presentation by the scheme for the publication's employees on Tuesday morning. Mkhonta stated that they were requesting their clients to first request the invoice to be broken down because they were also presented with claims amounting to over E25 million and on asking for the breakdown, a new invoice of about E8 million was sent to them.

In response when asked about this phenomenon, Clinic Group Systems Manager Lucie Masuku refuted what Mkhonta said, "We have no idea where he dreamt these figures up from and I can guarantee he would not be able to provide any proof."

Adding, she said the assumption was that the presentation delved on the employees who have unpaid accounts which are owed to the Clinic Group because SwaziMed has not paid

Detailing why some of the accounts were not paid, she said; "The member ran out of benefits which can happen with items like medication, laboratory tests and doctors consultations where SwaziMed has benefit limits.'

For others, she stated that there was a possibility that SwaziMed did not authorise all the days of a hospital admission or that the claim was not processed at all.

She admitted that where there was an error, they admitted this as they were transparent, "Sometimes the Clinic Group may have made an error and SwaziMed has not informed us. The Clinic Group is totally transparent if an error has been made, we fix it.'

Why bonus claims' process prolonged

ith complaints from legislators that bonuses take long to be paid, SwaziMed has come out to explain reasons behind this taking place.

Quick to clarify that they don't emphasise on the bonuses, Sicelo Mkhonta stated that their medical aid was there to be used and they encourage their beneficiaries to make use of their services so as to avoid getting sick.

"Bonuses depend on which benefit you are on. High standard and medium allows one to claim back 30 per cent of their annual contributions less total claims whereas the savings plan has 20 per cent allowance of the balance at the end of the year." He stated that if nothing has been claimed, all the benefits are forwarded and availed to be used the next year. Further, he stated that even though they paid claims out within seven days of receipt from doctors and pharmacies who sent claims through electronically. This then sees those who submit manually to be paid after two weeks. It is on this regard that Mkhonta said they give an allowance of up to three months for doctors to lodge claims. Within seven days, claims from medical centres are paid by the more efficient system and as such, Mkhonta said there were no doctors who could say they took long to pay. He however stated that there were still 10 per cent of practitioners who submit their invoices manually by taking them to the SwaziMed offices regularly; "They have a problem that it takes about two weeks to pay them.

FREE BENEFITS FROM SWAZIMED

ull body check-ups are ↓ free for all SwaziMed clients. These check-ups include body mass index checks, blood glucose and cholesterol once in 12 months.

On the other hand, pap smears, PSA, colorectal screening once in two years.

The medical aid scheme has also added chronic medication benefits in recognition

that the need for such medication depletes members allowance faster and as such, those on high benefit have an extra E8 000 above the E13 000 for medication.

Termination of medical aid not so cut, dry

n the middle of December, scheme rules call for a company lective pooling of good and bad benefit overlaps to the months Authority (FSRA) issued a statement to the effect that it was the opportune time for medical aid scheme or insurance members to switch membership if they so wished.

If there were any SwaziMed clients who wished to jump ship, they would not have been able to because they were bound by rules which call for them to give notice. According to Sicelo Mkhonta,

the Financial Services Regulatory to give notice before moving to another scheme which offers the same service. Employees within a company cannot voluntarily quit to join another scheme.

Mkhonta clarified that since the fund is not for profit as members use everything they contribute.

"Currently, we collect over E0.5billion per year from all the members," he said adding that nothing goes to shareholders as dividends. Since the scheme is a colrisk, no one is asked if they are sick before joining as there are no exclusions.

"Everyone is catered for," he said adding that even those on cancer treatment which is not taken on month by month basis, were catered for. He stated how medication could be collected once in three or six months and in the event their members were allowed to terminate membership without notice, they would find that their they indicated they would rather terminate.

Further, parents with children studying in South Africa already had their offspring's contribution extended to the scheme's neighbouring country's partner CompCare for the whole year even before the principal member starts contributing.

Mkhonta said these rules were made by members during their annual general meetings.



SCENE REPORTER:

scene@observer.org.sz

SENIOR SUB-EDITOR

starsky@realnet.co.sz

PIGG'S PEAK

NHLANGANO

Paradise Mamba - 7946 0328

Email: subeditor@observer.org.sz

Tobacco Company Complex, Cnr

SEDCO premises, Tel: 2207 5159

Kar Kai Building opposite Shoprite, Office No. 3, Tel: 2437 1083

Sizwe Dlamini Cell: 7670 0678 / 7946 0377 Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz

MARKETING MANAGER

Siphesihie Mkhonta: 7605 2296 /

7946 0308 2404 8671 / 2404 8699

smm@observer.org.sz

CIRCULATION OFFICE

Mhlonishwa Dlamini: 7687 6985 / 7946 0301 circulation@observer.org.sz

King George, Masengule Street Opposite

Starsky Mkhonta Cell: 7621 5081 / 7946 0346

SITEKI

MANZINI Makhaya Convenient

Centre, Office No. 25

Sifiso Nhlabatsi CELL: 7674 6378 /

Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 25 05 7220

Siteki Market Office No. 15

CELL: 7643 6549 / 7968 3737

Wonderboy Dlamini

MANAGING EDITOR

EECEMPLOYEES TO DOWN TOOLS THURSDAY

...they complain of delay in alignment of their salaries

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

he gloves are off and Eswatini Electricity Company employees are in an uncompromising mood.

During a meeting held at the Bosco Skills Centre yesterday, employees resolved that they were tired of waiting for alignment of their salaries whereas management got their increases through circulars as well as the cost of living adjustment as they pledged to down tools this Thursday.

Employees stated that they were tired of waiting on management to do the right thing whereas there are excuses made on the issue of alignment.

According to submissions made during the meeting where employees from all branches and depots country-wide were represented, the



Eswatini
Electricity
Company
Marketing and
Corporate
Communications
Manager Sifiso
Dhlamini.

employees bone of contention is that they are tired of being sidelined by management in their deliberations. They stated that as per a meeting with the managing director on November 27, 2018, they were informed that the company's board had approved alignment of their salaries.

However, this was said to have been done conditionally.

Workers said there was uncertain-

ty on how this would be done as they heard there would be some employees who would not benefit whereas all of senior management benefitted from the PEU Circular No. 3 of 2016 which saw CEOs and CFOs getting salary increases.

The meeting was chaired by their union, Swaziland Electricity Supply Maintenance and Allied Workers Union (SESMAWU) and the media

was barred from sitting in as this reporter was unceremoniously chucked out even though an introduction was made to the marshal at the door and he was welcoming.

The workers said the circular, when it came into effect in November 2016, was not questioned as it had no conditions for the executive members in the company's employ as it saw the MD's salary increase to above the premier at that time.

It also saw positions such as the chief financial officer's getting increases as well. From the action of the circular, an alignment of salaries of the rest of the employees was sought and on recommendation of the board, KPMG was hired as consultant and completed the exercise.

Perturbed

The employees said the conditions were not the only issue as they were perturbed to be told about them whereas the report from KPMG which was tasked with the alignment never reached them so they did not know

what everything was based on.

Of note, some employees suggested that they tag their strike with the public sector associations which plan to down tools on January 28.

Eswatini

Electricity Company

However, this was shot down as employees said they wanted to make their own mark and show their seriousness in their call for financial recognition. They said if the need arises and they are not heard, the PSA strike would find them sitting at home while the nation wallows in darkness.

On the issue of the cost of living adjustment, employees said they would not accept the offer of zero per cent as they wanted this to be effected and pegged with inflation.

When asked about the resolution to strike, Marketing and Corporate Communications Manager Sifiso Dhlamini said they were yet to be informed as they were not represented in such meetings. He said the company would only be able to react after getting official notification from their employees.

Liswati spends 20 months in SA prison for human trafficking

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

he woman who was arrested for the alleged trafficking of several local women is out on bail but is forced to live in South Africa as part of her bail conditions.

Nomsa Vilakati from Nkwene cannot come to the country because she is forced by her bail conditions to stay in the neighbouring country until the completion of her case. She last crossed into the country's border gates in 2017 and at the beginning of the year.

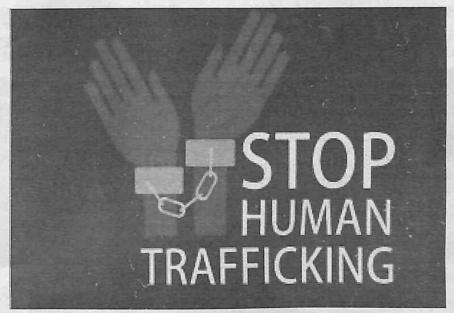
Her travel document is with her arresting officers.

Whereas Durban is a holiday destination for many locals, Vilakati is forced to do menial tasks at factories in the coastal city in order to survive while waiting to visit a police station every Monday in order not to breach her bail conditions.

In February 2017, she was arrested along with four Chinese nationals for her alleged role in the trafficking of 28 Emaswati who were part of 72 others.

The woman's role was said to be that of inviting her fellow neighbours and former colleagues from Matsapha textile factories to Newcastle. The women were unemployed after the country lost the duty-free access for its textile products to the United States of America after the AGOA benefit was lost. Prior to the revocation of the benefit which was lost under President Barack Obama, textile factories were aplenty and their closure led to an exodus of local women who were deemed cheap labour to the neighbouring country as well as Lesotho.

Vilakati was arrested when South African serious crimes' investigative unit the Hawks zeroed in on the factory where she worked.



This was after 10 locals who were new arrivals, allegedly approached the police after noting the living conditions were far from ideal.

They alleged that they were paid less than E100 for two weeks of wages as deductions for food, bedding and other expenses were made.

Along with the 28 locals, there were 44 other women from South Africa, Lesotho and Mozambique.

Reports which surfaced after the swoop by the Hawks were to the effect that the women were 'detained' within the premises and lived in corrugated structures adjoined to the factory. After her initial appearances at the Newcastle Magistrate's Court, she was transferred to a prison in Westville where she spent 20 months before her family was able to pay bail in September. "We paid E3 000 bail after she was allocated a

state lawyer," her sister Bongiwe said.

Further, she revealed that after being granted bail, she had to find a way of surviving because she cannot leave Durban to come home. "Even in her condition of struggling, she still tries to ensure that her children are looked after as she tries to send money on a monthly basis," said Bongiwe.

Bongiwe said the most frustrating thing is that her sister was allegedly called upon by her Chinese bosses to look for people to work within the factory and was ignorant of the implications as it is traditionally acceptable to help others look for employment.

Of note, even though there were complaints by new entrants, at the height of the bust, the Sunday Observer established that there were women who had worked at the factory for three years as they said it paid better than local factories.

Chronology of events:

2014 - Local dailies report how Swazis were leaving for South Africa and Lesotho where they worked in textile factories after the loss of AGOA.

November 2014 – During an International Labour Organisation (ILO) workshop held in Durban at the Riverside Hotel, unionists from Mozambique, Lesotho and Swaziland display awareness of textile workers working in South African textile firms and say they would assist those working there illegally to obtain work permits.

February 2, 2017 - 72 victims of an alleged trafficking ring are rescued from a factory in Newcastle and five people are initially charged under the Trafficking in Persons Act. They are moved into a rehabilitation centre.

 It is discovered that 10 of the alleged victims are South African

- The Newcastle Crisis Centre supplies all the food to the victims through support from the public

and Nomsa is arrested February 6 - Trafficking victims moved to safe house

February 10 – First bail application postponed 12 February – Sunday Observer exclusively reveals circumstances in places of safety and how the local women are locked in once again with privileges confined to certain times

February 14 - Women 'victims' reveal how their phone privileges are changed to between 3pm and 6pm daily whereas they previously had them until 4pm

February 15 – Accused appear before Newcastle Magistrate's Court where bail application is adjourned.

Sometime in 2017 – Nomsa is transferred to the female section of the Westville Prison where she spends nearly 20 months.

September 2018 – Nomsa Vilakati granted bail at the Durban High Court and is required to stay in Durban as part of her bail conditions.

ANOTHER CHILD BRUTALLY ASSAULTED BY DAD

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

arely a week after several minors became victims of abuse, a nineyear-old boy from Malkerns had to be rushed to Mankayane Government Hospital by a Good Samaritan after being bashed by his father who has been described as abusive by neighbours.

Last week, this newspaper carried a story of an eight-year-old girl who was brutally assaulted by her step mother and father.

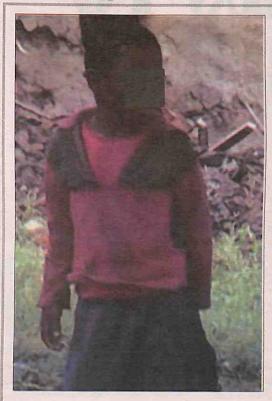
In the latest incident, a neighbour said the father was beating the boy for having slept at a neighbour's place.

"The poor child is now afraid to share the same roof with him since he abuses him, hence he decided to sleep at next door's house. This is not the first time he has injured the child, not long ago it was an ankle. The other day it was an eye and today it is his private parts and the buttocks," said a neigh-

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed that the matter was reported and police were after the boy's father who has to face the law. "The matter has been reported to the police and we are currently looking for the father of the child," he said.

Last week, the eight-year-old girl from Tshaneni was hospitalised after she had a broken elbow after being allegedly injured by her father and stem-mother. The matter was reported at Manzini Police Station and is still being investigated by the police.

"The matter was reported at Manzini but the investigation will continue at Tshaneni; no one has been arrested so far," she said.





The young boy who was brutally assaulted by his father for sleeping next door. (R) The child had to be rushed to Mankayane Government Hospital after he sustained serious injuries. (Coutesy pics)

Vilakati said this is cruelty and condemned such acts of violence on children, saying such was a serious offence.

"They will be arrested and some parents will lose their jobs and with the charges specified in the SODV Act, they will face harsh sentences.

We request them to stop this brutality and abuse as the children will grow up bitter and may in turn be violent," she said.

Contacted on the same matter last week, SWAGAA said this is what is referred to as gross negligence on the part of the parent, which the organisation strongly condemned.

"This is exactly what is meant by parental neglect of children which has more psychological effects which may not be recognised on the surface: these effects are unfortunately contributing factors to repeated violence and abuse,' said SWAGAA Advocacy and Communications Officer Slindele Nkosi-Nxumalo.

Similar sentiments were shared by

Save the Children, saying the parents should face the wrath of the law as what they did was unlawful.

Save the Children Advocacy and Communications Officer Lusito Tsela said this was completely irresponsible and unacceptable.

"As an organisation working towards creating a country in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation, we find such behaviours by parents completely irresponsible and unacceptable.

The Children's Protection and Welfare Act of 2012 Section 14 (2) clearly states that a child should be disciplined in accordance with his age, physical, psychological, emotional and mental condition and no discipline is justifiable if by reason of tender age or otherwise the child is incapable of understanding the purpose of the discipline; hence, a parent has a responsibility to protect a child from neglect, violence and abuse," Tsela said.



Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced and

Honours Diploma in:



CITY & GUILDS

- Secretarial & Administration Shorthand and Typing Electrical & Electronics Engineering Telecommunications Systems Support Information Technology (System Support) IT Skills (Word, Excel, Access Software Developers

evel 2 - Foundation Certificate in Accounting Level 3 - Advanced Diploma in Accounting
Level 4 - Professional Diploma in Accounting

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL

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

Collaborations Approved by SHEC



Find us at Dlanubeka Building 3rd Floor, Suit 303 opposite Post Office Contact us: +268 7614 9023 / +268 34500130 email us: providencetraining1@gmail.com web: www.pitionlince.ac.sz

CANGO to analyse govt's deficit

BY FORTUNE **NDLANGAMANDLA**

he Coordinating of Assembly of Non-Governmental Organisations (CANGO) has hailed government for reducing its deficit from E3.5 billion to E2.1 billion but will do its own analysis before reporting to the United Nation (UN) committees.

Of note, by submitting a shadow report to a UN treaty body committee, NGOs can highlight issues not raised by their governments or point out where the government may be misleading the committee from the real situation.

CANGO Communications Officer Nkosingiphile Myeni said this when reacting to media reports that government has managed to save E1.4 billion.

He commended government though, saying as an NGO, they had a duty to double-check the facts before reporting.

Myeni stated that as always, in the past when government was going to report to the United Nation (UN) committees, CANGO would conduct a shadow report on the matter.

"We will conduct a shadow report, we will shadow government on our areas of priority," Myeni said.

He clarified that CANGO should not be mistaken to be a political party as in the past when doing a shadow report on government,

some individuals would mistake the entity to a progressive movement. Myeni went

on to state that by the shadow report, CANGO would be trying to measure government's effectiveness.

"This government has so much attention on it as it is expected to take the country to the first world status by 2022.

Change Growth Empowerment

We really have to change gears the way we have been doing things in the past. This also applies to the civil society," Myeni expanded.

He continued to say; "We don't know yet how government man-

aged to reduce its deficit but we really commend it. We wished that proof over this can be publicised."

He mentioned that there should be proof detailing how the money was spent previously so in future it would be easier to implement con-

trol measures. He praised

Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini for being able to reduce the deficit.

Myeni said they had confidence that the reports on deficit reduction were true and added that it would be a good thing if the evidence affirming the deficit reduction can be publicised for the nation at large.

Explaining how government managed to reduce its deficit, the PM said government arrears pending with the Treasury Department were reduced from E3.5 billion from end of October to E2.1 billion by the end of December

He went on to add that contributing to the favourable cashflow posi-



...two suspects arrested as police manage to recover E800 000

BY FORTUNE **NDLANGAMANDLA**

hugs managed to get away with cash amounting to over E1 million when they burgled one of the houses belonging to Eagles Nest owners.

Eagles Nest is a poultry company managed by the Chester family at Malkerns.

The break-in happened sometime between Boxing Day night and the early morning hours of December

It is said on the day of the crime, the alleged burglars entered the senior manager's bedroom after cutting through the roof.

Of note, the manager was not present when this incident occurred.

In the bedroom was a safe deposit box. Also, in the same room was a

OVER E1 MILLION STOLEN AT EAGLES NEST

safe with several firearms. Even though both of these were opened, the burglars only looted the money safe.

"The offenders reportedly got away with all the cash they found in the safe deposit box," revealed a source.

They stole monies in different currencies which include Euros, United States Dollars as well as Pounds.

This publication gathered that one of the offenders currently arrested for the burglary is a Mozambican (46) while the another is a local from Lavumisa (49). The Mozambican was residing in Big Bend and reports are that he has regularly been going to his country to exchange the foreign currencies.

Magistrate

When they were caught, police only managed to recover E800 000, which was in South African Rands. The money was recovered from a hole dug in the ground in Lavumisa.

Though the number of criminals who were involved in the crime could not be ascertained, this publication has it in authority that three people have been questioned so far.

Moreover, two of these suspects had been charged for the said offence and appeared at the Manzini Magistrate's Court to answer on the

Added to the three accused, the police have been questioning a female staff member who until recently, worked within the farm in close prox-

imity with the family home.

Even though she has not been charged, she is said to have been instrumental in assisting in the identification of some of the recipients of the money.

Police investigations are said to have unearthed that the monies were also distributed to people who were friends to the accused persons.

"The matter is handled by the Serious Crimes Unit known as Lukhozi," a source said.

CPICO Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed that the matter was reported, and investigations were still underway.

She said so far, two suspects have been arrested.



CPICO Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

cut claims

tion were multiple factors, some structural while others are due to austerity measures employed by government that have started to bear fruit. "Before leaving office, the outgoing Cabinet in July 2018 announced suspension of capital projects in excess of E500 million and a hiring freeze," PM said. Additionally, the PM stated that when the new Cabinet assumed office early November, it advanced the agenda by suspending all government tenders and tightened government's travel policy through a statement that was made on the November 22, 2018.

Also supporting this positive development is the increased revenue collections by SRA due end of the year provisional tax. "Through this statement, we have observed improving confidence in the domestic debt market, that saw Government Treasury Bills and Bonds pricing increasingly matching those of similar papers in the Republic of South Africa, against which we benchmark ourselves," Dlamini expanded.

He said within the two-month period, government has been able to raise over E450 million over and above the planned weekly issuances.

Buganu brew ready in some parts of the country

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

the season between the festive and summer has arrived.

This fifth season only falls within the border of the Kingdom of Eswatini and is characterised by merriment induced by the nectar of the gods, buganu. This is brew fermented from the fallen fruit of the marula tree.

Buganu is brewing in vats in most low-lying areas in the country.

The sweet smell of fallen fruit was highlighted by a caller over a week ago as he stated that a tree near his kraal had sweet smelling fallen fruit in Nhlambeni outside Manzini.

Another caller from Nyakatfo said the

brew was ready in her neighbourhood.

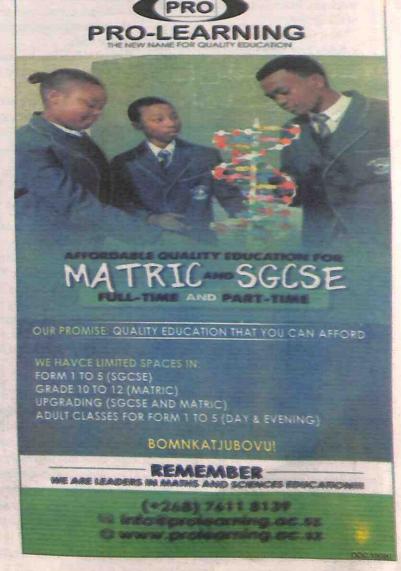
On the other hand, a resident of Gebeni, Endlinilembi, said they had also started imbibing the nectar and hope to do so for a few more weeks before it gets concocted into high concentration through sugar expansion.

With the brew being prepared in most places around the country, it means the Buganu Festival will soon be announced by Their Majesties, which is a countrywide celebration of good fortune associated with the brew.

The festival sees the coming together of the Lutsango regiment from all over the country as they showcase their skills in handiwork, farming as well as share ideas on how to be economically viable in their communities.



It's that time of the year as Buganu brew is now ready in some parts of the country.



Civil servants crash E0.5m truck, abandon it

STORIES BY FORTUNE **NDLANGAMANDLA**

ministry of public works and Transport driver and his conductor from Dumako depot are accused of crashing and abandoning a truck tipper belonging to government.

Dumako is near Ngudzeni Inkhundla in the Shiselweni region. The tipper was dumped around Ntjanini towards the clinic in that area.

Information gathered from residents in the area suggested that the truck crashed on November 28, 2018 when the driver, together with his conductor, was on his way to get river sand from a nearby river.

The model of the dumped truck is the Nissan truck tipper UD 85 and it was dumped in fields near a Simelane

A new 2017 Nissan truck tipper UD 85 6cube is valued at E490 000, VAT inclusive. The Simelane homestead is a few metres away from the accident scene, whereas the broken windscreen is still lying at the accident spot where it crashed on the

It is said that for the better of 2018, the driver used the truck to collect river sand from the river.

The regularity of the collection of sand by the ministry's employees from the river led to some residents accusing them of selling river sand to residents near

These accusations were also shared by two young men who are employed by a local businessman to sell river sand to residents.

Other unverified reports are to the effect that when the accident occurred, the truck was driven by its conductor instead of the driver.

"As it was going down the steep road, a child came running into the road. As the driver tried to avoid hitting the minor, the truck tipped into a nearby donga," a resident of the area said.

The civil servants allegedly removed the truck's number plate after dumping



Ntokozo Khumalo is one of the residents interviewed by this publication concerning the truck. (Pics: **Fortune** Ndlangamandla).



The accident zone where the truck crashed before it was dragged to the Simelane fields.

it. This action raised suspicions from concerned citizens who questioned why the registration numbers were removed.

Furthermore, residents also wondered if the driver was on an official trip on the day of the accident.

Injuries

Luckily, during the accident, both the driver and the conductor did not sustain any injuries.

The publication learnt that soon after the accident, a breakdown truck came to the scene and towed the truck to the Simelane fields.

They asked Babe Simelane and Ntokozo Khumalo to keep an eye on the heavy motor vehicle.

The truck has since been stripped of its parts as its gearbox was recently removed by unknown individuals as they did not alert Babe Simelane when they were taking it. Some residents accused the Dumako depot workers of stripping it.

On the other hand, Khumalo said efforts to ascertain the legality of the stripping of parts from the driver have been impossible as he has not been responding to his calls. Khumalo said after seeing that they were in the dark, Simelane went to report the incident to the Dumako Police Post in mid-December.

Further, Simelane asked the police to remove the truck from his watch as he was no longer comfortable keeping it.

"Police promised to fetch the truck, however, on Wednesday afternoon the truck was still abandoned near the Simelane homestead," Khumalo said. During the visit, this publication learnt that the diesel in the tank had also disappeared.

Ministry rushes to tow truck

few hours after this publication called the min-Listry of works to ascertain what was happening with the truck, residents reported that there were attempts to tow it.

This publication called the ministry on Thursday morning and at around lunch time, residents saw several ministerial employees trying to tow it away, to no avail as a flat tyre made for great traction. When asked about the truck, Principal Secretary Makhosini Mndawe said a case

of that truck which overturned while on duty was reported to the ministry. "Necessary provisional measures were made to move it out of the road since it was blocking transport flow. A small crane truck which didn't have the capacity to tow it for a longer distance was used to move it to a nearby homestead for safety while waiting for CTA to tow it to their garage," PS Mndawe said. He went on to add that a CTA tow truck had since been dispatched to tow it to the garage.



The damaged Nissan truck tipper UD 85 which was abondoned by the civil servants.



The Nissan truck tipper UD 85 from the back view.

SNAT HITS BACK AT FINANCE MINISTER, BENNETT

BYFORTUNENDLANGAMANDLA

NAT has hit back at Finance Minister Neal Rijkenberg and Mbabane Ubusinessman Walter Bennett over comments they made concerning the anticipated January 28 civil servants' mass strike action.

Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Secretary General Sikelela Dlamini issued a press statement yesterday, where he addressed comments made by Rijkenberg and Bennett in the country's dailies.

Dlamini said the SNAT National Executive Committee (NEC) read the Times of Swaziland [page 3] and the Swazi Observer [page 7], "where Finance Minister Rijkenberg and one Walter Bennett commented irresponsibly on the upcoming strike action by the Public Sector Associations of Swaziland (PSAS) that shall be sanely rolled out from January

"It is way off line for the minister of the Crown to attribute the over E40 million expenditure that was used to pay the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) who invaded schools late last year [2018] under the pretext of invigilating ECoS external examinations, as an "act engineered by the teachers," Dlamini said, while placing issues into perspective on behalf of the SNAT collective.

Matters

The unionist went on to add that Rijkenberg as an appointed minister of the land was expected to at least be in full comprehension of industrial matters, particularly those that statutorily exist between employers and employees.

"As a matter of principle, one does not need to be a Harvard University graduate to come to grips with the simple truth that educators never engaged in any strike in the year that expired December 31, 2018 since the courts of the land 'ephemerally stopped' it," the unionist

He continued to state that worth noting was that for the first time in history, the same courts determined the date on which the strike was to take effect-being November 23, 2018.

Dlamini mentioned that what could stand even when tested by the arbiter of the highest court is that there were a range of legal union activities that were not in any way whatsoever a threat to the normally anticipated operations of schools, particularly the writing of external examinations.

CoLA

"What should be the focal point for Neal, currently, is to ensure that public sector workers are given the 14.4 per cent CoLA instead of engaging in this futile and incorrect analysis of a realistic and painful situation that workers of this country wake up to, on a daily basis," Dlamini expanded.

Addressing Bennett's comments, Dlamini said the self-acclaimed social commentator and National Chief-Whip, must simply sit back, relax and cease interfering on affairs of public sector

"Our belief is that he has more on his table to worry about.

Further, he does not have monopoly over wisdom in that he can merely tell us what to do as if we have taken total leave of our collective senses as workers of this, our motherland," the SG said.

He proceeded to state that Bennett was supposed to know by now that governments are perpetual and that the sitting Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini has the prerequisite qualities of someone ready to head the entire government

"We cannot, in anyway, fall victim to

the rhetoric making rounds that the government has no money if it is still funding vanity capital projects and festivities as if all is well," Dlamini lamented.

He said Bennett was not one of their noble rank and files; therefore, he cannot talk about service delivery of union leadership to their members.

Dlamini stated that Bennett remains disqualified to delve on that terrain and he was one incapacitated Swazi to go

In conclusion, Dlamini emphasised that it was befitting to say that by demanding the said salary adjustment, public sector workers are not whiling away time or blowing off steam.

"They need the money considering the erosion in their salaries and depleted purchasing power.

The clarion call is not a privilege; rather, a right. January, 28, 2019, we commence our protected strike action as workers and we invite all Emaswati who associate with our plight to join hands as we fight for a just course," Dlamini concluded.

VUVULANE FARMERS WANT FARM HANDOVER STOPPED

STORIES BY FORTUNE **NDLANGAMANDLA**

The liquidation of Vuvulane may be over and the farm's handover is on the cards but the farmers have vowed to stop it.

This comes exactly a week after this publication reported that after a 12-year wait, over 75 ex-workers Vuvulane Irrigation Farmers (VIF) PTY LTD have been paid their dues in

The ex-workers shared E2.2 million.

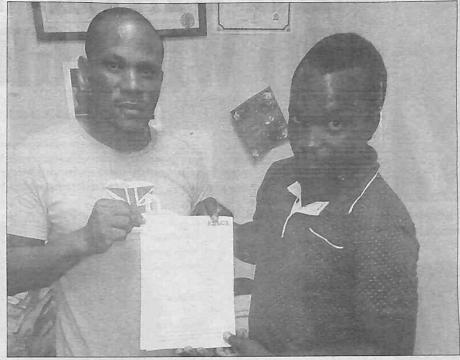
As reported, VIF liquidator Sibusiso Motsa said the next step was to handover all fixed assets to Tibiyo TakaNgwane.

However, Vuvulane farmers contacted this publication and vowed to stop the farm's handover at all costs.

On Tuesday, about five farmers on the forefront of the issue held a meeting at human rights lawyer Thulani Maseko's offices to decide on a way forward on the developments. They agreed to stop the proposed handover of the farm. Farmers present were, namely, Mpisi Dlamini, Nhlanhla Mazibuko, Alen Mango and Sithembiso Shongwe.

The farmers claimed to be rightful owners of the farm citing an Appeal Case Number 30/2000. In the case, VIF Limited is the appellant while Vuvulane irrigation Farmers Association (VIFA-Public Company Proprietary) and Amos Mhlupheki Mathonsi are First Respondent and Second Respondent, respectively. The farmers said this judgment states that the appellant has no locus standi (legal ownership) on the farm under dispute.

The farmers supported this claim by adding that a 2011 court ruling also required that the liquidator should account for monies to the farmers. Therefore, farmers believed the handover of the farm would be illegal as the liquidator has not accounted for money to farmers. "We're going to court to stop the handover as what is happening is illegal," Dlamini



Sithembiso Shongwe and Nhlanhla Mazibuko displaying a copy of the appeal case number 30/2000 during an interview at prominent lawyer Thulani Maseko's offices. (Pic: Fortune Ndlangamandla).

Meanwhile, Shongwe added that should the handover take place, they would advise overseas countries to stop importing sugar from the country. "That would be our last resort to make sure that our voices are heard.

Liquidation

This is contempt of court; liquidation was not supposed to take place at all. We don't like to involve other countries on our matters but we will be forced by circumstances," Shongwe expanded.

Meanwhile, Mango wondered what powers would the liquidator be using to handover the farm. He called upon the liquidator to respect the court ruling. Mazibuko added that, personally, he was ready to die trying to stop the farm's handover. This publication has gathered that there was a meeting between

civil society leaders and the farmers held somewhere around the Manzini city on Thursday. It is said during the meeting, it was agreed that should the farm be handed over, importers of the country's sugar should be lobbied to boycott it.

Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) Secretary General Mduduzi Gina confirmed the meeting.

However, he said the meeting was attended by the federation's Deputy Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga. Therefore, Gina referred all questions to his subordinate. When contacted, Mhlanga also confirmed the meeting but declined to discuss what was deliberated upon. Mhlanga said he would communicate the outcome of the meeting with the media when the time is right.

Vuvulane liquidator to meet farmers' lawyer tomorrow

uvulane Irrigation Farmers (VIF) PTY LTD liquidator Sibusiso Motsa said he would be meeting Vuvulane farmers' lawyer Thulani Maseko tomorrow to discuss concerns raised by farmers over the handover.

Motsa said he had received a letter from Maseko over the matter and they had arranged to meet tomorrow at 10am.

When asked if the concerns in the letter had potential to halt the handover, he responded to the affirmative.

"The handover is fair; there is nothing sinister but if they think they have a case, they should go to court. My attitude is obvious, if they have a case they should go to court," Motsa said.

When informed about intentions to stop the country's sugar from being exported, Motsa wondered what the sugar exportation had to do with the farm's handover. **Evicted**

The issue of the ownership of the farm has a detailed background with the farmers claiming that they were evicted from the farm by the Royal Eswatini Sugar Corporation (RSSC) and Tibiyo TakaNgwane.

It dates back to the year 2000 when the Supreme Court of Eswatini ruled that VIFA should gain control of the farm and ordered its liquidation in 2005.

This was to enable workers to get monies owed. However, that was not the case until 2015, where VIF appealed and won against the liquidation verdict issued by the court. As a result, it is said VIFA, who had at that time taken control and had its people occupying the hostels, were allegedly violently evicted from the farm

However, recently, both RSSC and Tibiyo TakaNgwane disassociated themselves from the alleged evictions.

Moreover, of late, the reports of the farmers' evictions have attracted the President of the Congress of South African Trade Unions Zingiswa Losi who undertook to assist the farmers on the issue.

SwaziMed to lift suspension on some service providers

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

waziland Medical Aid Fund (SwaziMed) board is expected to lift the suspension of about six service providers that were suspended in

These include doctors, clinics and pharmacies that had been suspended from direct payment by the scheme for allegedly defrauding the med-

ical aid scheme over E12 million.

In the past two years, SwaziMed suspended about 10 of the service providers after introducing strict measures upon realising that it was being swindled money through fraudulent claims.

SwaziMed has since indicated that there is a possibility for the lifting of the ban to deserving service providers which could not be named. pending approval of the board.

This was confirmed by Swazi Med

The list of suspended service providers:

- · Dr Zondo /Lubombo Oral Health
- Dr Ndumiso Dlamini/Smile Clinic
- Linkmed Ezulwini
- Linkmed Mbabane
- Mbabane Pharmacy
- Dr Mansoor /Manzini Clinic
- Dr Zaheer Karoida
- Cornerstone Pharmacy
- Connections Pharmacy

Principal Officer Peter Simelane yesterday.

'We may not mention their names at the moment but what I can say is that

Dependable, Affordable the lifting of their suspension is Health Care Cover under review which

means there is a possibility that some may be retained," he said.

Early in 2017, around March, Swazi Med suspended private medical practitioner Dr Tshibungu Jean Pierre Lukoji as a direct payee for the provision of health services for Swazi Med.

The suspension came after Dr Lukoji of Smart Clinic in Manzini was alleged to have over utilised services provided to SwaziMed clients and his suspension was with effect from April 2017.

Dr Lukoji is alleged to have defrauded the scheme money which amounted to over E1 million.

Another prominent service provider which SwaziMed suspended from its services is Smile Clinic which has been accused of defrauding the Swaziland Medical Aid Fund (SwaziMed) about E1 million in claims for medical ser-

A previous report by this publication indicated that the total sum of money allegedly defrauded by the clinic is E976 453.37, which is payment by the scheme to the clinic as a service provider to its members because it (clinic) submitted fraudulent claims on behalf of its patients.

Eight more service providers were also suspended in the past two years. The suspended service providers were listed and posted at SwaziMed offices in Mbabane.

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

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

PART TIME COURSES

- Shorthand 60-120 wpm (City & Guilds) Typing 35-40 wpm (City & Guilds)

- Ms Excel
- Graphic Design
- AAT Level 3 & 4

HURRY!! LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE Physical location: Opposite Ngwane Park High School, Manzini

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





Thomas Bhudlu Mdluli pictured with his wife who has become the bread winner after an accident which saw him lose both legs. (Pics: Thembeka Dlamini)



Gogo Mdluli has the job of lifting her sister in law whenever she needs to sit out in the shade as she is partially paralysed after a stroke.



CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE ON FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME

Call:+268 7638 5550/ +268 2505 5487

Email:bradfordsm@swazi.net Physical location: Opposite Philani Clinic, Manzini

www.bradtorduniversity.co

MVA 'COMPENSATES' AMPUTATED MKHULU (71) WITH GROCERIES

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

e turns on the cement floor in order to cool down from the Tuesday heat as flies hover around his head.

He can hardly raise an arm to swat them away as they irritate his exposed neck and face because he has no knees to balance on.

Thomas Bhudlu Mdluli (71) is an above-the-knee doubleamputee. He lost his legs after an accident which occurred on July 13, 2016.

It was a hit and run accident and 'luckily' for him, witnesses were able to describe the vehicle to police officers who were driving past immediately after he was knocked down and were able to pursue the fleeing driver, getting his name and vehicle registration.

Despite all this being available, he has not received much from the Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Fund which was created to compensate those injured on the country's roads as long as it is ascertained that they did not cause the accident. According to his wife, who prefers to be called Gogo

Mdluli, after knocking down the elderly man, the middle-aged man from Fonteyn in Mbabane who was driving the vehicle shouted obscenities at witnesses who were on the side of the road and called for them to attend to the dog he had run over as he fled.

Mdluli was rushed to the Hlatikhulu Hospital, where the damage on his legs necessitated amputation of both, leaving useless stumps as limbs.

When seated, they provide no support as he cannot balance when without the use of his hands. Once seated, he cannot raise one hand with-

The proud and industrious man was chairperson of the water committee which saw to the channelling of water for domestic and farming purposes in

Added to this leadership responsibility, he had vast tracks of land where he farmed grain and vegetables throughout the year in order to sustain

his family.

He also has a field in front of his house where he planted maize, peanuts and sweet potatoes as well as a small enclosed area for more vegetables.

When not in the gardens and fields, Mdluli was a professional roofer and was engaged by the new residential development which was happening in the area of Nkwene to areas beyond his semi-rural area of Mkhuhlwini.

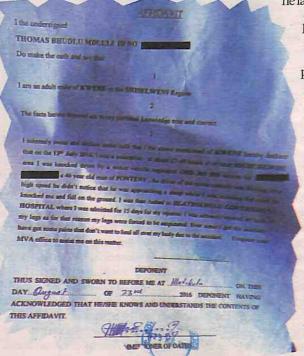
He now sits in an awkward manner, losing his mind as he remains dependant on his equally aging wife.

They are now sustained by their elderly grants with which help feed their several grandchildren as well as his sister who was afflicted by stroke leaving her paralysed on one side and unable to walk or talk.

He built his own house several years ago and did everything for himself. Over the last two years, he has had to be lifted by

his wife whenever he wants to respond to the call of nature or to even sit up straight to eat.

His main house has several broken windows boarded up by bits and pieces which include a government vehicle number plate and his kitchen threatens to fall apart after termites ate into the



A affidavit which was signed a month after Mdluli's accident which was to intended for his MVA claim.

out falling over despite being supported by the other. On the day of the accident, Mdluli was

on his way home from checking on water pipes for their gardening initiative. The water project was situated along the Mkhondvo River on the other side of the Yith' Abantu Highway opposite his home.

...MVA's Magongo yet to respond to questions

ttempts to get clarity on Thomas Bhudlu Mdluli's claim with Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund hit a snag this past week. An emailed questionnaire which was sent on Wednesday was not responded to by Friday at 5:18pm as per Makhosi Magongo's promise.

Of note, after the email was sent to Magongo on Wednesday, a call was made to Magongo's number and he cut the call requesting for a message to be sent to him.

He was then duly notified of the email and he said he was in a meeting and would only respond on Friday by the end of business. On Friday at around 1pm, he was called and reminded about the expected response. He sent an SMS stating that he was in a meeting at Nkhanini for the Ngwenyama Cup kit presentation. When called later at 5:18pm, his number was off the MTN network. He returned the call after 7pm stating that he was preparing to respond to the questions, something that was not done until yesterday when this article went for print.



The conversation with MVA's Makhosi Magongo where he stated he could not respond to a questionnaire on an aggrived

Family requests E15 000 advance, given groceries once off

since the accident, the family has had a single helpful encounter with Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Fund employ-

Thomas Bhudle Mdluli's wife said they have over the years visited the MVA offices in Manzini and Mbabane because they were simply sent from pillar to post without any direction.

"Once, when we went to Mbabane, we were told to go to Manzini where we were told our file was in Mbabane.

The next visit saw us going to Mbabane again and we were

n the two-and-a-halfyears told to go to Manzini," said Gogo Mdluli, who said their frustration was largely caused by the fact that a neighbour who had a nearly similar accident after her husband's one had been compensated by MVA.

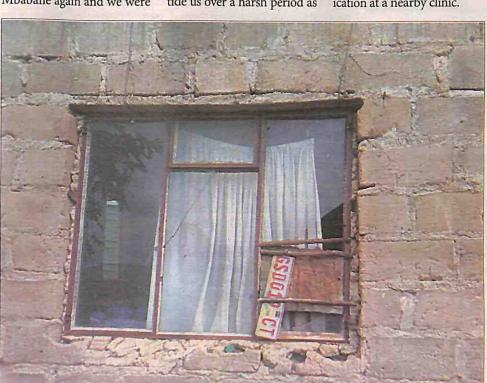
Publication

After this publication initially wrote about their plight in February 2017, the family was visited by MVA officers and they took Mdluli to Mbabane, where they photographed his stumps extensively and were told of a specialised wheelchair.

"They further said we could apply for a loan which could tide us over a harsh period as the claim was being processed," said Gogo Mdluli.

On the other hand, her daughter Bongiwe said they tried to apply for E15 000 which was however declined, her mother, on the other hand spoke of E7 000. Thereafter, nothing happened.

This is despite that the family started going to the MVA offices a month after Mdluli's accident with the hope that they would be assisted somehow as he has to take medication on a daily basis. Of note, he is pushed by good Samaritans whenever he needs to replenish his medication at a nearby clinic.



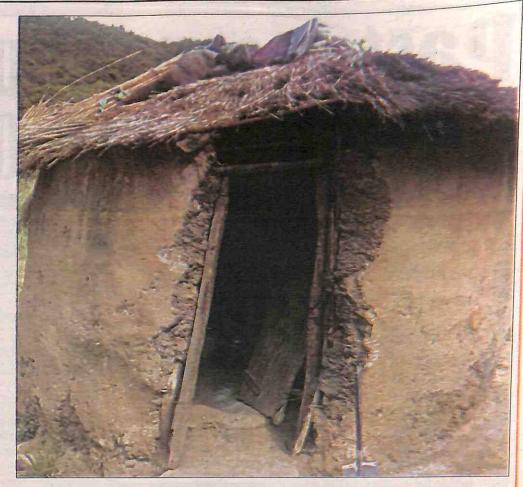
One of the many broken windows which Thomas Bhudlu Mdluli could ordinarily fix.

Sweet potatoes their only hope

t 62, Gogo Mdluli has to pick her husband Lup regularly, carry her sister-in-law and farm by hand a field of sweet-potatoes which she hopes will bring her some

"They advised that we should plant sweet potatoes and that is what I did. I hope to sell most of them in order to sustain my family," said the elderly woman.

SPECIALS ON THE FOLLOWING 185/55 R16 215/60 R16 205/50 R17 225/50 R17 205/80 R17.5 215/80 R17.5 9.00R20 315/80 R22.5 365/70 R22.5 WIDE RANGE OF KOMBI & BAKKIE TYRES AVAILABLE TRADING HOURS: 06:00am - 08:00pm www.lonlainvestment@gmail.com Manzini: Opposite Satellite Bus Rank below Hub Cell: +268 7639 8839 Tel: +268 2505 8455



This hut is used as a kitchen by the Mdluli family and it threatens to topple every time it rains.

QUESTIONS POSED TO MVA WERE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Please inform this publication of the status of Mr Mdluli's claim.

2. The family furnished this publication with an affidavit which identifies the alleged driver as well as his vehicle. What else does an accident

victim need in order to lodge a claim?

3. How long does a claim take to be processed?

4. What is this E7 000 the family speaks of?

5. Where should the Mdluli family go to access



Pastor cons church members E15 000

...The pastor, who doubles up as a cleaner in one of the govt ministries, had promised to secure jobs for his church members

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

pastor from Ekukhanyeni Kwenkhatimulo Zion Church in Matsapha stands accused of allegedly robbing a couple from his church a sum of E15 000 after promising them government jobs.

The pastor also doubles as a cleaner in one of the government ministries. He is said to have robbed a Dlakubi family a sum of E15 000 as he allegedly took E4 000 from Mfanasibili Dlakubi and about E11 000 from his wife, Rhoda Nhlengethwa.

With the expectation that they would get placement within different government departments, the couple waited

Instead of finding them the said jobs, the pastor simply started sending Dlakubi's wife verses which spoke against the love of money. He also sent her verses on forgiveness whenever she asked about the money as she lost hope on being employed.

Nhlengethwa said the pastor learnt that she had received her compensation from the Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accidents Fund after an accident she was involved in in 2016 and then took



Some of the messages sent to the pastor by the congregant stating that the money was her compensation from MVA.



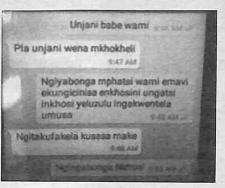
More messages sent through WhatsApp by Mrs Dlakubi to Diamini demanding her money.



advantage of her by promising her a lucrative job in government.

"He was working at the Psychiatric Centre in Manzini.

I thought he was a top official there,



A message sent in October where Dlamini promised to pay Nhlengethwa.

but I later learnt that he was just a cleaner. By then I had paid him about E11 000," said Nhlengethwa.

"My husband, on the other hand, had paid him E4 000 as he also promised



Rhoda Nhlengethwa-Dlakubi in church with other mem-

him a better job within government as he is a night watchman," she said.

This version was also shared by her husband who said the pastor cheated his family and each time they demanded that he reimburses them, seeing as he failed to keep his promise, he threatened them with lawyers saying he did not sign anywhere when taking their monies.

"He has just called me now and he wants to change tune on the

Police

We engaged a police officer from Sigodvweni Police Station, and he made an undertaking to pay it back in instalments.

He never did though as he said he was broke owing to the fact that he was footing a funeral bill of a relative who was murdered. He is not trustworthy," he said.

When questioned by this publication recently, the pastor-cumcleaner denied the allegations.

This is despite the WhatsApp conversations which he had with Nhlengethwa where he stated that he was going to pay her.

The WhatsApp conversations, shared with this newspaper, confirm the allegations by the couple as the pastor mentioned that the jobs were not yet available owing to Circular No. 3 of 2018 issued by government freezing the hiring of new staff.

Through the aforementioned circular, Cabinet directed that all vacant posts, including the creation of new ones and promotions across government, be frozen.

In the messages, the pastor repeatedly promised to pay Nhlengethwa who was always reminding him of his debt.

When confronted with this information, the pastor confirmed knowledge of the couple saying they were members of his church and that he once prayed for them as they sought prayer from him.

"I do not know anything about this matter. All I know is that they came to me for prayer. If they go around tainting my name, I will sue them. I did not sign anywhere when taking their money; where did I sign? I will report them to my lawyer, now I am calling him," he said. When asked about the money referred to in the WhatsApp messages, the pastor said Nhlengethwa had borrowed E500 to start a business so he was willing to lend her.

Family of stabbed fan divided on apology

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

the family of a Mbabane Highlanders fan, who was allegedly stabbed by Vovovo FC's Chairman Sipho 'Tsetla' Bhembe, is allegedly divided on whether or not to accept the official's apology.

This follows that Bhembe's family reportedly showed remorse and sought forgiveness from the Maziya family earlier in the week.

Information gathered suggests that there have been two meetings held between the families in an effort to settle the matter out of court and restore peace not only between the families but also the soccer teams.

Bhembe appeared at the Mbabane Magistrate's Court last week and was charged with assault with intent to grievous bodily harm.

He is currently out on bail and the trial is expected to resume in March. The first meeting was said to have

been facilitated by a pastor at the request of the Bhembe family. However, it is said to have not ended

well as the Maziya family did not understand the agenda and who had initiated the meeting.

"The pastor's mandate was to unite the two families and introduce the



Vovovo FC Chairman Sipho 'Tsetla' Bhembe.

Bhembes as they wanted to formally offer their apologies.

The Maziyas wanted to cough out their pain, especially because they felt the injury had future implications to the plaintiff and his children. However, that was not spelt out by the pastor as some thought he was there to pray for them," said a source.

Meeting

This then called for the meeting to be adjourned and a follow-up meeting was scheduled. The second meeting was fruitful but the Maziya family held different views.

Some of the Maziya family members are said to have expressed their sadness on the injury of one of their own but said since the Bhembes were remorseful, they had forgiven them.

However, other family members are said to have decided that it would not be proper for them to accept the apology from Bhembe without the approval of Highlanders, a team supported by the stabbed fan. "They argued that the accused had denied the allegations in court and thus felt he should plead guilty and convey his apologies to Mbabane Highlanders as well before coming to the family.

Apology

They said accepting the apology would be selling out their brother to his team which he should consult with before engaging the accused's family," said a source who preferred anonymity.

The source said those against the plea were of the idea that the Bhembes have to own up and take responsibility for their actions.

This, they said, would appear as though the Vovovo FC people came here and bribed him yet Highlanders have been taking care of the injured supporter as he is a loyal fan of the team," added the source.

the family and that sufficed unno , or

Both the Bhembe and Maziya families could not be drawn for comment on the matter as the matter is still pending in court. Bhembe was arrested following the violence that marred a replay of his team and Mbabane Highlanders in the Ingwenyama Cup Last 16 on January 8 at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

Bhembe appeared before Magistrate Lenhle Zulu.

The incident relates to the stabbing of a Highlanders fan Ntobeko Maziya after the match, which his side won

The charge sheet alleges that on January 8, which was a Tuesday, the day of the match, at or near Lobamba at Somhlolo National Stadium in the district of Hhohho;

'The said accused person did unlawfully and intentionally stab Ntobeko Maziya on the back and left shoulder with a knife with intent to cause him harm and thereby commit the said offence.'

Bhembe, who is a member of the Premier League of Eswatini (PLE)'s Board of Governors by virtue of being Chairman of his team, was represented in court by lawyer Lindelwa Akaphelimandla Mkhwanazi from On the contrary, those who accept Mabila Attorneys. His lawyer argued ed the apology said the Bhembes had in court that his client was not aware showed responsibility by coming to of the incident. He said he only read in the newspapers that someone had been stabbed and was in hospital.

Mkhwanazi then requested for his client to be freed on bail until such time that he was required to appear in court for trial. The state did not oppose the bail application, hence the magistrate fixed bail at E2 000, ordering the accused to appear in court on March 12, for his trial.

At the height of financial crisis:

Good Shepherd doctor paid about E250 000 for babysitting

DLAMINI

n what has been viewed as a case of inefficiency, an expatriate doctor at Good Shepherd Hospital will receive about E250 000 in salaries while sitting at home.

A gynaecologist, who has been on three months' maternity leave which has translated to four months when adding her annual leave, will allegedly receive her salary for the next three months while babysitting at home.

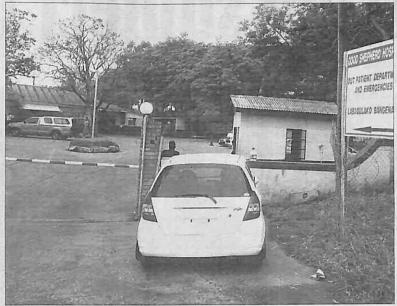
This, according to sources within the hospital, emanated from the fact that the administration decided to terminate her contract which was allegedly set to end in March.

The matter is said to be a series of many alleged unfair treatment cases against expatriate doctors at Good Shepherd Hospital.

"She received communication to the effect that her services were no longer needed by the hospital and since her contract would expire three months from now, she would be paid her salary while not reporting for duty.

We saw her around recently after about four months away on maternity leave, where she had also added her leave days. After hearing the news, she took her belongings and left for her home country (Uganda)," said a source.

What disturbed other doctors was that their colleague was given short notice to vacate the hospital which they said was becoming a habit as another doctor, who was replaced by the gynaecologist, was also dismissed in a sim-



Entrance to the Good Shepherd Hospital.

ilar fashion.

Several other expatriate doctors are alleged to have been dismissed in a similar manner by the hospital.

Others are said to have returned to their native countries while others are said to be working in private and public institutions.

"We have gathered that another doctor has requested that his contract must not be renewed following the incident and he will be leaving by the end of the

The sad thing is that these are specialists and it takes a while for the hospital to find replacements once they are gone," said an official from the hospital who asked not to be mentioned. When the doctors' quarters was vis-

ited last Wednesday, the gynaecologist's car was found parked at another doctor's house, where it is suspected that she had asked to temporarily keep it while she either tries means to take it home or sell it locally.

Her house was found being cleaned and renovated by the maintenance staff who said she was seen early last week after about four months on leave.

Efforts to locate the affected doctor proved futile as her colleagues said she had already returned to her country of origin and they had no contact details.

The ministry of health could not be drawn for comment on the matter as Deputy Director of Health Services Dr Velephi Okello directed all questions to the hospital administration.

'None of the expatriate doctors are unfairly dismissed'

eanwhile Good Shepherd Hospital Administrator Dumsile Simelane, when called on Thursday, confirmed that the doctor had left before the end of her contract.

However, she did not want to get into details and the reasons saying these were between the employer and the doctor.

"She was not sacked. What I know is that she was engaged and there was an agreement. She was engaged on the contract issue while she was on maternity leave. She consented to the termination of her early exit and even stated some of the reasons. We even gave her an air ticket. To prove that she was not dismissed, she will receive her monies until the final days because there are some days that we owe her," she said.

She said at times when they count the number of leave days accumulated by the doctors, some amount to a month or two, which then allows the doctors to go earlier than the time specified in their contracts and they are paid those days in absentia.

Simelane said she was not at liberty to delve much on the issue as such were contractual matters between the doctor and the employer which cannot be revealed save to say both parties parted ways amicably. Responding on the allegation that other specialists were mistreated and dismissed abruptly, Simelane said it was not true as others left upon expiry of their contracts. She said some had challenges that forced them to relocate; one being lack of private schools for their children.

"None of the doctors who left were sacked; their reasons to leave are normally valid.

Some leave but return to serve us again; if they had been unfairly dismissed, how would they come back? All decide to leave at the end of their contracts most citing the lack of private schools for their children. This challenge was also raised by Regional Hospital Administrator Mr Shongwe during the graduation ceremony and he requested the Lubombo community to open private schools to avoid loss of doctors," she added.

All workers should be treated fairly regardless of their origin - NAPSAWU

ational Public Service & Allied Workers Union (NAPSAWU) President Aubrey Sibiya has condemned ill-treatment of all workers in the country, irrespective of nationality.

Sibiya said employers have the responsibility to respect contracts they enter



employees. "It is not good to illtreat workers; employers should treat them well and it is not good that just because one is a foreigner, they are mistreated.

If there are agreements, let those be respected and if there are challenges, let the parties sit on the table and address such. Everyone has a right no matter which country or race they come from; we strongly condemn such."

He said in the case of the doctor, this would be a waste of taxpayers' money in that the hospital would have to pay two people for the same job.

NAPSAWU President Aubrey Sibiya.



Good Shepherd Hospital staff renovating the house that the doctor resided in.

PROMOTIONS GALORE AT MTN

BY SUNDAY OBSERVERIA slide Mence. REPORTER

s MTN Eswatini evolves to keep the customer at the cent tre of strategy, there is a need to structure it in a way that will allow for more agility and focus on the delivery of the business objectives.

At the centre of the company's strategy is the development of its people, and enhance their capacity to perform at an optimal level partly through acquiring relevant skills and experi-

th moom The Marketing department sits at incident of the dore of the business and, therefore, continuous improvements in this department remain critical to keep the business running efficiently.

To achieve this and certainly make our operation more effective and efficient, MTN Eswatini has effected changes in the Marketing Department as follows:

· Meshack Maseko moves from Manager Senior Brand, Communications and Sponsorships



to Senior Manager Consumer, reporting to the Chief Marketing Officer.

The Consumer Unit is responsible for the overall customer and company initiatives from end to end. Sitting brand to engage with its valued cuswithin this unit is Customer Segments, Brand and Communications, and Sponsorships and Customer Engagements sub-units.

• Phumlile Kunene moves from Manager High-Value Customers to Manager Brand and Communications, This unit is responsible for the overall outlook of the MTN Brand and how it communicates with its customers on a daily basis.

• Thandiwe Mashinini moves from Manager Call Centre to Manager Sponsorships and Customer Engagements. MTN has a total of nine sponsorship properties that help the

tomers through the customers' passion points. Over the years, MTN has focused mainly on sports, music and arts with four sponsorship properties

 Afi Dlamini moves from Manager Youth and Mass to Manager Segments now looking after all MTN's Customer Segments (High Value, Youth and Mass Segments)

This new structure will ensure that everything that pertains the customer, from product development to delivery and subsequent engagement, sit in one place to ensure full and effective coordination.

No spaces for Form Three failures:

...The policy means that teachers in schools must make sure that all their pupils pass to the next level at the end of a year

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

t may be the end of the road for the thousands of Form Three failures because of the challenge of space in schools which is said to result from normal progression policy.

Even though it is true that the country recorded the worst Junior Certificate Examination results in 10 years, the number of pupils who failed in 2018 have not significantly escalated when compared to

Lounge Suit

Tel: 2505 6683

Normal progression policy and passing subject blamed

the previous year as the pass rate declined by 0.25 percent from that of 2017.

"However, schools are failing to accommodate the pupils who have passed Form Two and those who are to repeat Form Three due to space constraints," says Eswatini Principals Association (EWAPA) President Welcome Mhlanga.

Several principals say readmission of Form Three failures as per the ministry's instruction would only be possible in schools where only few pupils failed as this would

EXCLUSIVE FURNITURE

not be practical where there were many failures.

This is said to be because of the normal progression pol-

The policy instructs teachers in schools to ensure that all their pupils pass to the next level at the end of a year.

Fail

If it happens that there are pupils who fail in a class, they should not be above five per cent as dictated by the poli-

If a class has a total number of 40 pupils, it means failures in that class should not be

Seater dining table

Luxurious Round Bed

Hyatt Centre - Shop #1 Mapheka Str. - Manzini,

Opp G.M Motors



above two pupils. In a class of 20, only one pupil at most, is expected to repeat that grade.

The principals said this means all the pupils in Form Two class must pass to Form Three and if there are many failures in Form Three in that school, there will be no space for them.

"We do accept the instruction from the ministry to admit the pupils who had failed, but the challenge is space con-

It is not that principals do not want to take the children who want to repeat Form Three but those classes are already full because of the normal progression policy, where are we going to accommodate the failures?

If, for instance they are 60, we do not have extra classes, government does not have money for construction of other classes and parents are barred from paying top-up fees to develop the school," said Mhlanga.

He said attempts to squeeze in the pupils where there have been several failures would compromise the quality of education of the Form Three pupils and this will not be possible because of furniture and overcrowding.

"In the past, as a head teacher, you would see the need for adding a class as the pupils seeking spaces increased and then engage the community or parents. They would join

hands and a class would be constructed but now that this is barred, this means even though we may be willing to absorb them we can't because we have a challenge of space,"

Constraints

Apart from the space constraints in the Form Three classes, the normal progression policy is said to be contributing to the increased number of failures in the checking points as pupils who had not passed Form Two convincingly are pushed to Form Three, yet their normal progression is not implemented in the check points.

The policy is said to have been introduced by government with the intention of

While we understand government's position, our concern is that most learners are aware of this policy position and the performance has deteriorated

Eswatini Principals Association President Welcome Mhlanga.

reducing costs of having to foot the bill of repeating pupils. This is said to have been necessitated by the introduction of the Free Primary Education (FPE) programme.

The principals said their concerns over this issue was that it would compromise the quality of education in the coun-

Mhlanga said they were of the view that the policy should be reviewed.

Position

He said his association fully understood the position of government but wondered if this would not compromise the quality of education, which the government wanted to give to the Swazi children.

"While we understand government's position, our concern is that most learners are aware of this policy position and the performance has dete-

They just strive to at least get 40 per cent to progress. It is unfortunate that when these learners fail the external examinations, the principals along with their teachers shoulder the blame," Mhlanga said.

The number of candidates who passed in the 2018 examinations total 15 045, reflecting a pass rate of 81.07 per cent, which is a decrease of 0.25 per cent when compared to the 2017 pass rate which stood at 81.32 per cent.

On another note, Mhlanga pleaded with government to review the policy on the passing subject saying it was time English stopped being the ticket to the next class.

He said many pupils would be in tertiary institutions pursuing their academic goals by now but are barred by the fact that English is still a passing subject.





Some of the parents who were looking for places for their children.



STEM CELLS THERA

... Cancer, HIV, kidney disease and BP patients the main target

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

eople suffering from chronic illnesses and non-communicable diseases such as cancers, diabetes, kidney failure, liver diseases, high blood pressure and HIV are the main targets of the stem cells therapy that has recently been introduced in the country.

Stem cell therapy is the use of stem cells to treat or prevent a disease or con-

Stem cells are undifferentiated cells found throughout the body. They are remarkable in that they have the ability to differentiate into any other type of cell in the body.

Several Emaswati are already using a product called SuperlifeTotal Care(STC 30), which is said to be a new technology in the world of Stem Cell Therapy.

Those that have already used the product claim that it has yielded positive results for them in treatment of their different ailments.

They say the product helps in regulating blood flow, improvement of the immune system, visual health, gut health and kidney health.

A principal from one of the high schools near Lobamba said the product worked wonders for her in normalising her blood pressure.

"Since I started the stem cell therapy my BP reading has been normal. I have the monitor in the house, so I constantly do self-test.

two days the reading has been 139/81; for a person of my age the reading should be 150/90. This means I have been rejuvenated to my youth-



The Phytocelltec Malus Domestica (Uttwiler Spatlauber) is a liposomal preparation of apple stem cells. These stem cells are said to have a rich content of epigenetic factors and metabolites that ensure the longevity of skin cells.

ful stage," says the principal.

Information sourced from superlifeworld.com suggests that stem cells can be used in the management and treatment of over 130 diseases.

Information

"These include kidney stones, kidney failure, liver diseases, dysfunction of the pancreas, vision impairment, skin repair, glaucoma, cancer, down syndrome, stroke, leukemia, rheumatoid arthritis, brain trauma, high blood pressure, bone marrow transplant, wound healing, enlargement of the prostate, cardiovascular diseases among others," reads part the information from the web page.

Another, patient said the stem cell helped her to walk again as she could barely walk as her feet were painful.

"I could barely walk as my feet were always swollen, painful and I could not

even wear normal shoes as I needed cosy footwear but now I am able to walk. The skin on my feet is now shedding, thanks to STC 30. If it had not been for it I would be bedridden," said the patient.

While other patients simply praise stem cells for the positive results in their health others are praising it for the business opportunity it brings to the patients who bring the product in the country

"It also helped my friend who upon being healed of ulcers shared it with me. We get the product from Malaysia and distribute it to other patients and we get a commission for being agents.

ing it for E1 500," says Khanyisile Simelane, a teacher, who is also a distributor of

Results

Each box has 15 sachets, and we sell-

We will do research on therapy - Director Health

irector of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula said stem cells therapy is not yet used in public hospitals in the country pending a recommendation from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

"We do not use stem cells

therapy at the moment, not that it's not available but it is not yet recommended by WHO. I am not saying that it produces positive results

We usually use medications when they are in the essential list of our regimen that

we have agreed on. Right now, we are conducting trials of medications that are not yet in use but which are in line,"

Magagula said he would investigate on the product as the ministry relies on scientifically proven medications.

"I will need to find out and read about it, there are so many products we recommend that people should adhere to the medications we prescribe to them. Otherwise, concerning the product you are talking about I will read about it," he said.

Ligusha: the most ignored product the country freely has

he sale of ligusha (jute leaves) along the country's rural roads is the vogue as pupils prepare to return to school on Tuesday.

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

A tightly packed packet of the mucous textured plant, which normally sells for about E10 in the urban areas, is sold for E5 by ever-ready children who line the roads with outstretched hands as they hope motorists will stop and choose their packets and hand over valuable

Depending on where one gets the jute leaves, the competition is to entice passersby with better quality ligusha which comprises young leaves, plucked without much stem, to be cooked into a soup.

According to Lindo Matsebula, a Grade Three pupil attending school in Matsapha, who was visiting her grandparents at Nyanyali near a place called kalaKhumalo, they value ligusha within the fields and treat it as a precious weed.

They often weed around it because they know they will need to go get it from the fields to sell it thereafter.

"This money will be used to buy school shoes when I go back to school," she said.

Being young, she seemed unaware that her packets were unevenly packaged yet she called them out to be of the same price.

"I only sold E10 worth yesterday and hope to sell more today," she said as she brandished the two packets priced at E8 which she said were now discounted.

Next to her was an adult, Maureen, who said she sold her packets which were double in size when compared to Lindo's for E10.

"I need food for my children hence I ensure that my packets are big-



For Maureen, selling ligusha is serious business as she is able to sustain her family from her sales and has devised as strategy which enables her to sell better than her young competitors.

ger. If I sell 5 packets per day, I will survive," she said.

There was also a group of children who attend the local primary school who said they were preparing to have enough money for the first week of school.

They said their strategy was to approach motorists with their packets, the first one names a higher price than they are all selling such as E10 for a packet whereas the real price is E5. "Because they feel they made a bargain, the motorists then buy two packets instead of one," they said.

When asked what their communities use ligusha for, all the children along the roads said it was either eaten fresh or sold to motorists.



Children stand dangerously by the roadside as they try to sell their packets of ligusha along the Yith' Abantu

What else can the jute plant be used for?

maswati only use the leaves to make a thick soup eaten with porridge, however, the leaves are versatile and more valuable than that.

They can be used in sauces and as thickeners for soups.

It is not only the fresh variety that is used as it can be sold frozen or dried. The leaves contain iron, protein, vitamin A, C and E, thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, folate and dietary fibres. According to a Taiwanese national, they plant jute extensively and use it to make medicine for stomach cures.

The plants are also valued for their anti-inflammatory properties, which may prevent conditions like arthritis, acne, asthma and cold.

Older plants can be processed and used to produce rope and paper.

Countries where jute leaves are eaten include Nigeria, several Asian countries as well as in the Middle



Labone High School is amongst the private schools that shut down. (Pics: Zwelethu Dlamini)



People now reside in what used to be classrooms of Labone High School.

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

ith schools opening on Tuesday, thousands of learners will remain stranded as nearly 100 private schools and four colleges are not expected to operate this year.

The ministry of education and training has issued a warning to parents against sending their children to the schools that are not authorised by government.

Similarly, pupils are warned not to seek admission in the schools that the ministry does not recognise. This means that if they do so they will be risking both their monies and time

Name of School

Bayabonga Day Care and Pre-School



Roads Park High School was also closed two years ago.

as pupils from such schools are less likely to write the external exams.

Hhohho Nkosingiphendule Play Centre Manzini Busiswa Primary School

A total of 67 private schools in the country currently operate without

authority from the ministry of education and training while 28 private schools have been closed and are expected to have stopped operating in the past two years. Four colleges had been declined registration by Swaziland Higher Education Council (SHEC).

Operational

This is according to information sourced from the ministry of education and training. The data on private schools was revealed by Principal Secretary Dr. Sibongile Mtshali during a press held two weeks ago.

Dr. Mtshali said over 60 private schools were fully operational but not recognised by the ministry. She said a majority of these private schools

were already opened for admission.

The Lubombo region has the highest number of unauthorised private schools with a total of 31 followed by the Manzini region with 18 schools. Hhohho has 12 unauthorised private schools while Shiselweni region is the least with only seven.

The PS added that some private schools were forced to close by the ministry, meaning they are no longer recognised by the ministry. These private schools were awarded contracts to operate that expired or were never renewed.

Most of these schools are situated in the Manzini region. The ministry has warned pupils not to seek admission in these private schools.

THE LIST OF UNAUTHORISED PRIVATE SCHOOLS IS AS FOLLOWS:

Region Name of School

		The second secon	PERSONAL PROPERTY.		Luconibo	Cyangonical Church Filliary	SHISSING
Bayabonga Primary	Hhohho	Rehoboth Pre-School	Manzini	Little lambs School	Lubombo	University Science Primary	Shiselwe
ABC-Pre School	Hhohho	Care Bears Play School	Manzini	ABM English Medium	Lubombo	New Life Primary	Shiselwe
Brilliant Star Pre School	Hhohho	Mobeni Pre-School	Manzini	Umtfombowe Uphila	Lubombo	Khanyisa Christian Academy high	Shiselwe
Pips Pre-School	Hhohho	Pilot international School	Manzini	Angels Academy	Lubombo	Shining Stars Christian Pre-School	Shiselwe
Jacaranda Pre and Primary School	Hhohho	Tiny Tots Pre-school	Manzini	Jack& Jill Pre-School	Lubombo	Diamond Valley High	Shiselwe
Learning Tree-Pre School	Hhohho	Alnoor International School	Manzini	Little Angels School	Lubombo		
Ray of Hope	Manzini	Inkosinathi Pre-School	Lubombo	The light Primary School		Sibetsamoya High	Hhohho
	TATALOG STATE		Eddonibo	The light Primary School	Hhohho	Siphosethu School	Manzini
Leaners corner pre-school	Lubomb	Embo Community Pre-School	Hhohho	Mountain View High	Manzini	Garfield Pre-School	Lubombo
Lilima High Montessori	Hhohho	Project Canaan School	Manzini	Phuzumoya Charity School	Lubombo	Hillside Private	Manzini
Siyakhula Pre-School	Lubomb	Blessed Avenue Academy	Manzini	Kuyasa Primary	Lubombo	Tiny Angels School	Manzini
Chetsiwe Primary	Lubomb	Valley Orchard Primary	Manzini	Stan Academy	Lubombo	St John Bosco	Manzini
Imbuyiselo Academy	Lubomb	Glad Mary	Manzini	Edu-care Centre Big Bend	Lubombo	Global Revival Primary	Lubombo
Shewula Assemblies Of God School	Lubombo	Early Bird School	Lubombo	Grace Christian Academy Primary School	Lubombo	Angel Academy School	Lubombo
Etibusisweni Pre-School	Lubomb	Divide Destines Pre-School	Lubombo	Precious Stones Pre-School	Lubombo	Imphumelelo Pre-School	Lubombo
Emthonjeni English Medium School	Lubomb	Bubble Bees/Haggles Pre-School	Lubombo	Sibusisiwe New Private School	Lubombo	Stundu Simango Combined School	Lubombo
			THE LIST O	F CLOSED SCHOOLS IS AS FOLLOWS			
Name of school Centre of Continuing Education School		Name of school Guide Me Primary	Region Manzini	Name of school E.S.I Primary	Region Manzini	Name of school	Region
Costeried Study Centre	Shiselweni	Bethlehem High School	Manzini	Roads Park High	The state of the state of	St Gabriel's Swd Independent Primary	Hhohho
Malindza Education Centre Lawini	Lubombo	Lusundvu Academy Private School	Manzini	Academy Pre School	Manzini	Cornerstone Christian	
Tshaneni Milestone Academy Private	Lubombo	Tokumbo Private School	Manzini		Hhohho	Cornerstone Help Centre	Manzini
Harvard International High	Manzini	Praise High School	Manzini	Wisdom Academy	Hhohho	Lethu High	Manzini
Polex High	Manzini	Emmanuel Khaya Lethu		Educare Child Care	Hhohho	Gosheni Academy	Manzini
Labone Complex	Manzini	Eaglesvale Primary		Pilot International Pre School	Hhohho	Emmanuel	Manzini
Optimum High	A STATE OF THE STA	Progressive Remedial	Hhohho Hhohho	Prestige Palanari School	Manzini	Contract wat day, in 15	

LIST OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING WHOSE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION HAD BEEN DECLINED:

- 1. Africa Prime Institute of Science and Technology (APIST)
- 2. Management Training and Development Institute (MTDI)

- 3. St Johns Ambulance
- 4. Accountancy and Computer Training Centre (WESCO)



Another private high school at Logoba that was closed.



One of the schools that the ministry of education ruled as unauthorised.

Examinations Council of Swaziland

BRILLANT BOY FAILS BECAUSE OF ENGLIS

...he missed two months of school due to lack of birth certificate

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

ll he wants is to be a police officer because they made Lathe biggest impact in his

Makhosini Metfula (13) is a bright spark who hopes a remark will enable him to go to Form One on Tuesday.

He wrote his Grade Seven last year and was the only failure at Kholwane Primary. He failed English, a subject he thought he knew.

His disappointment from this dismal performance stems from the fact that he has over the years passed very well. "I usually passed position one to three at the end of each term," said the assertive young



Makhosini Methula seated with his mother Sibongile Dlamini while contemplating his fate whereas he hoped to pass and proceed to high school. (Pics: Thembeka Dlamini)

He was sought at his home in Ndodemnyama in Kholwane area, a few kilometres from Sidvokodvo.

He says his hope lies on the Good Samaritans who promised to take him to Ezulwini on Wednesday in order to facilitate his remark.

Even though he was disappointed, he said he knew how he failed and took responsibility.

tificate," he said solemnly.

Ironically, when the homestead was visited, his father was not present as he had gone to assist community members to get their birth

certificates.

His father is the local Chief's

he poverty affecting the Metfula

family is unimaginable because

they live a few hundred metres

from a reliable water source as well as

The Mkhondvo River lies parallel to

the road which connects Nhlangano

and Manzini. On its banks are striv-

ing farm lands which are the nearby

Sibongile Dlamini used to diligent-

ly work the land because she had no

"I am uneducated," she says as a

response to several questions such as

her children's age, her cellular num-

ber as well as the dates of distinct inci-

dences such as when the police hand-

As she talks, a bus servicing the

Nhlangano Mbabane Route styled as

ed over their family home.

other means of earning an income.

community's source of livelihood.

the Yith' Abantu Highway.

Peers' parents fork out money for Makhosini's birth certificate

parent-teacher meeting assisted Makhosini's mother with money to get a certificate for the young boy.

His mother, Sibongile Dlamini, said parents were motivated by the Principal, Simangele Mtetwa who told them of his plight, and they took it upon themselves to collect money to help her. "If they hadn't given us the money, we would still be struggling," she said.

When he returned to school, his peers had completed the syllabus as he found them revising and getting ready for exams. He said he tried to catch up as best as he could despite the circumstances as he was aiming for a First Class pass.

However, this was not to be as instead of topping his peers, he was left with an uncertain future. The issue of the birth certificate has historically affected his siblings as two of the elder ones are said to have been registered as their step-mother's children.

Explaining how this occurred, Makhosini's mother said she was the second wife and because she also did not have a birth certificate for some time, her children were assisted by her sister-wife who is, however, now deceased.



This house, though greatly appreciated by the Metfula family, is causing them strife as people assume they can afford to live well whereas it is a donation from benevolent police officers.

New house worsens poverty situation

he poverty within belies the modernity of the house in which the Metfula family

The family lives in a spacious three-roomed house which has brand new looking furniture as well as threadbare pieces which are an eyesore. Explaining the living conditions, Makhosini Metfula's mother, Sibongile Dlamini, said the house was as a result of the media publicising their impoverished plight.

Pointing at her daughter who was seated under a tree she said; "She once collapsed at school because she was hungry, and this led to the media coming to our home. This helped because soon thereafter, the police came and started building our home." She stated that prior to that, the community had built the family a small stick-and-mud structure which was plastered to decency. This was after their previous stick and mud structure threatened to fall on them. "I was sick at the time; bedridden and helpless and my children had to fend for themselves without any means."

When asked as to where he husband was at the time, "He lived in Nhlangano and would only come home briefly. He started living here regularly after the house was built."

She revealed that his support is sporadic and far in-between as he left at any time that the situation

Bedridden

"When I was bedridden and the community was trying to assist and build me a better structure, he threatened them, telling them they shouldn't," she said, adding that it was a blessing that the new house was built by the police, people who have authority. "They had to call him to come and be part of the handover as he was not around," she said.

Adding that the new house was sort of a curse, she said some people did not understand that they only had the sound structure and no income for food. "The police built the house, gave us food and promised to come again; I wish they could once again," said Dlamini.

"I missed school for some time because I could not get a birth cer-

...LACK OF PLOUGHING OXEN RESULTS IN HUNGER

'Buyasambe' goes past. She stops mid-sentence to sing praises to its magnificence.

Makhosini

failed

ing classes

for a while due to

not having a birth certifi-

of his learning as it was

before examinations.

Runner (Umgijimi) and is peri-

odically called upon to assist oth-

ers get their certificates, something

he could not do for his own six

Solution

"I stopped going to school in July

as I waited for a solution for my

birth certificate and only returned

just before September."

children.

cate during a crucial time

English

after miss-

"Buyasambe ibhasi lenkhulu leya edolobheni lelikhulu laseMbabane,' she said, as she clapped her hands in

Transferred

Directing her mirth to this reporter, she then marvelled at the size of Mbabane, saying she only travelled to the capital three times in her lifetime.

"I first went there when my eldest child had TB and was transferred from Hlatikulu Government Hospital. Thereafter, I went there two times while passing through to go to Dlangeni, where my uncle lives in order to get some maize after harvest time to sustain us here." When asked why she had to travel all the way to Dlangeni for maize which grows well in the area, she lamented that her family and other equally impoverished neighbours have been unable to plough for some time.

"Cattle owners from different communities used to use our grazing lands (parking) and we could use their oxen for ploughing. However, after they took their cattle elsewhere, we have been unable to plough and now go hungry every year." When asked why they don't use government tractors which are subsidised, she responded rhetorically; "How will I pay them?"

The fields are across the road and are visible from her veranda. They have waist length grass due to having lied fallow for a few years. "I at times plant tomatoes which I sell along the road, however, I haven't had any to sell in quite some time."

Sister drops out of school due to lack of money

e might be 13 years old, howhis mother's last hope.

None of her children completed school. Her eldest son currently works and has the only reliable source of income despite it being very meagre.

"The daughter who fainted at school while hungry passed but said she would rather stay at home because she sees that there is no money to pay for her.

Whenever I tried to encourage her to not lose hope, she said she was tired of being a burden and would rather try find employment."

When asked how her husband assists, Sibongile Dlamini said he was an elderly grant recipient and by the time he gets the money, they usually have to

pay neighbours who are owed for givever, Makhosini Metfula was ing them food for the times past.

> "The daughter who fainted at school while hungry passed but said she would rather stay at home because she sees that there is no money to pay for her"

High school or primary school uniform

akhosini is currently in a dilemma. His mother was given E200 ▲ V ▲ by a Good Samaritan to buy uniform for the young boy in preparation for the new school year on Tuesday.

"We don't know what to buy for him. Do we buy Mkhondvo High School uniform or Kholwane Primary's one," asked his mother on Friday when called. She said she would wait it out for as long as possible as she really wished for her boy

These were the SPC results for Kholwane Primary:

SECOND THIRD

Orderly AWOL:

CLINIC FILTHY, NURSES DUMP PATIENTS

...Nurses turned away patients who were seeking medical attention because the facility was filthy. Residents complained bitterly about the lack of help from the health facility

BY FORTUNE NDLANGAMAND-LA

ealth staff at Ntjanini Clinic have dumped patients after the facility's orderly went awaywithout-leave (AWOL), leaving the clinic filthy.

Ntjanini is under Ngudzeni Inkhundla in the Shiselweni region, a few kilometres from Hlatikulu town.

This past Monday and Tuesday, nurses turned away patients who were seeking medical attention because the facility was filthy. Residents complained bitterly about the lack of help from the health facility.

Information gathered was that the staff turned back patients after noting that it had not been cleaned. They allegedly agreed not to treat patients in an unhygienic place as it may be hazardous to their health. They reported the matter to the Shiselweni ministry of health regional offices.

On Wednesday, the ministry of health is said to have arranged with the community's health committee that rural health motivators (*Bagcugcuteli*) should do the duties of the orderly.

They honoured the agreement and kept the hospital clean. It was for that reason that patients received medical attention from Wednesday.

However, this mitigation by the ministry has been viewed as a temporary solution by some residents. The concerned residents feared that the health motivators were without any qualifications equivalent to that of an orderly as they are not allowed to come in contact with infectious waste.

This is because the nurses in the clinic do not want to risk the health motivators' lives as they might make mistakes which may cost their lives (health motivators).

Investigations by this publication ascertained that the orderly first left on November 13, 2018 on a sick leave and then proceeded on annual leave on December 8 when he was expected to resume duties.

"The orderly was expected to report back for work on January 8, 2019 after his annual leave had lapsed. It is not clear where the orderly is now as the ministry has also failed to give information on his whereabouts," a source knowledgeable on the matter informed this publication.



Some of the waste which has not been disposed of as the orderly responsible for this task is nowhere to be found. (Pics: Fortune Ndlangamandla)



Waste which has not been disposed of.



A full view of the Ntjanini Clinic where nurses turned away patients as the facility was filthy.



A cupboard used as a cover as the window is broken.

The source added that efforts by some medical staff to trace the orderly were unsuccessful even after they went to his parental homestead at Mhlangeni to look for him.

Early

"At the orderly's homestead, they were informed that the orderly left home for work early this year," an individual said.

From the time the orderly left in November when he was sick, a community health motivator assisted by keeping the facility hygienic.

The same health motivator was also responsible for giving patients tickets.

The arrangement was that she would

be paid by the Ntjanini Community Health Committee and she was expected to get E900 monthly.

However, after not being paid, the health motivator indicated that she was quitting on New Year's Eve.

Complaining

In actual fact, she started complaining about not being paid as early as mid-December. This was after the committee had failed to pay her wages of being tickets distributor and 'orderly'.

When the year started without any payment, she again threatened to stop working. She was, however, calmed by nursing staff who implored her to carry

on. After noting that the motivation was not there as she was not paid for the errands, she stopped working on January 2.

During an interview with this publication, the health motivator confirmed that she stopped assisting at the clinic after she was not paid her November and December salaries. However, she is still issuing clinic tickets to patients.

Nonetheless, from the fourth to the eighth of the month, other health motivators were roped in and asked to keep the clinic clean.

Work

"From January 9, the health motivators did not report for work. This means that from that day until Tuesday, no one kept the clinic clean," a source said, adding that the nurses then suspended attending to patients last Monday and Tuesday.

In as much as the health motivators were at the hospital on Wednesday doing the orderly's job, waste was found in the facility's dustbins. An explanation given by residents was that the health motivators were not allowed to dispose of infectious waste as they were not trained for the job.

Health inspectors from the Shiselweni region headquarters have been to the clinic to access the thorny issue of hygiene which nurses have been complaining about for numerous times.

The inspectors conducted their inspection on Thursday and allegedly raised their concerns on the general cleanliness of the facility. The inspectors are said to have told the clinic's staff that the unhygienic status of the facility was critical and it needed emergency attendance.

Also noticed during the visit was that the clinic building had an overgrowth. Residents have raised concerns over the issue as the area is infested with snakes, including black mambas.

Efforts to discuss the matter with the clinic's workers were futile as they all declined to comment and referred all questions to the ministry of health

Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula said he received reports of the AWOL orderly from the Shiselweni ministry of health regional offices on Friday. He stated that investigations were underway and expected to be completed by tomorrow.

Dr Magagula further stated that he was informed that members of the community were standing in for the orderly.

However, he acknowledged that the community members were not qualified to get rid of infectious waste



BUCKLEL

INGWENYAMA CUP REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS FIXTURE:

Somhlolo National Stadium

Masundwvini Royal Swallows Young Movers FC

- Thursday 17/01/19

vs Swazi Sun FC vs Ubombo Flyers FC

1830hrs 2030hrs

INGWENYAMA CUP QUARTER-FINALS FIXTURE:

Somhlolo National Stadium

Malanti Chiefs FC Royal Leopards FC

Somhlolo National Stadium

Mbabane Highlanders FC Manzini Sundowns FC

Saturday 19/01/19

vs Tinyosi FC vs Young Buffaloes FC

Sunday 20/01/19

vs Matsapha United FC vs Mbabane Swallows FC

1400hrs

1400hrs

1600hrs



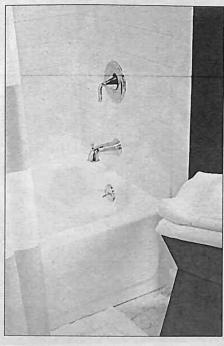


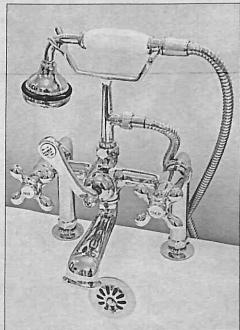


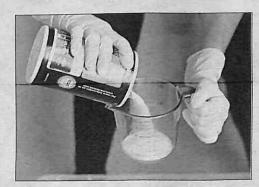




home











fyou're looking for natural cleaning solutions that save money and keep your house free of harsh odors and chemicals, look no further.

We'll show you how to clean the healthy way, with products that you probably already have in your fridge or pantry.

Limiting chemical exposure in the home is a great way to help preserve your family's health, so consider switching from commercial cleaning products to some of these. Happy cleaning!

VINEGAR

Vinegar is by far one of the most versatile cleaning agents. Use it to remove soap scum from the shower. Mix it with borax to get rid of hardwater rings in the toilet.

Tape a bag of vinegar to your showerhead and leave it overnight for an easy, sparkly clean; or add a couple of tablespoons of white vinegar to your dish soap to eliminate grease in the kitchen.

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

You use your toothbrush to clean your teeth, but don't forget about cleaning your toothbrush. Let it soak in hydrogen peroxide for a few minutes to get rid of any lingering germs. Hydrogen peroxide is also useful on many hard surfaces.

Use it to scrub your toilet, dustbins, shower, mirrors and doorknobs. You can even mix it with equal parts water for a safe and effective solution for mopping the bathroom and kitchen floors.

LEMONS

The acid in lemons makes them a great natural cleanser. The juice is wonderful for disinfecting kitchen countertops and cutting boards. Cut a lemon in half and scrub your bath and shower to remove soap scum. And if your shaving cream has left a rusty ring in your bathtub, use your lemon half to scrub it away.

VODKA

Do you have a mould and mildew

NATURAL CLEANERS FOR YOUR KITCHEN AND RATHROOM



problem in the bathroom? Skip a trip to the shops and pull out some inexpensive vodka from the liquor cabinet. Spray it directly onto the mould and mildew, and wait 15 minutes. Then use a cloth or small scrubbing brush to wipe it clean.

TEA

More than a favorite beverage, brewed tea can be used to clean windows, mirrors and countertops. Spray on your bathroom surfaces just as you would any typical window or surface cleaner. Then, keep your bags to hide in the back of the fridge. They will actually work to deodourise it. And if you need to remove the scent of onion, garlic or fish from your hands, cut a bag open, and wash your hands with the leaves to remove the odor.

SALT

Remember that miracle lemon that cleaned the tub? If your dirt stains are particularly stubborn, add some salt to the lemon, and scrub the surface of your bathtub, sink or toilet. Once your salt solution has done the trick, just rinse off any pulp and left-over residue, leaving your bathroom perfectly clean with a lemon-fresh scent!

BICARBONATE OF SODA

Perfect for cleaning counters, sinks, drains, the toilet bowl, soap scum, shower doors, showerheads, and well, pretty much anything in the kitchen and bathroom, baking soda is one cleaning agent you don't want to be without. For most kitchen and bathroom surfaces, a simple paste made of baking soda and water will do the trick.

DRAIN CLEANER

Though it is not a natural cleaning solution, exactly, a drain snake is an eco-friendly way to clean out the main source of drain blockage: hair.

And if you don't have a drain snake, you can still avoid pouring harsh chemicals down the bathtub drain by unwinding a wire hanger, hooking the end, pushing it down the drain as far as it will go, and pulling up hair that is keeping the water from draining properly.

DIY: FABRIC ROSETTES

Add this simple technique to your DIY skill set and you'll be ready to embellish everything from pillows to curtains.

You'll need:

- Strips of fabric (old sheets, curtains etc.)
- Needle
- Thread

DIRECTIONS

STEP

Cut 4½ inch wide fabric strips into 12 inch lengths. Sew a 1/2 inch hem on one long side and sew a 1/2 inch hem on each of the short sides. Then hand-sew a loose running stitch along the raw edge.

STEP 2

Pull one end of thread to gather

fabric into a circle

These are loose, freestyle rosettes, so you don't need to create a tight circle.

STEP 3

Stitch the center of the rose to hold its shape.

Place the rosettes onto curtain, pillow, or the object you are embellishing stitch in place to secure.



OVEN ROASTED CRISPY PORK BELLY

f you've had poorly cooked pork belly, chewy or otherwise unpleasant, you know that technique is important.

The meat needs some tender loving care to help it release a depth of flavour and have it at just the right texture, and we're going to show you how to do just that.

Pork belly | Serves 8 Prep Time: 5 mins Cook Time: 1hr 30mins

INGREDIENTS

- 450g skinless pork belly
- 2 tsp salt
- 2tsp sugar
- 2 tsp black pepper

DIRECTIONS

STEP 1

Season the pork with salt, sugar

and black pepper. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

STEP 2

Preheat oven to 230°C. Roast the pork belly for 30 minutes in a heavy, oven-safe pan or skillet, fat side up. Reduce heat to 135°F and roast for an hour or more, until tender but not mushy.

Larger pieces of pork belly will take longer, so check your meat!.

STEP 3

Remove belly from the oven and let it cool to room temperature. Wrap tightly in plastic and refrigerate until chilled through - at least a few hours and up to two days. Once chilled, slice into thick pieces and brown until crisp. Enjoy alone or in soups, salads, pasta sauces, with noodles and more!



EASY GARLIC GINGER GLAZED STICKY

It's no secret that food is my forever friend. It's pretty easy to get me to hold forth on the subject in general, obviously.

That being said, I am especially passionate about the sub-category of food made of simple recipes using basic ingredients that deliver major flavours with minimal effort.

This recipe is all of those things.

Sticky Garlic Pork | Serves 6 Prep Time: 15 mins Cook Time: 10 mins

INGREDIENTS

- 700g boneless center cut pork loin cut into strips
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tbs canola oil plus extra if necessary5 cloves garlic, minced
- 2-inch knob of fresh ginger, grated
- ½ cup honey
 2tbs to 1/4 cup chili garlic sauce
- 1tbs rice wine vinegar or white wine vinegar

TOOLS

- Medium mixing bowl
- Sharp knife
- Whisk
- Heavy bottomed skillet or frying pan

DIRECTIONS



STEP 1

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the honey, garlic chilli sauce, and rice wine vinegar. Cover and set aside.

STEP 2

Pour the oil into a skillet over medium high heat and swirl to coat. Let it heat until it is shimmering.

While the oil heats, sprinkle the pork strips with salt and black pepper then toss with your hands to distribute it evenly.

Carefully add the pork to the pan, working in batches to avoid overcrowding the pan. Let the first side brown, flip the pieces, and brown the second side.

Transfer the pork to a plate, return the pan to the heat and add in the garlic and ginger. Stir until fragrant, about 30 seconds.

STEP 3

Raise the heat to high and pour in the sauce mixture and bring to a boil, stirring frequently.

When the sauce is very bubbly and somewhat thickened, toss the pork back in and toss constantly to coat everything and reduce the sauce to a thick, sticky glaze on the pork.

This can be served immediately over rice, noodles, or as finger food, or can be allowed to cool and be eaten cold.



DA TO BEGIN SEARCH FOR MSIMANGA REPLACEMEN

OHANNESBURG - The Democratic Alliance (DA) says it will now begin the work of finding a suitable candidate to replace outgoing Tshwane Mayor Solly Msimanga.

The party announced on Friday that Msimanga would be stepping down from his position as Tshwane Mayor next month.

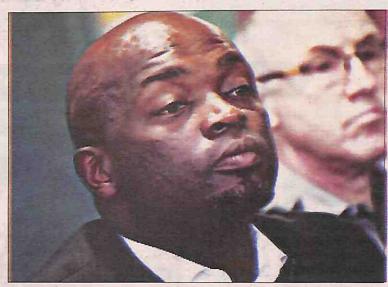
He says he's taken the decision to step down to focus on his Gauteng Premier candidacy. Msimanga says his replacement will be announced soon.

"It is our intention to elect the new mayor at the council meeting as early as possible in February. The residents of Tshwane are assured that we'll work tirelessly in order to ensure that there's a seamless transition."

Meanwhile, the party says it's controversial election billboard titled "The ANC is killing us" will remain up for the duration of its campaign.

The billboard has sparked outrage after the party included the names of Life Esidimeni tragedy victims, without consulting their families.

The party's John Moodey says, "As far as the billboard is concerned, of course, we care about the views of the families, we're not discounting them. However,



Outgoing Tshwane Mayor Solly Msimanga.

that billboard reflects the sad and hard of what we as South Africa are facing."

As political parties' strategies for the upcoming 2019 elections, the DA says it has full confidence in Msimanga's leadership and believes he can secure a win in Gauteng.

On Friday, Moodey said the party has taken over the cities of Johannesburg and Tshwane and believes it will win Gauteng under Msimanga's leadership. "We're winning Gauteng in 2019."

Msimanga said he's ready to lead the people of this province.

"If the party is willing to do so much in ensuring that we win, I must do my part and ensure I go out there and campaign." News24

#StateCaptureInquiry: Agrizzi's testimony 'won't hurt ANC'

OHANNESBURG - As the ANC's national executive committee meeting entredits second day yesterday it distanced itself on Friday from leaders and members who have been implicated in former Bosasa Chief Angelo Agrizzi's explosive testimony at the Zondo Commission.

The ANC said those named by Agrizzi had acted in their own capacities and not in the party's name.

In his no-holds-barred testimony, Agrizzi on Friday told the inquiry that Bosasa paid R1.8million towards the ANC's election campaign in the North West five years ago.

ANC spokesperson Zizi Kodwa said the ruling party supported the commission, which had to do its work without fear or favour.

'We continue to call on individuals, whether in the organisation or outside, who have information that can help the terms of reference of the commission."The ANC does not do a running commentary on the basis of the testimony of each witness. If there are any implicated individuals, be they ANC or not, they will answer for themselves," said Kodwa.

When asked whether the ANC was not concerned that its members being implicated in corruption claims by Agrizzi would further taint its reputation and jeopardise its chances winning at the



Former Bosasa chief Angelo Agrizz.

polls, Kodwa said this was not the perception on the ground.

"We have created an opportunity to make sure that we deal with allegations of state capture to the commission. It is us who wanted that commission and we knew very well that in the testimonies that would come, there's a possibility that some leaders and members of the ANC, because of their deployment, could be implicated. But it does not mean that what they did they acted on behalf of the ANC."

Kodwa said the party's leadership would appear again before the commission in February to explain issues around their deployment policy, including responding to issues raised by Barbara Hogan in her testimony before the commission.

Khulubuse on the brink

URBAN - Time might be running out for the former director of Aurora Empowerment Systems, Khulubuse Zuma, who is known for his champagne lifestyle.

This week, Zuma, who is former president Jacob Zuma's nephew, was provisionally sequestrated in the Durban High Court - after he did not comply with a repayment agreement with liquidators.

In 2009, Zuma and other Aurora directors -Solly and Fazel Bhana, Thulani Ngubane and Zondwa Mandela, the late Nelson Mandela's grandson - bought two Pamodzi mines, but failed to maintain them. Workers weren't paid and the operations fell into disrepair. In 2010, the company was put into liquidation and the operations closed.

On Friday, trade union Solidarity welcomed the court's decision this week.

"Justice will finally prevail for the 5 300 Aurora employees who lost their jobs. While Aurora was liquidated in 2010, the Pretoria High Court found the Aurora directors guilty in their personal capacities in June 2015.

Zuma still owes R13million, which is outstanding from a repayment agreement with the liquidators in 2016. Du Plessis said Zuma was not likely to come up with that amount by the next court date, March 4. Aside from the agreement, Zuma is liable for R1.4bn. If he doesn't pay on time, the final sequestration order will be issued. News24

Zondo in process of appointing acting secretary for state capture

Over the last three days, Agrizzi revealed

the extent of corruption at the facilities

company claiming that all contracts the

OHANNESBURG - Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo says he is in the process of appointing an acting secretary for the state capture commission after the incumbent took special leave amid corruption allegations against him.

Angelo Agrizzi testified at the commission this week exposing the extent of corruption at the company which is now known as African Global Services.

His evidence at the commission implicated the inquiry's Secretary Dr Khotso De Wee in corruption seeing him taking special leave while the commission investigates the allega-

De Wee allegedly received bribes from Bosasa for a 2013 tender-while he was still the chief operating officer at the department of justice and correctional services.

company had with the government were tainted by corruption and bribery. He has also revealed that Former South African Airways board Chair Dudu Myeni once gave the company's bosses confidential National Prosecution Authority documents.

Thursday, he showed the commission a video

show-

ing Bosasa CEO Gavin Watson counting over R900 000 in cash-money Agrizzi says was intended for bribery.

eNCA

Bosasa also revealed yesterday that Bosasa paid close to R2 million of laundered money to the African National Congress for electioneering. News24

> Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo.

SAUDIARABIATOINVESTIN

RETORIA - Saudi Arabia's planning to build an oil refinery and a petrochemicals plant in South Africa.

It's part of a \$10-billion (R138-billion) investment in the country. The Gulf state's also interested in using our oil storage facilities and pumping billions of dollars into renewable energy.

It's hoped a new refinery will ensure energy security for South Africa.

And that it will allow the country to supply crude oil and other petroleum products to the rest of Africa.

Rivadh's also interested in using South Africa's major oil storage facilities.

"We think it's symbolic for Saudi to store some of its crude in SA to serve SA's needs and the region. It has to be operationally feasible. The crude oil needs to be turned over regularly and sold to other customers.

That's what has worked in Rotterdam and Japan. We hope to replicate that if conditions would allow", said Khalid Al-Falih, Saudi Arabia's energy minister.

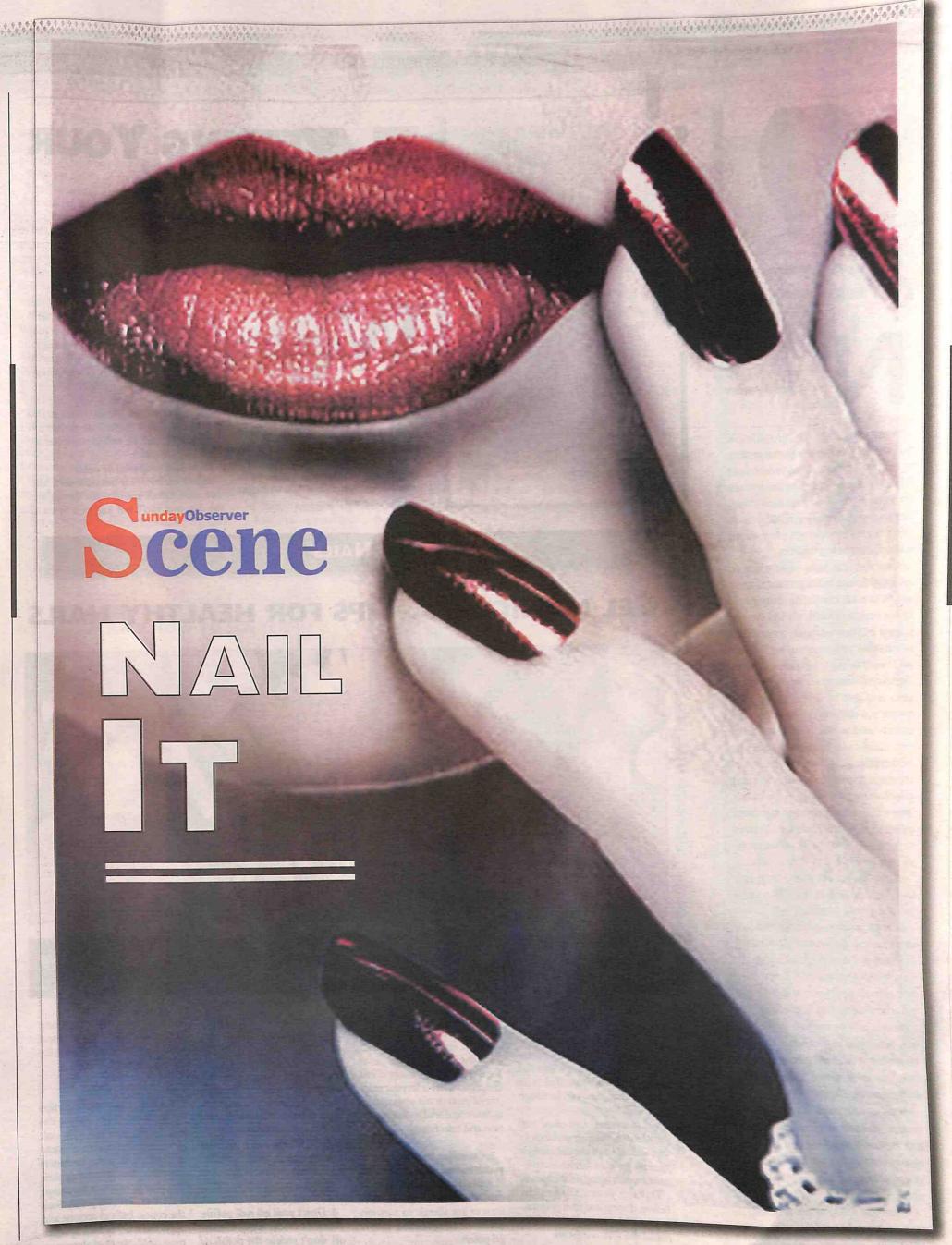
40 per cent of South Africa's oil currently comes from Saudi Arabia and Construction is being led by its state energy company Saudi Aramco.

The exact location of the project will be finalised in the coming weeks.

"You've mentioned Coega, but we're also looking at Richards Bay.

The final location of the oil refinery will be determined in the next few weeks when we finalise the MOU and the concept document after doing some preliminary studies", said Jeff Radebe, South Africa's Minister of Energy. Saudi Arabia is also expected to invest billions of dollars in South Africa's renewable energy programme and talks are underway to invest in South Africa's state defence company, Denel.

Riyadh is hoping other countries will follow its lead and increase investment in South Africa.



COMPILED BY: Phetsile Mamba | SUB-EDITING BY: Mdubasa

Email: scene@observer.org.sz



WRITER'S NOTE:

ails,nails,nails! We back again this week and our Scene is about nails.

Interesting topic it is. We all know how girls over obsess about getting their nails done. They make sure when they pamper themselves nails and toes are done and look clean; not to mention looking healthy cause that is the important part about nails them being healthy.

Your natural nails need a break. Most girls turn to forget that putting artificial nails can cause damage on their natural nails, this is where pages 2-3 comes in where you will learn how to keep your nails clean and healthy, the importance of keeping them healthy. Reading through you will get to understand that there's a difference between gel polish and acrylic. Gel manicures can cause nail brittleness, peeling and cracking, and repeated use can increase the risk for skin cancer and premature skin aging on the hands and acrylic poorly handled can cause infections, so it is important to have references and monitor that proper hygiene is kept in the centre.

Our nails reflect more than just our fashion sense, they also say a lot about our health.

Bumps, ridges, peeling and pits are clues to our overall health and could even be an early warning sign for underlying issues. But rest easy not all nail problems should have you running to the doctor.

As you will be reading pages 4-5 you will come across beautiful nail technicians who will guide you and help you understand how nails can stay clean and healthy.

For those who want to be nail technicians you will get to understand that before everything you have to be passionate about it, love and tell yourself that you can be the best at doing it.

I hope you enjoy all the articles.

Till next week!

Follow us on instagram @Sunday_scene



EEPING YOUR writing deline trans-HEALTHY

By Phetsile Mamba

e all want strong, thick, beautiful nails. But simply going about our lives can become a minefield of potentially nail-damaging situations.

Put a lot of thought, love, and science into helping you strengthen your nails with products like Take a Breather Oxygen Nail Treatment, Mighty Nail & Cuticle Serum, and our Color That Treats Nail Polish. All these products let your nails breathe while infusing them with natural nail-strengthening ingredients.

But even with the help of powerful nail treatments, growing your healthiest nails ever starts with fine-tuning your everyday habits. Here are our top tips for strengthening nails and preventing nail damage so you can better enjoy all your gorgeous manicures.

Limit water exposure

Wear gloves when you wash dishes, and don't soak nails in the bath or pool for too long. Keep your nails outside the water for most of your soak.

Drink lots (and lots) of water

Hydration is key for beautiful skin, hair. and nails. Drink lots of water throughout the day, and you'll feel and look better all

NAILS

GEL MANICURES: TIPS FOR HEALTHY NAILS



● Gel manicures can cause nail brittleness, peeling and cracking, and repeated use can increase the risk for skin cancer and premature skin aging on the hands

lthough gel manicures can be beautiful and long-lasting, they can be tough on nails.

Gel manicures can cause nail brittleness, peeling and cracking, and repeated use can increase the risk for skin cancer and premature skin aging on the hands.

To keep your nails healthy before, during and after gel manicures, dermatologists recommend the following tips:

1. Be proactive with your manicurist: Ask if tools are sterilised, and look around to make sure he or she is cleaning and disinfecting tools after every client. In addition, never let your manicurist push or cut your cuticle, as this could lead to inflammation and infection.

2. Consider traditional nail polish instead of gel polish: This is especially important if you experience recurring nail problems or are allergic to acetone, as acetone is required to remove gel polish.

Wear sunscreen: Before getscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher to your hands to prevent skin cancer and premature skin aging. This will help protect your skin from the ultraviolet radiation used to seal gel nail polish to the nail. Another option is to put on dark, opaque gloves with the fingertips snipped off before your nail polish is applied.

4. Don't pick gel nail polish: When the colour begins to come off, don't pick at the polish or

use other nails or tools to remove ting a gel manicure, apply a broad- r it. Thstead, make an appointment spectrum, water-resistant sun- with your manicurist to have the

> 5. Only soak your fingertips in acetone: When having the nail polish removed, only soak your fingertips in acetone instead of your whole hands or fingers to protect the surrounding skin. Another option is to use cotton balls to remove the polish. Soak the cotton balls in acetone and apply them to you nails by wrapping small pieces of aluminum

January 20, 2019

the way down to your hydrated cuticles and nails. A balanced diet that includes plenty of protein will also help improve nail health.

Keep your nails on the shorter side

If you're having trouble with weak nails, consider cutting down the length while you build up their strength. Shorter nails are less prone to breaking because there are fewer exposed edges to tear and less surface area where water and chemicals can be absorbed. Just make sure to file down your nails in one direction. Don't saw them back and forth as this can cause your nails to split and peel.

Make cuticle oil or crème a part of your rou-

If you don't keep your nails and cuticles moisturised, common nail problems like hang nails and dry skin can snowball into bigger problems, like chronic cuticle picking and nail peeling. Instead of cutting your cuticles which, when done incorrectly, can be painful and even provide an opening for bacteria to get into your nails use cuticle softener to gently push them back, and apply cuticle oil regularly to keep them soft and moisturized. Our Essential Cuticle Oil is lip balm-sized and has a convenient roller ball applicator, so you can take it wherever you

Try a DIY olive oil nail soak



Many people swear by soaking their fingers in olive oil to help strengthen nails naturally. Coconut oil, argon oil, vitamin E oil, tea tree oil, and castor oil can help in the same way. Pour little bit of oil into a bowl and soak each hand for 10 minutes. Massage the oil into your nail beds and cuticles to get the blood circulating. To really lock in the moisture, try soaking your nails at night and wearing gloves to bed.

Avoid alcohol-based hand sanitiwer.

This can be especially drying for your nails. Be careful when cleaning

Exposure to chemicals and detergents can weaken your nails, so keep your nails protected during household chores by wearing gloves.

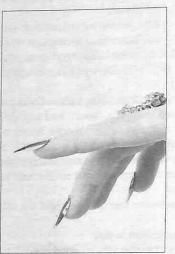
Avoid using your nails as tools

Even something as quick as opening a soda can or scratching off a sticker puts pressure on the weakest part of your nail and can contribute to peeling and breakage.

Make your manicures last longer

Overuse of nail polish remover can dry out your nails, so if you love keeping your nails polished, increase your manicure longevity to decrease the amount of time your nails are exposed to remover. To make your nail color last longer, push back your cuticles and use a hydrating base coat and durable top coat that double as nail strengthening treatments, like our Oxygen Smoothing Base Coat and Oxygen Performance Top Coat. Apply polish to the free edge of your nail with every coat and reapply your top coat every few days.











DAMAGED NAILS: WHAT THEY MEAN AND HOW TO FIX THEM

the last t i m e you really took a nice, long look at your fingernails?

Between all the trimming, buffing and polishing, few of us actually stop to think about the condition of our nails beyond the state of our recent manicure. But our nails reflect more than just our fashion sense, they also say a lot about our health.

Bumps, ridges, peeling and pits are clues to our overall health and could even be an early warning sign for underlying issues. But rest easy-not all nail problems should have you running to the doctor.

NAILS MIGHT BE

nails might be telling you, what you can do about it and

Splitting and peeling fin-

gernails are actually quite common. While your genes usually play a role, exposing your hands to the winter elements, harsh chemicals or too much hot water can wreak havoc on your nails causing them to peel. But don't panic, a quality moisturizer and some TLC will have your nails back in tip top shape in no time.

Massage your nails daily with a mix of olive oil and coconut oil to help replenish moisture.

For an added boost, increase your intake of Vitamins A, B, biotin, protein and O-3 fatty acids to nourish nails from the inside out or try a supplement specifically formulated to strengthen nails.

2. Yellow Tint

As serious (and unsightly) as it looks, yellow nails are usually caused by dark fingernail polish that's been left on a little too long.

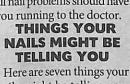
It's best to prevent yellow nails from the get go, but if you can't keep your hands off the dark polish, you can try

2. Rehydrate your nails: Between polishes, acetone. After about 16 minutes the nail poly apply a moisturising product, such as petroleish should come right off. story or an authorized by another product, your nails and cuticles several times ov and um jelly to your nails and cuticles several times daily. This will minimise brittleness and help prevent your nails from chipping.

toyour

3. Rashes caused by a nickel allergy are not life-threatening, but they can be uncomfortable. If you think you have an allergy, or if you have a rash that blisters, becomes infected, or comes and goes, see a board-certified dermatologist for the proper diagnosis.

4. As is the case with most things, moderation is the key when it comes to gel manicures. Consider getting a gel manicure for special occasions only, and see a board-certified dermatologist if you notice any unusual changes to your nails or have a persistent nail problem.

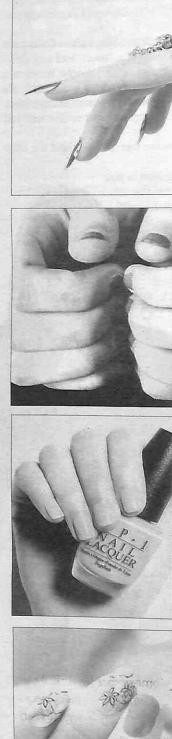


when it might be time to go if see your doc.

5. Only soak your foil around your fingerties of the live and the surface of the live and the surface of the live and the live To care for your nails in between gel mani-

cures, dermatologists recommend the follow-

1. Take a nail polish holiday: Try not to wear nail polish for one to two weeks or longer. This will allow your nails time to repair.





EING HUMBLE ALWAYS LEAVES FOR CRITICISM

By Phetsile Mamba

eisha Bullock is a young phenomenal ambitious, hardworking and fearless driven female.

She is part of the cosmetology field (beauty field) currently focused on makeup and nails (soon to focus on more) from Manzini (22 Makhanya Centre Ngwane

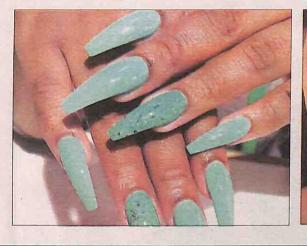
Being humble always leaves room for criticism. Bullock hasn't had any difficulty with any of her clients; hence she has never been in a bad space with her clients where there's a need of disrespect.

Ways of keeping your nails clean and healthy

Moisturise the nail bed and the cuti-

- Take gelatin in your coffee or tea to strengthen the nails and help them grow - Choose nail tips over full

extensions. -Watch your nails for



signs of health problems.

kidney disease

White nails -- liver con-

*Half pink/half white nails

*Yellowing and thick-

*They can damage your nail bed

*Acrylics may look less natural than gel nails, especially if applied incorrectly.

*The application process involves chemicals and

Gels are brushed onto your nails in three steps: a base coat, polish colour and top coat. Each coat has to be cured (hardened) in an UV light for a minute or two because gel colour is not in-demand in our area.

Advantages

*Natural, glossy, freshlymanicured look

*Lasts up to a month if well taken care of

*Curing time is faster

*More flexible than the acrylic nails

*Easier to remove

*Gel nail mixtures lack the fumes associated with acrylic nails

Disadvantages

*Self-fixing a break at home is complicated.

*Removal can result in nails damage if gel is used too frequently

Her favourite shape is stiletto and coffin shape.

Your WORK

ebenguni Simelane is a nail technician.

She works at the Commercial Centre part-time since she's a student at the University of Eswatini. She is always available on appointment and does house calls around Mbabane.

She is a very good team player and appreciates diversity among individuals. She believes that understanding that each one of us plays an important and distinctive role goes a long way in working with others. She respects other people's opinions andc takes time to listen to what they have to say.

The key to success depends on the message that is being communicated but the most important thing is being direct and respectful. Also, understanding the target receiver of the message will assist in ensuring that you communicate effectively and successfully; using the appropriate language and tone.

Her advice to people on how to keep their nails clean and healthy is:

> 1. Avoid damaging your cuticles by cutting them too far back or pushing them too hard. Cuticles must be moisturised with cuticle oil to keep them healthy.

2. Avoid over-filing your nail bed; the nails have a natural protective layer which is neces-

sary for



of a liquid monomer and a powder polymer. They create a hard protective layer over your natural nails. The product hardens as it is exposed to the air. Acrylic is transparent and also comes in colour. A nail polish is or could be added if you aren't applying acrylic colour powder. Advantages

*Provides a perfect canvas for applying nail

*Acrylic nails are hard and very robust

*They last longer

*Easy removal

*When you break an acrylic nail, you can almost always fix it at home.

Disadvantages

SHOULD SPEAK







healthy nails, hence it should be lightly filed even during a manicure

 Keep your nails short and trimmed to ensure cleanliness but if you prefer longer ones, make sure that you clean under your nails as often as you can.

4. Stop forcefully removing your manicure; see a professional for removal to limit damage to your nails

5. Wear dish gloves- regular hot, soapy water can weaken strong nails

She's been doing nails for two years now. She thinks perfect colour and nail shape for her clients can never go wrong. It is all about being passionate and loving what you do. Your work should speak for itself

These are two very different manicure applications; they differ in the way that they are applied and in their durability. Acrylic is very strong and can last for the longest compared to gel, however, gel also lasts for some time as well. The result is usually the same when you look at it

She has so many favourite shapes and cannot pick one between Almond and Coffin shape.



ezulu Nonhlanhla Dlamini is from Mbabane, from a slightly large family in her eyes; two brothers and two sisters. Currently pursuing an Associate Degree in Business Management at the Limkokwing University of Creative Technology.

"If you ask me who I am, I will tell you this, I am a Jack-of-all-trades in the broadest sense. I appreciate every form of art. Cherry on top is I'm a happy child of God.

I am very passionate about art, photography and doing nails. I do modelling on the sidelines when I want to but call me a nail technician please," Dlamini said.

She has always been a person that believed in being open to working well with other people. Good cooperation not only makes you an easy, reliable person to work with but it also helps you as an individual because it keeps you on track and you're able to achieve a lot of things at the end of the day. Unfortunately not everyone understands that; cooperation is a skill.

She makes sure that whoever she works with knows where she stands. So that they avoid stepping on her, especially with time. She's generally a person that always has the next person's best interests at heart. That brings her to independent thinking.

Over the years, she has grown to become a very independent thinker because as she said, not everyone is reliable. You have to work with what's good for you so that you achieve what you want. Independent thinking is a bit tricky in this society because everyone wants to fit in and certain trends affect their independency and common sense.

When it comes to communicating to the public, announcing the right things at the right time is very important.

People like to follow up on what's going on so constant communication and engagement with the public is utterly important. It not only gives you a sense of achievement for breaking through and getting to the public but also gives the public almost a tangible feel and sense of belonging to whatever you're communicating to them. Transparency is key because the public will go ham on you as a person that does not communicate well or communicate fallacious information to them.

Generally, she's not one that likes to talk. She prefers to keeping quiet. "I remember one instance I had an argument with this girl; it wasn't an argument per-say but it was a talk that turned

Me being me, I kept quiet and watched her, affording only to throw one or two comebacks. I really didn't have the energy to argue because



I dislike arguing: it was very petty and I could have been doing something more resourceful with my time than useless talk. This person was very difficult and you couldn't tell her anything because she was convinced! According to her, she's always right. So I decided to let her talk then I couldn't talk anymore, I asked if she was done and I walked away; telling her to come back to me when she had serious things to talk about in life. I was done. I was even reminded of a saying that goes 'Never argue with a fool, onlookers may not be able to tell the difference.' I chose to be the adult and walked away" she shared.

For your natural nails first of all **Stop Biting Your Nails!!** Biting your nails damages your nails, hinders their growth and makes them look pathetic! Also, putting fingers in your mouth transmits the dirt and germs from your fingers to your mouth.

People should adopt the culture of applying base and top coats to their nails, whether they have tips or not. This is whether you are applying a colour or not. Base and top coat helps in strengthening the nail as well as adding shine to your natural nail and enhances the nail when you add a nail polish colour. Base coat forms a protective layer on your skin and prevents your nails from getting discoloured and stained. So apply base and top coat from time to time on natural and polished nails.

Moisturise your nails

Dry and flakiness are as bad for your nails as they are for your skin. Nails are very delicate and tend to break off easily. Moisturise them to make them strong.

Choose from a range of hand creams, cuticle

oil/creams, moisturising oils or even Vaseline that will help keep your nails and cuticles shiny and healthy. This also can be done when you have tips on.

Do not bite off your tip or scrape off your gel/nail polish!

Scraping off your nail polish or gel or biting off your nail tip is the worst thing you can do to your nails. It makes your nail surface rough and patchy with nail polish. It also strips away the top layer of your nails when you bite off the tip and makes them very brittle and thin.

Instead of hurriedly scraping off your nail paint to avoid the chipped nail polish look, carry a few nail polish remover tissues or just go get a soak off at a nearby salon

She has been doing nails since January 2017. So it's been approximately two years. She is celebrating her two year anniversary as a nail technician

"I never went to school for it. I am self-taught and driven by passion. I have greater plans for the future in terms of my passion for nails. I pray to God every day that He helps me to reach that goal. Due to the fact that I am a naturally skilled person, I've been told many times that I do not need to go to school to learn how to do nails. Let me just say not yet because my goal requires more than this," she said.

It's important to know that as a nail technician you are a brand. Whatever you do represents you. Know your clients well and strive to keep them and push for more. Expand! Keep them satisfied by all means Communicate with them. Respect your clients and accommodate them as much as you can. Also, strive in your own lane. If you see me doing nails and instantly you wish to be where I am today, do it your way because how I do it may not work for you. Passion beats everything! When doing nails, make sure you do your best and don't forget anything. Also, keep up with the latest trends.

Acrylics and Gels are fake nails placed over your natural ones

Both can be made to match the shape of the nail, or to extend it's, when you want longer nails, you are asking for either Acrylic or Gel extensions. Gels are brushed onto your nails in three steps: a basecoat, polish color and top coat. Each coat has to be cured (hardened) in an UV light for a few minutes. Gels are more flexible than the acrylic nails and are easier to remove.

Acrylic nails are a combination of a liquid monomer and a powder polymer. They create a hard protective layer over your natural nails. The product hardens as it is exposed to the air. A nail polish could bead after. Acrylic nails are hard and very robust and they last longer.

Her favorite shape is coffin/ballerina.



BEAT ON BEATS WITH MDUBASA

SPECH UMLANGENI RELEASES NEW SINGLE 'BALEKA'

ouse Music DJ, events and artist promoter Speech Umlangeni has finally released his second single 'Baleka' where he features young house music producer M-tonic and songbird Lomasoul on vocals.

Release

The song was released late December across all social media platforms and officially got on the airwaves this month.

Speaking to Speech Umlangeni, he said he has been delaying to release the song because of music markets and the long processes of nourishing the final product. "Baleka has been a project so close to my heart for months now and I didn't want to compromise and make it just another song, so in October and November, we were in talks with various publishers and record labels to release the song but most had said we should wait till February, which was not an option for us because of the pressure to release a follow up single since Vuka was released 2017, thus we decided to release the song at no cost for music lovers to enjoy," he said.

About the song

'Baleka' is a song about a failed relationship between two friends who wanted to take a chance on love. It turns one of the two went A.W.O.L for weeks after they couldn't come Vocalist LomaSoul has laid vocals to give life to the short story; she sings about the frustration of being left alone after a short period of time getting to know a person, the promises made and complete communication breakdown between two partners.

into mutual agreements about the relationship, so one of them decided to distance him/herself for a while, not taking calls nor responding to messages sent to him/her. The song actually touches on the issue of partners who are afraid of commitment and also insecurity of their future when going into the relationship with a partner who is not reliable. So basically that's the reason the partner attempts to "BALEKA".

Vocalist LomaSoul has laid vocals to give life to the short story; she sings about the frustration of being left alone after a short period of time getting to know a person, the promises made and complete communication breakdown between two partners. In one of the lines she sings "yesterday you said you loved me, I believed you and I trusted you, I thought you were my best friend, I thought you were my lover, but now you run away?"

Collaboration

Speaking to M-Tonic, he said they have been doing music with Speech for a very long time but have kept their bullets between themselves for personal reasons. "We've been working on beats with Speech since 2013, a number of songs were done previously but we were not happy with the quality and that the house music scene in the country did not have much attention back then.

It was only in 2017 and 2018 when we felt it was time to start releasing the music because other fellow DJs and producers were now getting out of

their shells. So from the list of beats we had, one was picked and Speech gave it to LomaSoul, two weeks later Baleka was recorded.

LomaSoul, on the other hand, said she fell in

CREDITS:

Produced by; Speech Umlangeni & M-Tonic Composed by; Speech Umlangeni & LomaSoul Lyrics by; LomaSoul

Arranged by; Speech Umlangeni & M-tonic Mastered by; Alex Hatzin

Vocals Recorded at; Semitone Records Song artwork by; Mangaliso Msibi Distributed by: Speech Umlangeni (Pty) Ltd



love with the beat within the first few seconds while listening and also she didn't know what to sing about till they went to the studio.

"We've been planning on working on a song with Speech for years but it was in September when he sent me a beat and I loved it the moment I listened to the first 60 seconds of the beat. Two weeks later, we are in studio and all I heard was a melody in my head as we worked on the story and I came up with the lyrics, the rest you can find out from listening to the song".

Download

The download links for 'Baleka' can be found on Speech Umlangeni's social media pages and is now available exclusively on Umculo.net and Soundcloud, Here are the links below:

Soundcloud; https://bit.ly/2ErJzID Umculo.Net; https://bit.ly/2SVxjEo





BEAT ON BEATS WITH MDUBASA



THE PARCEL HAS ARRIVED

Each track has its own vibrant and distinct sound.

he prospect of 2019 is already proving to be a bright one for the local house music industry.

The discovery of new prising stars signifies the undeniable growth

of the Eswatini house music constellation.

The latest addition being Parcel - Sibusiso Zungu - an incredibly talented young producer from Ekupheleni in Motshane. Growing up in Ekupihe leni, his love and passion for music was cultivated by the sound of rnb, gospel and kwaito which provided the theme music from his childhood. Later on in his teens, Parcel picked up a partificate lar liking for house music.

He recalls his first encounter with music production software FL Studios, "In 2015 I just he appened to get my hands on FL Studios and I found it overly interesting.

I started market ing whatever melodies came to mind and over time. It got better and better at it." Most of Parcel's inspire tion is drawn from legendary dance music inspire tion is dr

His versatility allows him to stay true to his first love, house music, while recreating the nostalgic theme music of his childhood consisting of kwaito, rnb and gospel music.

Parcel made his grand entrance into the scene with the release of his debut EP titled, 'The Parcel' on the January 4, 2019. Released by local house music powerhouse Antidote Music, The EP is eclectic, featuring four meticulously produced tracks which showcase Parcel's versatility.

Each track has its own vibrant and distinct sound. Ngiyatifela Ngawe, which has the marvellous Temantungwa on vocals, is proclamation of love embodied in siSwati lyrics layered over an infectious soul-infused afro house beat. Bongani which means be thankful' in siSwati, is the second song on the EP and has a thumping bass coupled with afro-percussive melodies and subtle African chants. 'Sive Esimnyama' is a call to action for the black nation to rise above its challenges and to fulfil their rightful destinies.

Nkosi Nda shares this powerful message on 'Sive Esimnyama'. Lastly, the title track, The Parcel, easily resonates with both deep house and afro house music lovers with its hypnotic ere's some feedback about The Parcel EP from international DJ/Producers and industry professionals:

Those Boys - "Amazing Afro Beats. Perfect For The Southern African Summer Groove."

DJ Funky T - "Brilliant package!! World class, will most Def support 100 per cent"

Jose Marquez - "Great release, all tracks are hot!"
Indamix Worldwide - "Interesting introduction to this new act. Thus showing their versatility and maturity. In between deepness, syncopation and delicateness. There's quite a lot to choose from this four tracker as a matter of mind, depending on the mood you're in. 'The Parcel' definitely has that something

special."

Just Mo (YFM) - " Loving
the release, great work."

Mike Fossati (Spirit of House)
-"A truly lovely and electric release."
Clive Bean - "This label never disappoints...Love the whole pack-

Jackie Queens - "I love them!" Sef Kombo - "It's a nice EP, I like the Bongani track as well as Ngiyatifela Ngawe."

se)
ie."
ver
ckii!"
liike
ifela

melody and bassline.

Since its release The Parcel EP has been turning heads. The lead single from the EP, 'Ngiyatifela Ngawe', has been braking the charts on Traxsource. Traxsource is the world's biggest online music store for sourcing house and electronic music.

'Ngiyatifela Ngawe' was initially hand-picked by the Traxsource review team as one of the 'Weekend Weapons' on its first week of release. Since then the hit single broke into the Traxsource Afro House Top 100 music chart. After debuting at No. 95, 'Ngiyatifela Ngawe' (featuring Temantungwa) sky rocketed to No. 25 within a week.

This is the highest position to be held by a local song on the Traxsource Afro House Top 100. The hit single has also made it onto the Eswatini Top 20 chart hosted on EBIS 2 by Tizalami and Lindz, currently positioned at No. 11.

Speaking on one of the biggest challenges he faced whilst making the EP, Parcel mentions how hard it is getting the right level of quality both in the production and mixing of the music. One of his targets for 2019 is to release as much music as he can, working with both local and international musicians. Parcel's ultimate dream is bringing a positive change in his community, and the world at large, through the message in the music he creates.

He seeks to recreate the narrative of the black child by overcoming what other would see as a disadvantaged background and becoming the most influential musician in the world.

The Parcel EP is currently available on CD for only E60 and those eager to support local house music can do so by contacting Parcel on 7622 4980. Digitally, the EP is available on all major online music stores and streaming sites such as iTunes/Apple Music, Google Play Music, Spotify, Deezer, Traxsource and Bandcamp through the following link: http://smarturl.it/TheParcelEP

PHIWOKWAKHE DLAMINI MAKING WAVES IN SA

ocal gospel artist Phiwokwakhe Dlamini, who has just released his latest offering titled 'Amahubo Volume 2' is making waves in the music scene with the title of the 15 track album 'Ngihamba NeNkosi' in many radio and television stations in SA.

Phiwokwakhe, who has been 'underground' for sometime, is back with a bang as his album promises to top the charts as it is well received by many gospel music lovers. The demand for the airplay of this song in the different media platforms is growing by the day as no day goes by without his song being played in either, One Gospel, Soweto TV and Dumisa TV, among other stations. His music is also in demand in a number of national and community radio stations including Ukhozi FM, Ligwalagwala FM and Umhlobo Wenene.

"I will soon be bringing this project into the Kingdom of Eswatini as I have been receiving calls from my local fans and gospel music fanatics who want to but the album but cannot access it in local music stores. I want to assure my fans that the project will hit the local shelves on the second week of February.

I also want to promise that I am also planning a massive event in Eswatini where this album will be officially launched and this is where my fans will get to see me giving out my best after such a

long time," he

says.

He says if all goes well, the launch would be on the first weekend of May at a venue yet to be confirmed. He says the whole thing is still at planning stage, noting that he would pull a big one on the night. The album contains 15 tracks which are all on a class of their own. Apart from the title track making waves there are songs like From grass to Grace, Mawungangilahli Jesu, Ukhon'uJesu, This is the day, Makanaka Jesu, Kabiyos and Uze Usivuselele among other tracks. He says in this project, listeners would be blessed in worship and praising God in different languages used such as Zimbabwean and Nigerian accent

He says God has been a pillar of his strength as he has been through many trials and tribulations but through it all God was with him as he was able to bounce back with a bang into the music scene.

He says some had written him off but because God was by his side, things are happening once again. So merciful was God in his life that the new project has been released under his company Phiwokwakhe Communications and was recorded in one of the leading and reputable studios Cut and Edit in Johannesburg.

"I would like to thank God for being my pillar of strength and His grace that kept me alive thus far.

I am again grateful to present another great work which is laid upon my heart to grace you with the message within the project. 'Amahubo Volume 2'.

I also extend my gratitude to all the media houses and pastors who honored and encouraged me to serve with the music ministry God has laid upon my life. This project serves as a testimony and thanksgiving unto my God because it wasn't easy since the beginning of the project," he said.

He says he has worked with a number of legends in the gospel music industry and this is one of the reasons that has made him to come out of the studio with such a powerful project. He says he has worked with the likes of Mxolisi Mbethe, Shadrack Ndlovu and Sandile Maseko among others.

Phiwokwakhe says the idea of starting his own stable was the best to have happened as he is able to do what is in his heart and the way God wants him to do it.

He says the long term goal is to recruit other artists to be under his stable and promote them, adding that locals who want to penetrate the South African space are more than welcome.

He, however, noted that there is a number of challenges which can be overcome with God on their side.

"Starting the stable can be likened to a son moving out of home into his own residence or even a pastor leaving a church to start his ministry as directed by God. I can say God is expanding his ministry and I believe things will work out well," he says.

He says through his company, he also does events something which he wants to showcase when he launches his album in Eswatini soon.

By Simon Shabangu



FASHION TRENDS







Mugabe the best and worst thing to happen to Zimbabwe

t is imperative to put something straight about Mugabe, Zimbabweans, land reform and elections to the world, as a Zimbabwean who experienced life under ZANU PF rule.

Zimbabwe, formerly Rhodesia, had an apartheid system run by Rhodesians. The system was very brutal towards black people, who were killed and arrested willy nilly, all means of economic production were taken away from blacks.

Black people were not allowed to vote, education provision for blacks was poor, black people were reduced to slaves, garden boys and garden girls of white people and were told they are not human beings, but baboons (bobojani). As Zimbabweans, we went to war to fight for our freedom and economic independence. We beat the white nationalists/racists/supremacists which were led by Ian Smith. As Zimbabweans, we never did wrong to vote for Robert Mugabe in the first general elections open for all. We did not vote for a dictactor, but a progressive politician, Robert Mugabe.

In the first 15 years of his rule, Mugabe developed Zimbabwe, and black people in Zimbabwe became the most educated on the African continent (and Zimbabwe up to now is the most educated nation in Africa). Mugabe reconciled the nation, black and white.

Mugabe turned Zimbabwe into the bread basket of Africa and we fed nations by exporting produce. Our Zim currency, the dollar became stronger than the SA Rand, the US Dollar and equaled the British Pound.

The industry boomed. We can't be shy or ashamed that we voted for him. We can't erase what Mugabe did in his younger years.

But what we did not vote for is the older Mugabe, who overstayed in power and became a dictator, thus reversing all the gains he had done for the country. Had Mugabe not overstayed his legacy and progress for the country would be there now. As opposition for him to retire grew, he became paranoiac, he killed opposition leaders and supporters. The majority of us Zimbabweans changed our support for Mugabe when we noticed he had changed into a demagogue and regressionist.

Since the year 2000, ZANU PF has been losing elections and has maintained power by rigging. Zimbabweans continue to suffer. White racists blame us for voting for him in the first place. We can't be blamed for voting for a smart, progressive young man who later changed to what we didn't want. You can't tell us whites were better to stay in power.

Mugabe should have stepped down in 1995 and maintained democracy, by allowing opposition to rule when they won elections. Mugabe and ZANU clearly said their party could not be removed by the X mark of pen on the ballot paper, because the country came through the gun (therefore only the gun can remove ZANU). ZANU PF now has a small support base (around 30 per cent, and continues to steal every election since 2000).

White racists should stop playing innocent by telling us it was wrong to remove colonial oppressors and voting for Mugabe. But what we agree to is that Mugabe later messed up, but we also know he did well initially. Mugabe became the best and worst thing to happen to Zim. 'The land reform' was necessary to give productive land to landless ordinary productive black Zimbabweans. It should have been done transparently.

What made it to fail is that the land was given to ZANU people, ZANU top leaders and war veterans without farming expertise and it failed. Don't tell us white governments are better than black governments. As Zimbabweans, we want our freedom now, from people who used to be good to us, good to our country, but later changed into bad leaders.

Analysis & opinion

GET THIS MONKEY OFF OUR BACK



BY KENNETH DLAMINI

he past two weeks have been a hive of activity in the country with the much-anticipated release of both the 2018 Swaziland Primary Certificate (SPC) and Junior Certificate (JC) results.

The release of the results has quickly been followed by the mini-chaos that often happens around this time when parents cram schools looking for spaces.

Going to one of the schools in Mbabane, on a similar mission, this was the same scenario playing itself out all over again. In fact, I was taken aback witnessing so many people queuing up for spaces.

Of course, this was despite numerous notices, written in black and white, hanging from as far as the gate, notifying people that there were already no spaces for Form One and Form Four classes.

You would be forgiven for thinking that all the people who by-passed the notices were either blind or plain illiterate.

Thankfully, they were neither, instead these were people driven by the desire to find spaces for their children.

The unfortunate part being that this is the same scenario everywhere especially around this time of the year.

As parents run helter-skelter looking for spaces for their children, it struck me that some could not even bother because their children failed. It begs the question therefore as to how chaotic the situation would be if all the pupils were to pass.

My thoughts were immediately with the parents who were left wondering what could or might have been. Of course, I know every exam has to have passers and failures.

But let's hypothetically say all the pupils made it for the first time, do our schools have the capacity to accommodate all 30 000 pupils that normally sit for the external exams per year.

By 30 000, I'm referring to both the Form One and Form Four classes, which are the ones that absorb all those who have passed.

This is the average figure of pupils who sit to write their SPC and JC exams every year in the country.

While many fail for different reasons, I know about 3 000 every year cannot make it because of English.

That works out to a mind-blowing 30 000 pupils whose futures would have been ruined because of English in 10 years.

Let's take for instance the 2018 SPC results, where there were 2 935 failures overall. Of this number a total of 1 342 failed because of English. This calculates to 45.7 per cent of the failures.

In JC results, there were 3 512 failures overall and of this figure a total of 1 070 pupils failed because of English. This works out to 30.47 per cent of the overall failures. These



Minister of Education and Training Lady Howard-Mabuza.

are huge figures.

In fact, it gets even scarier when you learn that a larger percentage those figures could have obtained Merits. Now, here's a bright child's future being hindered by the Queen's language.

Why deny our children the best they could be in life just because they cannot construct a sentence in English. These are kids who could have gone on to become experts in different fields.

Some of them come from extreme poverty situations and cannot afford to pay for themselves to upgrade the subject. In fact, a large percentage of those children end up leaving school for good.

Afford

The parents cannot afford to have a child drop to Form Two just because they failed English.

This is where I agree with new Minister of Education and Training Lady Howard-Mabuza that pupils should just repeat Form Three instead of dropping to Form Two.

Never mind the fact that the same parents would have pushed themselves to the limit to have the child continue with school even under trying conditions.

It's a sad sad scenario (Read our story on Page 15). And, that's after 50 years of independence which the country celebrated with aplomb last year. Why should we still be talking colonial matters after 50 years of independence?

What is it that the nation was celebrating when basically we have nothing to show off for the Golden Jubilee milestone? What is there to celebrate anyway if our people are still hindered by the fact that they can't communicate properly with a white man.

Basically, that's the whole purpose of English. It was meant to make it easy to communicate with the white man...the very same people who colonised us?

Other than that, I can't think of any other

valid reason for sticking with this old colonial rule of making English a passing subject 50 years later. You ask yourself who are we trying to impress by sticking to English as the passing subject? Our colonial masters?

Goes to show how confused a nation we are. Just recently, the late former Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini introduced SiSwati as a compulsory subject in all schools, be it private or public. He said government was doing this to make sure that the native language was preserved. In fact, he even said government will make it compulsory for even pre-schools to teach in SiSwati.

As a result, all pupils in the country wrote a SiSwati external exam for the first time last year. Yet, what government totally forgot was if we are so concerned about promoting our own language, then why are we still keeping English as a passing subject?

We can't have it two ways. If we are promoting SiSwati then English has got to give way. We cannot be promoting SiSwati yet still keep English as a passing subject. It's quite contradictory to say the least.

Clearly, we are a nation that likes contradicting itself. Then, how about the fact that by allowing so many children to drop out before reaching Form Five we are shooting ourselves in the foot after having taken them through the government sponsored Free Primary Education (FPE).

That effectively means seven years of FPE being washed down the drain by just one subject - English Language.

This then talks to the huge numbers of children who are unaccounted for by the time they reach Form Five.

It seems the minister of education and training will have a task as heavy as her body weight to convince the nation why we are still keeping English as a passing subject.

As a former principal however she should glide over this task like a duck to water. Over to you Madam!



By Comfort Mabuza

ne of the greatest strides any national leadership can be remembered for, is that of crafting a sense of direction and purpose, so that we avoid moving in circles in our national development agenda.

Just reflecting more on the national priorities shared in the prime minister's New Year's statement, one should derive a sense of resolved leadership aiming at bringing about economic growth. Instead, we seem to be starting the year on an unstable foundation and a desired prosperous secured future is becoming a far-fetched dream. No political regime nation will ever be taken seriously without a clearly articulated national vision with strategic frameworks that would instil a sense well thought through interventions on how the nation intends forging ahead from this nightmare of economic doom and crises. As we are part of SADC, Africa and the global village, we must strategically reflect on the obtaining national challenges we are facing more, with the petrol crises in Zimbabwe souring way above inflation rate regionally, we sure have disaster in the making.

We ought to be seen grappling on how we intend to find solutions with the view of competing, as we rise up with better economic plans that would provide convincing answers to sensitive investors. Where are national policy directives that give investors firm confidence and assurance that this nation has decisive leadership that understands global trends and ready to compete globally. Unfortunately, we still live in a dream zone, where there seems to be a lot of 'talk-shows' instead of well-calculated strategies on reviving our fortunes.

A SENSE OF DIRECTION **URGENTLY NEEDED**

It certainly would inspire hope for the head of executive to give a sense of the government political direction by stating the executive's strategic goals aimed at addressing the obtaining fears and concerns we are facing already.

WHAT CRITICAL AREAS GOVERNMENT MUST GIVE DUE ATTENTION?

WITHOUT NATIONAL PRIORITIES SET ACCORDINGLY, WE WILL CONTINUE MOVING IN CIRCLES

It is a matter of survival and how citizens can be assisted to face the economic hard knocks and woes. Businesses are not inspiring currently as many are closing down and even those still operating are on their knees. Jobs are not there so that people can have an opportunity to be in gainful employment for their livelihoods and survival. We have thousands of school leaving children that cannot be absorbed into local tertiary institutions because they cannot cope. The end result is you will have great potential lying idle because of possessing no needed skills in the job market. I have no space to even discuss the fate of those children who cannot be trained as the entry requirement has since gone higher in local institutions of higher learning.

What then do we do with young people roaming the streets that keep on increasing year by year? I have no time and space to describe the agony of qualified people whose futures are doomed because job opportunities are not forthcoming. We urgently need a sense of direction and assurance that something is being done urgently to help alleviate the misery presently obtaining in the lives of the

A government that does not instil a sense of hope and direction on how it will rise up to emerging challenges is found wanting. Only a resolved strategic leadership at executive level is capable of instilling hope and a sense of direction. Give us the road map Mr Prime Minister Sir, otherwise we are presently moving in cir-

A NEW DAWN RISING

Since Eswatini has elevated a new

political leadership, we certainly must get a sense of assurance and hearing of new innovative polices regarding fiscal discipline and give some assurance that we are in safe hands as the country rises to meet her obtaining commitments.

Disgruntled voices who continue not associating themselves with the national development agenda, should be convinced that the present leadership will resolve the obtaining financial crises.

We should be concerned that there are still Emaswati who feel not part of national development agenda cur-

Nationhood remains a collective term where even disgruntled Emaswati feel their voice matters regard national priorities, so that whosever leads has a legitimacy and approval/mandate to do so.

Whatever issues then people have, it will be prudent not to allow the very dissatisfied citizens lot feel they are not being heard.

National elections should ordinarily be an all-inclusive and participatory, they should therefore be accommodative.

Elections remain a social contract based on promissory deliverables made to the electorate. One hopes that those who have since been elevated and elected to lead, will continue being sensitive to people's concerns after having been given the mandate to lead.

Citizens should be more intelligent and refuse to be taken for a ride by

Politics is a science of leadership that should embrace the aspirations of the masses and that is critical.

Help invigorate that spirit and atti-

tude and pay attention to the people's voices and expressed concerns. When people choose to abuse the political office and end up not pursuing people's driven agendas then we are doomed. Good governance is about serving the people.

QUALITY LIFE MATTERS

I had indicated last year in this very column that Emaswati should by all means strive for an improved quality lifestyle and then we will certainly be on the right track to attaining the National Vision 2022. We are still not coming out with how the nation will attempt to address concerns around poverty alleviation at grassroots so that the very fundamental needs of our people to live a quality life are addressed. Critical amongst these are that no Liswati should go to bed without food.

Access to quality health care facilities should be guaranteed at all health centres and clinics. No citizen should feel vulnerable and marginalised when this country is blessed with so much national resources.

A pro-poor national budget is more desirable than ever before. Government should be strategically creating synergies where we all collectively put our heads together on how we could help find solutions for some of the emerging challenges and seek ways and means how our citizens can be enabled to have quality lives in order to be more productive.

It is about creating jobs and ensuring food security. Accessing basic health care is a must, where needed medication is available and subsidised.

Health care facilities should have adequate medication supply, as well as qualified health personnel to offer

such essential services.

It is also about ensuring people are provided with all that leads to quality life to be able to sustain their livelihoods.

EVALUATE THE FORMAL EDUCATION OFFERED

The recently external results were the trauma of the highest order, if the statistics of failures is anything to go

Both Eswatini Primary and Secondary External Examinations results are not showing quality we would love, with so many failures recorded this year. At the heart of the whole education system being offered currently we should be grappling about the quality being provided. Is the current education still relevant to national obtaining challenges?

Is it producing pupils that will take this nation to competitive levels regionally, continentally and globally?

While we have certainly become one of the successful countries in the region and continent in offering basic education for free at primary level, such a initiative must soon be extended to higher grades, because it is a human rights matter.

But an underlying issue that to me is critical; are we evaluating the quality of education that is being offered currently?

We need quality education at the very formative level' of education because it certainly gives a firm base for the entire empowerment process of our people and higher levels.

We should be working hard that children who go to school are given fair quality education so that they can compete globally. Such desirable education should also look at educating those with special needs. The packing of children in classrooms like sardines does not address those with special needs, and quality is not guaranteed.

These are critical concerns we must grapple with urgently, and stop offering irrelevant education that no longer provides ideal needed human resources for advancing a relevant national developmental agenda as a top pri-

A strategic approach to invigorate a well thought out approach on how basic education is focussed not only on academic knowledge but also consider skills and vocation a route is more desirable.

Who evaluates the quality of education being provided currently?

Evang. Wilton Mamba



asting is akin to mourning.

Hadassa (Esther) called for a three day fast when the Jewish people were threatened with annihilation through the wicked schemes of Haman. Daniel and his colleagues; Meshack, Shadrack and Abednego, went on a partial fast when they were taken captive to Babylon. Daniel was to later make fasting his lifestyle. As she grieved her barrenness year after year, Hannah would mourn and not eat as she prayed to God to give her a son.

All these cases of fasting succeeded to force the hand of God to act in favour of the subjects. The question becomes; what is it that

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE FAST?

happens when we fast that moves the hand of God to act in our favour? As we looked at the 'Rule Book of Fasting' last week, it emerged that in the majority of cases the manner we go about fasting is wrong and, as a result, we fail to bring Jesus on the scene. We quoted generously from Isaiah 58, which clearly shows us the way to more meaningful fasting that touches the heart of God to act in our favour.

I will attempt this time around to explain exactly what happens when we fast. But before I do, let us look in some detail at the life and habits of Daniel, who instituted what we now know as the Daniel fast.

Daniel, Meshack, Abednego and Shadrack were among some of Israel's most intelligent young men who were taken captive to Babylon after the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar.

While Daniel is predominantly referred to by his original name, his colleagues were later to be known by the names assigned to them by Nebuchadnezzar's chief of officials, Ashpenaz, who also gave to Daniel the name Belteshazzar, which somehow failed to stick. The four young men were committed to God, and when they were assigned a special diet, Daniel asked the commander of the officials, before whom God had granted

Daniel favour, to allow him and his compatriots not to defile themselves with the king's diet.

With some misgivings, the commander of the officials obliged, and allowed them to eat only vegetables and drink water. Within ten days, the young men's appearance was better than the rest who were being prepared to serve in the king's court.

During this period, God gave them knowledge in every branch of literature and wisdom. It is written in Daniel 1:17 that Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and

The question is: what happened during this fast that elevated them

to the level of wisdom they were at? It is further written in verses 18 to 20: 'Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found to be like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal advice. As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm'.

We learn that Daniel became an



NDWANDWE'S LEADERSHIP ZONE

wazi Observer family, thank you, for being midwife in birthing my feminine power and shattering the inner glass ceiling for the Queen of Indigenous Knowledge to emerge.

My media partner, even when hesitantly raising my voice writing an occasional article on the then Saturday Observer. Ackel Zwane (Mlingani) and Alec Lushaba, thank you for being patient and taking a risk publishing uncensored and contentious worldview that irked numerous conservative Christians and men in general. Thank your former managing editor Musa Ndlangamandla for the supportive and insightful conversations from Swazi Observer and thus far. Thank you former managing director Alpheus Nxumalo and Myzoe Magagula (Nxumalo), my contentious views were allowed not because we are family, but honouring my feminine power.

Thank you Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbingo (Mkhwenyane) for initiating the Sunday Observer, providing this space for uncensored and contentious voice publicly, as I celebrate six years this month as a columnist. This column has been the midwife for my feminine power, as I shared my voice with the nation, thus, allowing my contentment, dignity and confidence to emerge. The Leadership zone that began when I visited the United Kingdom, Ubuntu in Schools tour has enabled my voice to be heard from a point of strength and weakness. I have been vulnerable of this column and brutally honest as I was shattering the inner glass ceiling for the Queen of Indigenous Knowledge to emerge.

FEMININE POWER

My 'so-called' identity before embarking on my spiritual mission and calling, based on superficial identity crisis. The western education and religion that had been an important part of my nurturing had created an inner glass ceiling. Therefore, voicing my views was a significant part of shattering this inner glass and birthing my feminine power. This column presented the platform and audience for emerging feminine power such that I could tap into my old soul,

HANK YOU **SWAZI OBSERVER FAMILY**

The Swazi Observer family, today I wear my crown within my soul as Queen of Indigenous Knowledge, as this column shattered the inner glass ceiling. Over the past five years in particular, the Sunday Observer, has provided me that space to claim my crown

LaZidze. If I had these internal conversations within myself, I would be a mental patient as they were too contentious to absorb and resolve without active participation in media space.

Swazi Observer, the articles I have written over the years, endowed with personal fears, which were then processes and eliminated publicly. Such that my core identity was birthed in public space, with the public judging and possible clapping hands in limited spaces. I did not hear the judgements nor the clapping of hands, as this would have evoked my ego strategically suppressed spiritually and publicly. Transforming my western education and religion publicly was an extremely risky, but it had to occur to evoke my feminine power. This is my core identity; this fearless woman had to emerge not as a feminist but the embodiment of feminine power.

This column has been igniting my sphere of influence birthing feminine power, such that I am visible without a political or career position. Thus, providing public space for personal mastery and understanding my core identity as a feminine voice evidently heard and seen at strategic events such as traditional ceremonies. Hence, over the years, I have not attended public spaces created for public or career positions such as government functions, but visible within my column sphere of influence. In essence, this column has pro-

vided me with self-actualisation space, and evident in the emergence of feminine power, rooted within CDC, contentment, dignity and confidence. A path into greatness that is not for the populists but for the Queens of Africa, whom historically and contemporary teaches us on feminine power.

QUEEN OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

The Swazi Observer family, today I wear my crown within my soul as Queen of Indigenous Knowledge, as this column shattered the inner glass ceiling. Over the past five years in particular, the Sunday Observer, has provided me that space to claim my crown. Today, I wear it with contentment, dignity and confidence, as I have earned it supported by this media partner. As this column enabled me without a salary or bank account to contribute towards the transformation of thoughts and worldviews. I repeat, without a bank account, as I had no sponsorship handouts for I am not a superwoman or a superrich woman, but a Queen of Indigenous Knowledge. Actively participating in transformation interventions advancing humanness, actively engaged in the culture of questioning whilst affirming plausibility of indigenous knowledge.

This column has enabled my leadership into the forefront sphere of influence advancing radical empathy, by developing indigenous

thoughts and worldviews to empower vulnerabilities. Whilst I was publicly sharing my own vulnerabilities engaging contemporary and current vulnerabilities, particularly on how African culture is outdated. This dominate paradigm that required shattering my inner glass ceiling to access the pin codes of indigenous knowledge embedded within my soul, the old LaZidze soul. I had my doubts about being the embodiment of this soul, and this was a contentious issue in many sectors of society, however, I am the Queen of Indigenous Knowledge. As I transcended within this column my transpersonal knowing, allowing my consciousness and intuition to lead when writing the articles, whilst taking responsibility for its contents and context.

I am the Queen of Indigenous Knowledge, and this column has been the midwife in birthing this feminine power and shattering the inner glass ceiling. Allowing me space to hold paradox, enabling the emergence of CDC, contentment, dignity and confidence through my voice. In the column where I expressed worldviews contrary to my missionary upbringing, western education and religion, thus, holding paradox. Thus creating uncertainty about my personal, family, society and within the nation, enabling contentment, dignity and confidence to emerge. As the old soul LaZidze, my spiritual guide who has enabled this column to engage in truthful and

extremely difficult conversations. To engage in stuck-ness, to be with failure, to be with hard and difficult tasks that have transformed me into this golden Queen of Indigenous Knowledge.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I am not ending this column but appreciating this space over the past 10 years that has enabled my feminine power and queen status, as this contributed towards the acknowledgement in portrait of Swati Women 50/50. As I recall the first article when I came out of the closet as an indigenous prophet, this was on the Weekend Observer, now Observer on Saturday. The beginning of my media partnership on a contentious note, as majority thought I was a biblical prophet. Therefore miracles and biblical verses were expected from me, unfortunately, I was never an A student who could recite and parrot, and this would not have been my calling.

However, my research on indigenous prophets in Africa, informs me that prior to western education and religion, they were the intellectual basis of society. Indigenous prophets were the first intellectual and spiritual base for resisting colonialism, particularly when it was negating the cultural context of the traditional religion and culture. They had the intellectual and spiritual capacity to resist the negation whilst forming independent churches whose worldview was integrating western and traditional religion.

Hence, as an indigenous prophet in the 21st Century I am standing in the spiritual shoulders of giants, thus, leading the integration of indigenous knowledge and modernity. In retrospect, the indigenous prophets that we murdered, killed and massacred within their followers by missionary and colonialist were on point.

This superficial identity of western education and religion shattered within my inner glass ceiling for the birthing of feminine power embodied server turbulences within my old soul LaZidze, 2019 am free as Queen of Indigenous

Knowledge.

influential official, holding the highest office in the Babylonian government under a succession of kings until the first year of Cyrus the king. When King Nebuchadnezzar's magicians, conjurers, sorcerers and Chaldeans failed to tell the King's dream, Daniel not only told the king what he dreamt, but he went on to explain what the dream meant, unveiling in the process the plan of God for the created world as we know it today. It is very clear that Daniel's connection to God was made stronger through fasting.

In Daniel 10, Daniel recounts, "In those days, I, Daniel, had been mourning for three entire weeks. I did not eat any tasty food, nor did meat or wine enter my mouth, nor did I use any ointment at all until the entire three weeks were completed." This

instituted the Daniel fast as we know it today throughout all of Christendom.

Daniel is the epitome of what fasting can achieve for the believer. It is the trials of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the wilderness that clearly explains to us the 'science of fasting', so to speak. Let us consider what happened as per the Gospel according to Luke 4. 'Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil.

And He ate nothing during those days and when they had ended, He became hungry.

And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone." This clearly demonstrates that there is something a lot better, more meaningful and central to man's life than food.

It is in Matthew 4 that Jesus tells us exactly what it is: "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds from God's mouth."

There you have it; it is either food for the flesh, or no food for the Spirit. It is written that God is Spirit, and can only be worshipped in Spirit and truth.

Fasting promotes the Spiritual nature of man above his fleshly desires, and prepares us to hear from God. In the Gospel of John, Jesus calls Himself the bread that came out of heaven and encourages the people to eat His flesh and drink His blood. In Matthew 6, Jesus teaches us to pray and ask God to 'give us our daily

This daily bread is Jesus Himself, who is the Word of God. When we fast we position ourselves to eat of the flesh of Jesus, instead of food. That is what the generals of old under-

In distinguishing the life-giving nature of fasting (not eating) compared to the short-lived survival of the flesh on food, Jesus tells the Jews that their forefathers ate the manna in the wilderness and died; and encourages them to eat His flesh and live. Fasting positions us to receive the benefits of the cross where the blood of the Lamb was shed for the cancellation of sin, our atonement and empowerment against the evil one. When we fast and pray according to Matthew 6:11,12, "Give us this day our daily bread.

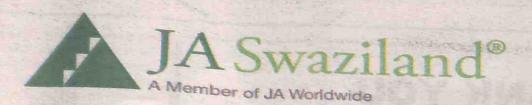
Walton Mamba is an Evangelist and founder of David Goliath Spiritual Solutions, a sanctuary that provides spiritual solutions to practical problems, counselling and life coaching, cutting-edge Bible study and spiritual exercises through works of faith.

If you have been blessed by reading this article, or seek clarification on some of the issues raised here, contact Evang. Wilton Mamba on 7677 9312 or 7977 0952 or 2404 5284. You can send an email to mam-

bawilton.multimedia@gmail.com. Fellowship with us today at 10am at Multimedia, Corner Somhlolo Road and Mbhilibhi Street in Mbabane opposite ICAP.

And forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors", we bring Jesus into the matter.

This way, we promote the Spirit nature above the flesh. Remember, it is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing.



MITC Campus St. Michael's Rd P.O. Box 2187 Manzini Tel: 2505 6504 | 2505 8259 | 2505 6045

Fax: 2505 8216

e-mail: info@jaswaziland.org

n behalf of Junior Achievement Eswatini, we would like to congratulate all the pupils who sat for the recent external examinations.

We also applaud those who excelled and became top national pupils. Their performance proves that through hard work, focus and dedication you will be rewarded with excellent results.

For those who have not made it, do not despair, it does not mean you are failures but merely means you failed at this hurdle. Dust yourselves up, try again but this time, learn from what may have caused you not to succeed and persevere to turn your failure into success. I am particularly impressed with the varying small percentage differences between the top pupils in the Junior Certificate examinations. This proves that there are so many pupils striving for excellence at the top and such results are encouraging to JA as we are a trend-setter in investing and encouraging young people to own their future economic success.

This coming week many schools are re-opening and it is a time for making further choices in terms of your subjects especially for Form Fours. One of our objectives is to provide pupils with an opportunity to test their interest in particular careers. There is no better time than now for both parents and teachers to channel themselves towards the future. It is also imperative for the students who have excelled in the external examinations to keep up the momentum all the way to tertiary. This will make them leaders instead of past trends where some of them suffer from complacency and dwindle into obscurity.

WHY DO A STUDENTS **WORK FOR C STUDENTS?**

In the book Why 'A' Students Work for 'C' Students and 'B' Students Work for the Government by Robert Kiyosaki, he shares his belief that the school system was created to churn out employ-

CHOOSING WISELY FOR YOUR FUTURE



The businessman and writer argues that those 'A Pupils who read well, memorise well and test well, end up employees to C pupils and not entrepreneurs. This is a worrying observation as we have also seen it closer to home in some instances. The "A" pupils, he argues, are usually not the

creative thinkers, visionaries and dreamers. Instead the entrepreneursin-the-making are those 'C Pupils. They are the ones who grow up to be the innovators and creators of new ideas, businesses, applications and products. He states that the more average pupils, 'B Pupils,' often find

themselves in government-type jobs. Kiyosaki does however give par-

ents and their children bits of wisdom as well as insights and tools for navigating an ever-changing world... an Information Age world where the ability to change and adapt, understand relationships, and anticipate

the future will shape their lives.

As JA Eswatini we would like to encourage pupils to break this trend and start now being focused on how they can contribute to the economy as entrepreneurs not just as employ-

Among our objectives is to expose



By Lisa Mongelli

he idea that thoughts create your reality is an unbelievable concept for most of us.

We randomly think thousands of thoughts every day. The idea of controlling our thoughts is mind boggling and near to impossible. What this statement means simply put is; when you continually and habitually focus on one idea or thought, and put intense feeling behind that thought you send out a signal to the universe that creates a parallel. This parallel you have created with thought and feeling ultimately sends you back more of the same, whether it's something you want or something you don't want.

Thoughts have power, and when we can understand that, as part of our earthly reality, life makes more sense. Things happen, life happens, because of the way we think.

The universe we live in is a benevolent

THOUGHTS CREATE YOUR REALITY

Creative Force that is the Source of all Life.

We are an integral part of Creation, and in complete symbiosis with the universal design. We are interwoven into the fabric of creation, and therefore we are a part of the power that made all things nothing is separate we are energetically and intrinsically one.

Words

What quantum phys beginning to point to is this, that you cannot have a universe without mind entering into energy in other words the mind is literally creating, and shaping the very thing that is being perceived.

This scientific hypothesis supports the notion that we as humanity are creating our own personal universe as well as collectively contributing to the reality of the world around us.

Plainly put, we are the creation of divine imagination, God made

flesh which manifest into physical form, and we are never separate from the loving source that brought us into being. The power of thought and feeling creates vibrational flow, which manifests the circumstances of our everyday life.

Remember feeling good is absolutely imperative in the creative process. Creative energy will always flow where you focus. If you cannot embrace the feelings of having what you want "Now" you will never have it.

The universe is always responding to your thoughts and feelings, so focusing on what you want with positive intention, and affirmative thought is the key to achieving your desire.

It is vibration or resonance that ultimately gets you what you want. Gratitude for what you already have always attracts more of Life's Good Things.

alignment with what you want so the universe can rearrange itself, and assist you in manifesting your desires.

Becoming a Conscious Creator of your own life maybe a foreign concept for most of you but looking back at the teachings of the Great Masters they taught the same Universal truth that thoughts take form, that Creation is benevolent and generous.

The Christ said "As you believe so is it." My Father has prepared many Mansions for you. To quote Buddha, "All that we are is the result of what we have thought,"

Embracing the idea that we are actually responsible for the creation of our own reality may seem unbelievable at first, but what we need to understand is; the universe is constantly responding to the vibration our thoughts and feelings and reshaping itself to pro-Gratitude helps to bring you into vide us with whatever it is we are

asking for whether it is positive or negative. What I mean by this; is what is the predominant nature of your thoughts are you thinking positively about life, and what you want? So many in our society have adopted a victim mentality not realising that the question" Why Me" always begins and ends with

God isn't out to get you nor is the universe against you. The universe is simply responding to your thoughts and feelings, and giving you back more of the same.

You may not fully understand The Law of Attraction as it may truly be an alien concept to you, but that does not mean you should discard it.

You may not understand how they propel men into outer space, or how a cell phone works, or how electricity works.

Does anyone actually know what electricity is? I don't, but I do know this if I don't have it I am sitting in

It always takes hard work to leave behind an old pattern, and a habit-

in-school pupils to practical means of starting and managing a business. We also assist in-school pupils learn business management and entrepreneurship concepts. And we assist in-school pupils develop knowledge of personal finance regardless of level of income. One of the projects that demonstrate this is at Velebantfu High Schoool where the students under the JA programme participated in a business called Advanced Furniture to bridge a gap in the décor and furniture market by producing Automan. The students put innovation at work as they recycle old car tyres and then redesign them into seats called Automan. They have been receiving a number of orders for their products already for their creative business idea. They actually made more than E4500 over the festive season as income.

CONSIDER THIS AS YOU CHOOSE YOUR FUTURE

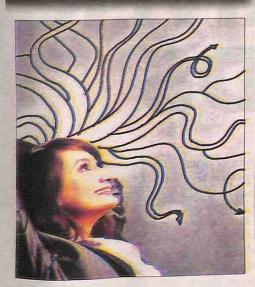
So as you choose your subjects ask your-self what impact will this subject have in my future and does it have the potential to help me if I decide to be self-employed? Obviously, at the top of the list is Business Studies as well as Finance and Accounting. Since business has a lot to do with the formulation of proposals, you also need to be quite good with English and compositions. So do not discard this as just another subject. With a foundation of Accounts you are likely to be able to run a profitable business entity as you are able to determine the growth or decline of your business.

Also strive to be a part of the JA programme if it is offered at your school. It will help you realise your business dream earlier.

JA also aims at equipping the youth with the much-needed financial literacy for business. In the information and technology age computer literacy is also an essential subject.

While one of the most overlooked yet quite fulfilling subjects is agriculture. This subject has the potential to generate good revenue equally with geography that can in turn help in tourism.

Good luck as you choose your subjects and also remember to consult extensively with your career guidance teachers, your parents and mentors as you make these choices. Wishing you a fruitful and productive year.



ually negative way of thinking. Adopting a victim mentality is by and large belonging to a massive part of society who refuses to take responsibility for what they create and attract into the indicate and into the indicate of the society was a society who refuses to take responsibility for what they create and attract into the indicate of the society was a society who refused the indicate of the society was a society who refused the society who refused the society who refused the society was a society who refused the society was a society who refused the society who refused the society was a society was a society who refused the society was a society who refused the society was a society was a society who refused the society was a society was a society who refused the society was a socie

It takes courage to rise above Archetypal mind and choose, another path, another way, and it is especially difficult when the people in your life and your current circumstances are pulling you down. This is where Faith comes in. Martin Luther King said, "Take the first step in Faith.





TOURISM & TRAVEL

BONGANI DLAMINI

STA Marketing Manager Email: mm@tourismauthority.org.sz

RECHARGE YOUR

BODY AHEAD OF

ANOTHER YEAR OF

ADVENTURE



ith so much to do in the past few months - what with the many hard and soft adventure tourism activities we had in store for both domestic and international visitors - there is no doubt that the body is well and thoroughly broken down, and needs an overhaul.

It is that time of the year when everything – experienced or consumed, including that which was deemed necessary, such as all that delicious yet junky food and so-called vintage drinks, now lurks menacingly in the body, fermenting with each passing day into lethal poison.

The result is serious lack of energy and poor health that give you doubts if at all you will make it through even the first half of the year. Whether your interest was soft or hard adventure tourism in the past few months, you certainly need to recharge your batteries as another year begins.

These temples that we have adopted as our own are in need of constant and gentle care that involves a commitment to seasonal cleansing. This ceremony is impartial of race, nationality, age, gender or even habits; everyone needs to detox once in a while, especially in January.

An infallible solution to stress, January blues and plain fatigue is simply taking care of your body or letting someone else do it for you.

Day, beauty and health spas were innovated for the purpose of soothing the body and rejuvenating one's senses. The evolution of these establishments has been an inspiring journey transforming from a single purpose entity to a collective of activities and amenities.

Spas are a national treasure that has been marred with misconceptions of being expensive and only for a niche market. Likewise, beauty is perceived to be for young women and girls, whereas bad skin and tiredness has negative effects on both genders, undoubtedly.

If a problem has similar consequences, then the solution should probably be engineered the same way. Going to the spa is never a void for fun, but a cry for help with life's stresses. Of pivotal importance is that these spas are first of all for health purposes, followed

by beauty and relaxation.

There is a lot of wrong living that a single visit to a day spa can make right instantly. Fortunately, Eswatini is endowed with many hotels and lodges that have spa amenities in the offerings.

Experience

The likes of the Royal Swazi Spa, Camelot Wellness Spa, Ekuphileni Wellness Centre, White Orchid Day Spa and Cuddle Puddle. The interest in Eswatini has largely been on the pool and little attention has been paid on the other elements that form the spa experience.

The aforementioned spas and centres are just a drop in the ocean compared to what we have in the entire country. These gems need to be utilised to their fullest capacity for a healthier Eswatini.

We spoke to Zwelethu Gamedze, a physiotherapist at Cuddle Puddle, who testifies to the immeasurable health benefits of spas to the human body and further educates us on their practices and antidotes for bodily challenges.

This physiotherapist is also wellversed with dermatology and other body mechanics. Apparently, bad tempers in the workplace and at home could be simply resultant from clogged pores. These minute holes that act as noses for our skin ventilate the body through the 'inhalation' of fresh air. Gamedze informs us that a simple massage gives awakening shots to reduce stiffness and opening the infamous clogged pores. The health guru says their clients would first be educated on a number of health issues so that the relaxation they gain possesses longevity stretching to as far into the future as possible.

The Cuddle Puddle boasts of a wide clientele that consists of tourists and even local sports people. This spa offers an entire catalogue of procedures and services that employs experts in various fields of health.

The establishment practises physiotherapy for those in need of relaxation and some victims of foul sports injuries.

The physiotherapy is also customised to suit people with disabilities that may be consequences of stroke.

The Cuddle Puddle also boasts of a sauna, where revitalising herbs, oils, lotions and potions are used. These greens include eucalyptus oil, pepper mint and a host of other useful products of nature.

The pepper mint, for one, provides relief through unblocking

noses and detoxing through 'sweat therapy'.

Over and above all that, this gem also hosts adrenalin junkies who detox through vigorous exercise in their fully functional gym. Gamedze further informs us that they offer some services as singular activities or packages that are discounted over an entire month.

It is such bliss to know that any Liswati can afford these services and enjoy better health. Other beauty spas even offer diet, exercise programs, instruction on wellness, life coaching, yoga and accommodation.

With the fast improvement of our tourism industry and spas in Eswatini, we will soon have many abodes where we can disappear to once in a while and be taken care of. It is such comfort to know that when one visits a spa, there are only but professional hands to work some magic on a tired body and turn it into a mean machine.

Visiting a beauty spa coupled with beauty sleep forms the core of a relaxed and happy Liswati. Domestic tourism for the neophyte traveller is groomed by visiting such places as spas so that tourism juices are set in motion for the year ahead of us and beyond.

Thoughts have power, and when we can understand that, as part of our earthly reality, life makes more sense. Things happen, life happens, because of the way we think. The Universe we live in is a benevolent Creative Force that is the Source of all Life.

When you channel your energy positively, this is when negative circumstances shift, and make way for an extraordinary change in your life.

As you focus on what you want the things you don't want diminish ultimately falling away fashioning a completely new Life Path for you. Remember whatever it is you are feeling is a perfect indicator of what you are manifesting into your reality. Your feelings are reflecting back to you what you are actualising through thought.

Thought and feeling ultimately create the vibration that brings matter into form fashioning your earthly existence, and everything materially you have in it.

Life is meant to be abundant.

Remember the loving power of Creation will always give you the best life you are prepared to give yourself. Keep a good thought, God bless you, and enjoy your Sunday. Please share your thoughts with ne at lisamongelli30@gmail.com





HEN in Rome, do as the Romans do. The Roman Empire disappeared into the ruins long ago.

The new modern Rome; is Dubai, the new banker and playground for the rich and wannabes. But it would seem many who have Dubai interests are themselves persons of interest.

In the next few months, there may be few tales as fantastic as that of Manuel Chang. No, he is not a Chinese spy of either red China or Taiwan. In fact, he is a fellow African and native son of our neighbouring Mozambique.

Mr. Chang packed his bags and kissed his wife and waved his children goodbye on New Year's Eve on his way to the increasingly infamous principality.

Poor Mr. Chang had evidently neglected the African protocol of pouring libation and other necessary offerings to enlist ancestral blessings and protection. It must be disappointed ancestors who turned their backs.

First, even though Maputo is spoilt for choice in the number of planes that fly in the direction of Dubai, Mr. Chang's flight did not. Instead it took him due west and off-course. When it landed at the Johannesburg airport an hour later, Mr. Chang may have wondered to himself: "That was very quick?"

Then, for inexplicable reasons, he was ordered to disembark, and go through immigrations. Next, once in South African jurisdiction, he was promptly arrested.

Now he is kicking his heels at a Kempton Park police cell - an inmate since the beginning of 2019. Mr. Chang is a person of interest in a massive fraud and corruption scandal that is currently wreaking havoc, inconveniently in a Mozambique elections year.

What started in 2011 as an innocuous project by a Lebanese confidence trickster has blossomed into a classic case study into the anatomy of high level African corruption and abuse of authority.

THE DUBAI CHICKENS COMING HOME TO ROOST

A brazen scam

Mr. Chang is one of the top suspects in a macabre, brazen and extremely daring scam in which an Abu Dhabi shipbuilder cooked the perfect scam to embezzle the Mozambique government out of a whole \$2 billion USA dollars.

The scam involved partnering with high level Mozambican politicians and officials to create three fake companies - Proindicus, Ematum (Mozambique Tuna Company) and MAM (Mozambique Asset Management). It also involved capturing two European banks - Credit Suisse and VTB of Russia.

Between 2013, 2014 and 2015, a creative salesman designed three separate scams. Even though all of them would ordinarily be rejected after cursive bank checks, Credit Suisse, one of the highest esteem banks approved three separate loans totaling \$2 billion.

The loans were supposed to establish a "coastal monitoring system" for fighting pirates. A subsequent tranche sought to create a fishing fleet for a tuna fish enterprise. None of that materialised. Instead, the \$2 billion evaporated. Part of it was used to repay the loan and a large part to enrich top officials, politicians and greedy Swiss bankers.

Seven years later, the only evidence of the huge loan is 24 rather small boats that do no fishing, have no fishing licence, and sit at anchor in the Maputo fishing port.

Instead, the money was distributed as bribes and kickbacks. Auditors found \$500 million is missing.

By law, only the Mozambique Parliament can approve foreign loans and government guarantees. The conspirators didn't think so. They not only by-pass Parliament and secretly arranged for the loans, they also were also able to keep a large part of the \$2 billion loan secret for almost two years.

Clearly, the conspirators believed that even if the scam was discovered, SO WHAT?"

The IMF that has oversight of fiscal affairs as part of its support of Mozambique only learnt of the loans two years ago. It was livid and promptly packed its bags and left.

After international pressure, the Mozambique government grudgingly opened a half-hearted inquiry. More international pressure forced the appointment of an international audit firm, Kroll of America to investigate the scam.

The people who managed the scam had a curious sense of humour.

Chicken bribes

During negotiations for the payment of various bribes and kickbacks, the Abu Dhabi facilitator asked a government official how much would be expected as bribes, the official responded: "I have consulted and please put 50 million chickens. Whatever numbers you have on your poultry I will add 50 million of my breed." They equated chickens with the theft of millions of dollars that would impose a major long-term burden around the necks of Mozambique taxpayers for a lifetime. Strange language. People familiar with these things even laugh out loud at the audacity.

"If you are looking for a code word for "bribes," "success fees" is almost infinitely superior to ;chickens' Say someone finds these emails and asks "isn't 'success fee' just a euphemism for 'bribe," you can correct them and say "oh no those are success fees, very standard, in every contract. You do pay a fee for success, or consulting fee or local expertise!" However if someone finds a message about chickens and asks: "isn't '50 million chickens' just a euphemism for '\$50 million of bribes?" That would be a

lot more problematic.

"If you are using "chickens" as a euphemism for "bribes," you are showing off how ridiculously brazen you are.'

Indeed, the officials involved in the scam did appear extremely confident. The Mozambican Attorney-General's Office (PGR) first opened an investigation into Ematum in 2015, and extended it to cover Proindicus and MAM in 2016. Nothing happened. In January 2018, it fobbed off the responsibility to the Administrative Tribunal (Mozambique's highest audit authority). Again nothing happened.

In fact, according to the Mozambique news agency AIM, when Kroll auditors approached Antonio Carlos do Rosario, a senior officer in the State Security and Intelligence Agency (SISE), he threw them out and later boasted: "they wanted details of questions about state security. We know who they really are and what they want," he said in a social media message. "We do not give in to pressure and we are not afraid.

Unfortunately, Mozambique defaulted on the loans in 2016, possibly imperiling some USA investor's funds. Not surprisingly the US Department of Justice stepped in in December 2018 with an indictment in a Brooklyn court in New York. The South African police then pounced on Chang on 30 December 2018.

Since then, things are moving rapidly. On Friday the Mozambique Attorney-General named 17 suspects for their role in the scandal.

The state newspaper "Noticias" says the suspects abused public funds by making undue payments, capitalising the three companies, bypassed tender processes to finance projects, signed contracts without legal approval and used the loan proceeds for things other than the projects.

Starring Manuel Chang

Manuel Chang heads the list of the

He is joined by Maria Isaltina Lucas (then head of the Treasury Department in the Finance Minister, which gave the go-ahead for the illegal guarantees. She is now an Ematum director, and Deputy Minister of Finance - the only member of the current government on the list).

Another is Ernesto Gove (then governor of the Bank of Mozambique. In that position he should have had full information about the loans and would have known that they were illegal. Yet in April 2016, when the true scale of the loans finally became public knowledge, he claimed that he had "never heard of Proindicus").

And of course, Antonio Carlos do Rosario. If and when Chang ends up in the New York police cells, he will find Jean Boustani of Lebanon who was arrested as he tried to fly out of New York's JFK International Airport. Three former Credit Suisse bankers - Andrew Pearse (New Zealand), Surjan Singh (UK) and Deletina Subeva (Bulgaria) who were detained in London four days after his own detention may join them later. They also face the prospect of extradited to the US.

US investigators accuse the defendants of creating three separate shipping projects "as fronts to raise money to enrich themselves" to the tune of "at least \$200-million in bribes and kickbacks". There is a poignant moral to this story. The long arm of the law now has an American extension. Chang and his co-conspirators may have believed they were only robbing the little people of Mozambique, and must be extremely surprised to be shanghaied out of international space, arrested in a foreign countries and now facing extradition to America. For sure many Dubai visitors are having sleepless nights?

POVERTY AS A DRIVER of HIV/AIDS **Demography Today**

With Ndumiso

ell, the issue of poverty is affecting all nations.

Hence this issue is not an issue that should be taken lightly hence care and caution must be exercised with extreme measures. All countries are faced by this permanent scourge unless the right procedures and initiatives are set in place to help reduce poverty. Eswatini is not an exception from this scourge affecting nations and hitting hard causing depletion and as a result the population suffer. Poverty on its own is not without some promulgating factors such as unemployment among others. Eswatini has an estimated poverty rate of 63 per cent (DHS, (2010). Generally, a majority of the Eswatini population are under the poverty datum line. Eswatini has an estimated projected popula-

tion of 1 067 733 people, of which 53 per cent are females and 47 per cent are males. The projected population growth rate is 1.16 per cent (cited from Swaziland Vulnerability Assessment Report (SVAC), 2011). The majority of the pop ulation live in the rural areas of the country and 69% rely on agriculture as a main livelihood source. A Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.541 was quoted in the UN development report, (2015). Eswatini is classified as a low middle income country with an economic growth rate of below 4 per cent in the last decade and a contrasting unemployment rate of 40.6 per cent and a poverty incidence rate of 63 per cent (Swaziland Household Income and Economic Survey, (2010).

The vast of the population in Eswatini is the age groups P (15-24), (35 per cent) (Eswatini Household Income and Economic Survey, (2010). A majority of the unemployment rate comprise mostly of the youth. The youth being and money is spent on getting HIV/AIDS ARV's ages P (15-35) the productive ages. As a result of high unemployment a majority of the population embark on crimes such as prostitution which on the other hand increases the chances of getting HIV/AIDS. Eswatini has an estimated prevalence rate of (26.7 per cent), (World Bank, (2016). In Eswatini there is a high number of women who are involved in the informal trade of sex with lots and lots of men which makes them to be vulnerable to getting HIV/AIDS.

Due to lack of employment opportunities people of Eswatini start looking for possible means of getting money but the main tribute being Prostitution. HIV/AIDS can be defined as a cycle which is passed from generation to generation through various modes. This is transmitted via sex and any other alternatives and so people die and some further worsen the situation resulting into abrasion of the economy

and other medication for them to be able to live their lives. The death rate of Eswatini per year is 13.2 per cent per 000 inhabitants.

A majority of these deaths reportedly are a result of HIV/AIDS. A vast of the population who die are the able bodied people leaving behind the disabled and the elderly who are no longer able to work. This event leaves behind a huge dependence ration. The population P (65+ years), are highly dependent on their loved ones and if they die they have no one to look and take good care of them. In writing P (65+ years) = P (15-35 years) means that high HIV prevalence and incidence rates on the young population has a negative effect on Poverty. In a nutshell there is a linear relationship between HIV/AIDS and poverty.

For comments: 7622 9373 WhatsApp: 7622 9373

or a myriad of different reasons, many cannot wait for the official opening of Parliament sometime next month.

In as much as Cabinet has, in a somewhat high profile way, begun its work of directing this ship of state, the opening of the legislature will be the final step needed to kickstart the country's governance machinery (at least the "Westminster-style" aspect). It will enable impatient MPs to ensure the institution does its part in getting the three branches of government to work in complementarity as they navigate the clearly turbulent waters that are our national condition.

PARLIAMENT: A NECESSARY VOICE FOR A DESPERATE PEOPLE

Parliament's role in ensuring the success of recovery efforts in all spheres of life cannot be overemphasised. It is the only branch, at least on paper, that has an element of representing the people, the majority comprising the youth, women elderly, disabled, unemployed, retired, widows, children, those in ill-health, etc. These are feeling, more than others, the brunt of the socio-economic, cultural and political deterioration we find ourselves in, and who need someone in power to speak for them.

Parliament therefore will have to be their voice or else the other two branches - the executive and the judiciary will do as they deem fit in the name of national duty, regardless of impact of the "little person." The reason we have the principle of separation of powers is for the three arms of government to work together, and in the process, curb each other's impulses for excess and abuse of power. Because government exists for the people, Parliament will be critical in ensuring that the people do indeed have an equally important seat at the proverbial table. Indications from the early conduct of the executive and the ongoing crisis within the judiciary suggest that Parliament's role will not be easy.

CABINET GRABBING THE BULL BY ITS HORNS AT WHOSE EXPENSE?

We currently have a highly motivated Cabinet that is grabbing the bull by the horns, exhibiting a willingness to do what has to be done to get eSwatini back on course – actually, its seems Cabinet is interested in charting a whole new course, fortunate since the nation was clearly headed towards a developmental precipice.

For now it has the nation's backing, since all know the crisis was not of their making (some of them, anyway). However, there are nascent concerns regarding Cabinet's seeming insensitivity to the plight of its own workers. There are those who have left office, but have still not been paid their gratuities and other benefits.

Then there are the current civil servants, the very ones Cabinet will rely on to do the trench work that will achieve the lofty dreams it tells us it has. (In the process, we worry about how much it is willing to subvert the rule of law.)

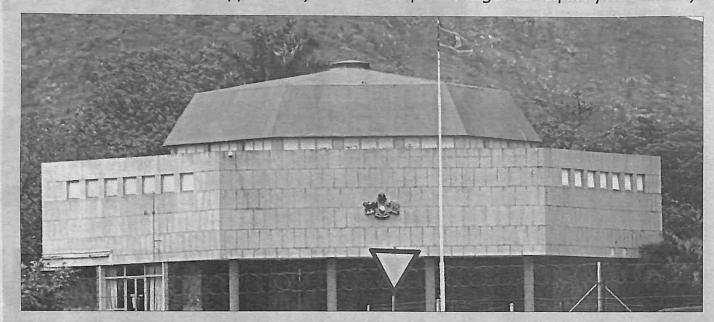
IS CABINETS WEALTH MAKING IT INSENSITIVE?

Cabinet is made up of largely well-to-do people, previously earning or receiving tens and even hundreds of thousands of Emalangeni. Few public sector workers know such luxury, and in the face of increasing costs for everything, the money they earn – pocket change to some ministers - is no longer sufficient. Neither have their obligations remained static – with the levels of unemployment and poverty in the country we know that the few who are employed are looking after "the people" referred to above, many more than just their nuclear families. And these nuclear and

GENDER EQUALITY - MAKING THE PROMISE A REALITY

PARLIAMENT IS OPENING SOON: LET IT PREPARE TO SERVE THE PEOPLE

(A HURISWA initiative supported by UNESCO to promote gender equality in Eswatini)



■ We currently have a highly motivated Cabinet that is grabbing the bull by the horns, exhibiting a willingness to do what has to be done to get eSwatini back on course – actually, its seems Cabinet is interested in charting a whole new course, fortunate since the nation was clearly headed towards a developmental precipice.

extended families must eat they must be clothed, children must go to school, elderly parents, uncles and aunties must receive medical attention, the list goes on... Yet rich government ministers are calling for understanding while not demonstrating any themselves. The reduction of the deficit by so much in such a short space of time has been much trumpeted - hopefully then, next time negotiations happen, government will have a better offer than just a "No" that harms many more than just individual workers. Nonetheless, for now, benefit of the doubt and prayer that our hope is not abused.

THE JUDICIARY: A FINE KETTLE OF FISH

The judiciary, on the other hand, is a different creature altogether, making it difficult to extend it the same optimism.

Can anyone tell us what on earth is happening to a once hallowed (at times) institution? While this is the branch designated as both Guardian AND Interpreter of the country's supreme law, it seems it is the one that has to be reminded that we are now in a constitutional dispensation, where the rule of

law must be upheld. How will it assist the other two branches of government when it itself is in crisis? In the past year we have seen the courts have ample opportunities to make significant positive contributions to our development, only to have them massively disappoint.

ALAS, SO TOO THE LEGAL FRATERNITY

The legal fraternity is not helping either. While its frustration is evident and understandable, it does not do itself any favours when reports abound of unscrupulous lawyers taking advantage of clients who know no better.

The public long lost faith in the country's legal system and the challenge for the Chief Justice, his colleagues and the newly elected leadership of the Law Society, is to also clean up. There are sufficient brains on the bench and amongst lawyers to ensure that this sector too, turns the corner and gets on board with the government's vision for progress. The bar has fallen so low that, honestly, the only way now is up.

SO WHERE WILL PARLIAMENT FALL?

With these issues in mind, a mon-

umental task thus awaits Parliament. Just as Cabinet attempts to distinguish itself from its predecessor, we expect the 11th Parliament not to follow in the disappointing steps of the Parliament it succeeds. As with Cabinet, the many new faces give a glimmer of hope.

We hope that amongst the excited musings of receiving invitation cards, first day outfits (people want to impress Their Majesties and all who care to notice), and anticipated delicacies of the after party, MPs will give serious consideration to the mammoth task ahead. We trust that there is reflection on their roles and of Parliament's as a whole. Representation. Law-making. Oversight.

NIGGLING APPREHENSION

However, we do have to admit apprehension.

We hope for these leaders' ability to do what they must in the best interest of the nation, even if it means departing from what is wanted by so-called "higher authorities", including Cabinet. While the PM hailed the election as successful, the truth is that its only success was that it yielded the expect-

ed 59 MPs; tiNdvuna tetiNkhundla; Bucopho; 10 appointed MPs; and 30 Senators. If we are to be honest the process was so fraught with problems, not least, the electorate's lack of understanding of the gravity of the choices they were making, and the condoned corruption on such a level that, had we been another country, the whole EBC would have resigned.

PARLIAMENT MUST BE TRUE TO ITS PURPOSE

But because we are in the vein of optimism, and do not want to make pre-judgment of the MPs, many of whom actually have no clue what they are in for, we therefore urge each and every one of them (senators included), if they have not already done so, to take the time to understand their role.

We cannot return to a situation where parliamentarians cowered and kowtowed to decisions that were clearly detrimental to the country and its people, while collecting handsome monthly salaries, augmented by sitting allowances and travels around the globe.

We need this Parliament to be true to its purpose: to serve all and to be accountable.



th Section A Youth Sect On Youth Issu By The Youth

Page 28

January 20, 2019

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

oing to university for the first time? For any students, this means leaving the comfort and structure of school to go into a whole new world. University students go from seeing their school friend's everyday to potentially having to make new friends all over again. It is also a change in intensity as lecturers and tutors generally collect assignments on the due date, things are a bit different now and you will need to adjust as soon as possible.

SOCIALISE FREQUENTLY

One thing you will learn through university if you have not already is that friends don't necessarily come looking for you. Engage with people, converse, ask questions. Do this with reason of course. If you show interest in people, people will take interest in you. It is best to start in fresher's week when everyone is on the same boat and is actively looking for people to be friends with and go out.

DEVELOP A SENSIBLE COPING STRATEGY

Most people that are about to go to university fall into three categories:

1) They can't wait to get away from their parents.

2) They dread the day they leave the comfort of their own home.

3) Nervous but excited. All of these are perfectly normal acceptable feelings. Chances are that you will from time to time become homesick, especially if something negative happens, such as stress from too much work, a falling out with a friend, or worries over money. Remember that your parents will be thinking about you as well, and will be more than happy to talk to you should you need any help or advice.

Some may find phoning/visiting home more therapeutic helping them cope with being away from home, whereas others may find limited contact stops them from feeling home sick. Formulate a sensible strat-



HOW TO SURVIVE YOUR 1ST YEAR AT UNIVE

egy that suits you and helps you stay productive and happy. Most of all keep yourself occupied.

DON'T LEAVE ALL YOUR WORK TILL LAST MINUTE This may seem very tempting seeing as you will have longer deadlines; sometimes a couple of months at a time, and longer holidays but the deadline will soon creep up on you. A very useful strategy, albeit a slightly boring one, is to get your work done as soon as you get it, or as soon

as possible afterwards; this way, notes are still fresh in your mind and you will have more time for going out after finishing your work, and will not have that niggling thought in the back of your head about that essay you really should have started a week

It is important to keep on top of your work. Most importantly do not change your identity to fit in a certain group. Remain calm and collected; remember all the values you were taught at home.

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

ood day young people and welcome to yet another addition of your favourite youth section. As we said in the past issue, we will try to add more educational stuff because we know that education is the key to your future.

So we invited Philani Dlamini, a great young man currently studying Computer engineering at a European University of Lefike in North Cyprus to discuss pros and cons of a gap year.

The youngster is also a freelance writer for okayafrica.com and thirthy2b.

A GAP YEAR: WEIGHING THE PROS AND CONS

After an intensive five years in high school, some students aren't eager to immediately hit the books. And who can blame them? Gap years have become more and more popular and vastly debated among the youth. It is a very controversial decision as it has numerous disadvantages and advantages.

The last year of high school is very hectic/stressful and a gap year may be essential for some (not all) students. It can provide students clarity and give them an edge when returning to school. At the same time it can be very unproductive and make it tougher for students to return to school. Regardless of one's choice, it should be well thought

out and thoroughly planned with some set goals.

WHY PEOPLE TAKE A GAP YEAR?

Every student has a different reason as to why they take a gap year; it may be voluntarily or involuntarily depending on your background as a student. A gap year needs extensive preparation and consideration; therefore do not wait until the end of your senior year to begin exploring gap year

The most common reason among students for taking a gap year is that they feel they are academically burnt and need a break. This is very true because with the last year of high school you work even harder in order to be channelled into your desired programme in tertiary. Another common reason is that a majority of high school leavers are unsure of which direction or career path.

In as much as it may help you make-up your mind, it may also hinder you as you may lose focus because you have a lot of time on your hands. Some students take a gap year in order to save up money to further their studies because university/college fees a quite high.

Other students take a gap year so they can boost their CV through volunteering or getting a job and some take a gap year because they want to travel because a gap year is the longest break one will ever get in life hence use that opportunity to travel. But

one thing is for certain - don't take a gap year and do nothing.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU CHOOSE TO TAKE A GAP YEAR?

Without a clear plan, students may end up wasting that year and falling further behind their peers which may lead to frustration and stress for both the student and the family. If you eventually decide to take a gap year you should be careful not to lose focus and remember to have a reasonable, clearcut and properly executed plan which supports your long-term goals.

Make sure you have a well laid out and affordable plan for that particular year. Just because you taking a year-off, it does not mean that you should be a couch potato instead invest in yourself, stay informed, read a book, just make sure you are gaining more knowledge or improving your CV. Experiences you gain during your gap year can make you better prepared for university/college both academically and socially. You can make your gap year productive by: exploring possible careers with an internship, volunteering, pursuing your passion, blogging, online freelance jobs etc.

THE CONS OF A GAP YEAR

One of the greatest cons of a gap year is that it puts you a year behind and as a student you lose your momentum. During a gap year your social life could dry up because many of your peers/friends will be in school, which may be extremely frustrating. A gap year may give you a taste of the real world and one may never want to go back to the stress, structure and rigour of the academic life. Some students opt to work during their gap year, which is beneficial and unbeneficial at the same time as one may start enjoying the money he/she is earning thus forgetting the importance of tertiary education. If you don't get organised you may end up doing nothing, which is not great for the

THE PRO'S OF A GAP YEAR

Students who take a gap year tend to be more academically focused. A gap year can be essential as the experiences gained can make you better prepared for university/college life. A gap year can help you recharge, mature and gain valuable expe rience. It is essential as it may help increase selfawareness therefore choosing the perfect career path for you. It can also help you learn responsibility at a different level and help raise funds to further your studies.

Never lose sight that education is an investment and increases your earning power, therefore it is essential that you take education seriously. Critically scrutinise the pros and cons of a gap year because it is a life changing decision, a decision which you may regret in the future. For students who didn't get into their first-choice school, a gap year can also be one way to improve their results in order to reapply. If you opt for a gap year it is of paramount importance that the time is spent wisely.

SUNDAY PODIUM

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

et me start with a disclaimer; those that are close to me are quite clear with the Ifact that I do not trust the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS), and this is due to a personal experience I had with them about a year and a half back coupled with what I have seen them do, or rather failed to do.

I remember this day vividly as if it was yesterday, it was a cold, foggy Wednesday night and Mbabane Highlanders were up against Vovovo in a MTN Premier League clash at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

When the match finished, my colleague Sabelo Gwebu and I rushed to do post-match interviews with coaches and I left my backpack with all my work belongings in it by the VIP area, only to return to find that it had been stolen.

Luckily for me, or so I thought at the time, the ball boys at Somhlolo had seen what had happened, and therefore, we approached a cop who was also at the VIP section, and he sympathetically drove us to the Lobamba Police Station to report the matter.

After days of helping the police in literally every way possible, I still never got help, well, nothing progressive that is because till this very day, my belongings were never returned to me and I never heard back from the police who were working on my case again. All I got was that they had not been able to gather enough evidence, and I don't know whose fault that was. I however promise that the aforementioned experience does not affect this opinion.

This past week, I sat down in our library and listened to Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) Chief Police Information and Communication Officer, Superintendent Phindile Vilakati and a colleague of hers whose name I cannot recall, they were in a discussion with Swazi Observer journalists about the working relationship between the force and the media, whilst also giving advice to journalists on how to attend to certain issues.

And Vilakati as nice a woman she might be, and as much as she tried to tread carefully when making her point on different issues, all I got was that she was decrying the few nitty-gritties that junior journalists including myself often tend to make when dealing with the office she heads. That was about three minutes of the hour-long presentation.

In the rest of the 57 minutes, what dawned on my mind the whole time was that the police really do take the public for hoodwinks and the pertinent question that came to my mind was - why do the police - as people responsible for our safety make it seem like they strive in their work through privacy? Why do they act like journalists exist to just make their lives a living hell?

Vilakati made it known that initially for a journalist to get statistics, it is supposed to take seven full days because of the red-tape within the service but then promised to try and speed things up in four days!

I was appalled to say the least and almost jumped out of my seat. Suddenly my hand started itching, and I knew I needed my pen

Why would you ever hide statistics from the public? Isn't the public the very people that put food on your table?

Why would you take four days to get permission to give the public statistics? She even had the guts to say for statistics, she will need to know before-hand what story you are working on and what message you want to convey to the public? For what?

Why?

Journalists are the fourth estate and have a responsibility to report fair and accurate news to the PUBLIC, we have NO respon-

REPS LACKS TRANSPARENCY



■ What REPS has to acknowledge is that this is the 21st century, the information age for goodness sake! They will never be able to control social media and instead of trying to channel their energy into harassing journalists and controlling who and who doesn't take pictures in crime scenes, they should rather focus on their jobs and maybe, just maybe they could start cracking cases

sibility whatsoever to the police than to report their story as ethically as any. It starts there and ends there, anything else is infringement to the relationship, and it means journalists are letting the public

Again, Vilakati's job description as Head of the Information and Communication Department at the Royal Eswatini Police Service is to convey information to the public and not to know what story Sibusiso Dlamini or any other journalist for that matter is or not working on. That is the job of my editor that I submit my diary to, not Vilakati, so I find no logic in that. Again, what does it say about our police service if they hide statistics from us? Why hide? Why the secrecy? Why not be completely transparent with everything because your duty is to the public? Who are they protecting by not releas-ing all the statistics? Why would the authority at REPS choose to delay statistics to the very people that they claim to protect and serve?

Again, she went on to the issue of crime scenes where she said journalist should always give her a ring or rather come and be introduced



to the police that head the investigations, because then pictures tend to go viral on social media. This is when I almost laughed out loud, but Business Reporter Majaha Nkonyane was next to me, and was quick to call me to order.

What REPS has to acknowledge is that this is the 21st century, the information age for goodness sake! They will never be able to control social media and instead of trying to channel their energy into harassing journalists and controlling who and who doesn't take pictures in crime scenes, they should rather focus on their jobs and maybe, just maybe they could start cracking cases.

Now, this is a challenge to the new Premier Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini. Sir, it is quite clear that there's deep spring-cleaning that needs to happen at the REPS and

as one person who comes from a corporate background, I trust you are clear with the need for transparency in an organisation, especially one that sorely exists to serve the public.

They are now hiding statistics of what is happening in our country and want to know what we are to use that information for before we get it, absolute ludicrous.

Corruption and ineffectiveness is rife at the force, but all they really care about is keeping their image 'squeaky clean' and to act like they are on top of things when they are really just at the bottom.

The moment the head-honchos at REPS start to put the people first, and stop 'stomach politics' whilst gambling and dangling with our lives, then the service will ger down to work as law enforcers, but until then, they will make a hullabaloo of feeble things (sighs), which proves an old adage my primary school teacher taught me - 'empty vessels make a lot of noise young-man!'. I hope you get the drill, thank you.

Till next week, let's continue the conversation at sbusisodlaminitheg. @gmail.com for email or @penediction on Instagram.



SUNDAYOBSERVER WORLD R

The right place

The right Sunday

DUNALD TRUMP, IMTO METAGA

ASHINGTON - President Donald Trump will meet for the second time with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un around the end of February, the White House said Friday, after a top general from Pyongyang paid a rare visit to Washington.

Vice Chairman Kim Yong Chol, a right-hand man to the North Korean strongman, met the embattled president at the White House for an unusually long 90 minutes as the countries seek a denuclearisation accord that could ease decades of hostility.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said that Trump - who has opined that he and Kim Jong Un fell "in love" after last year's landmark first summit - would again meet the North Korean leader "near the end of February" at a location to be announced later.

The latest flurry of diplomacy comes little more than a year after Trump was threatening to wipe North Korea off the map, with Pyongyang's nuclear and missile tests rattling nerves in East Asia.

Sanders praised North Korea's efforts to reconcile but ruled out, for now, a key demand of Pyongyang - a lifting of sanctions. "The United States is going to continue to keep pressure and sanctions on North Korea until we see fully



and verified denuclearisation," Sanders told reporters. "We've had very good steps in good faith from the North Koreans in releasing the hostages and other moves and so we'll continue those conversations," she said.

She was referring to Pyongyang's quick deportation last year of an American. In 2017, a US student returned home comatose from North Korea and died

within days after what a US judge said was torture.

RESULTS OR PHOTO-OP?

Kim Jong Un and Trump first met in June in Singapore, where they signed a vaguely worded document in which Kim pledged to work towards the "denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula." AFP

Hundreds detained after Zimbabwe protests

Zimbabweans arrested during anti-government protests were detained on Friday on public order charges, as the United Nations urged an end to a brutal security crackdown and an internet blackout.

The government has said three people died during the unrest that broke out on Monday after President Emmerson Mnangagwa raised fuel prices by 150 per cent. Lawyers and activists say the

ARARE - Hundreds of toll was much higher and that security forces used violence and carried out mass arrests to quell the unrest.

Among the around 400 people charged by magistrates on Friday was pastor Evan Mawarire, a rights activist who rose to prominence as a critic of Robert Mugabe's rule and led a national protest in 2016.

He will stand trial on more serious charges of subverting the government after encouraging Zimbabweans via

social media to heed a strike call from unions. His lawyer Beatrice Mtetwa said she would lodge a High Court appeal for him to be released on bail. Mawarire faces up to 20 years in jail if convicted.

The internet was blacked out for much of the day, until authorities began gradually lifting a ban that had disabled some electronic communications in the country since Tuesday.

Reuters

Victims tell of brutal Zim crackdown

ARARE - The men wearing police and military uniforms came in the middle of night, forcing their way into the home where Brighton lives with his young family outside Harare.

First, his wife was beaten, then they turned on him, kicking him and hitting him with sticks after dragging the couple -- who have a one-month-old child -- out of their bed.

The attack was just one of dozens of testimonies depicting a brutal crackdown after protests erupted this week over the government's decision to more than double petrol prices.

"I was sleeping around 02:00 am and they were banging at the door," Brighton said, as he waited in a Harare hospital for treatment for bruising on his face.

"They first beat up my wife. When they realised that she was carrying a baby, they stopped and ordered her to come out to watch while they beat me.

"I was the only man there. All the other tenants were out. They said 'we will beat you on behalf of the other men absent'.

"They told me to stoop and then they started beating me, kicking me," he said, recalling the assault in the early hours of Thursday morning. "I don't know why they beat me," said Brighton, who is employed by an engineering company, adding he had been busy at work on Monday, the main day of the protests. Doctors' groups say they have treated hundreds of casualties this week.

Information has been scarce after authorities cut the internet in an apparent attempt to suppress details and halt accounts spreading on social media of police and soldiers indiscriminately raiding homes. AFP

Theresa leaves EU leaders in disbelief

ONDON - Theresa May made no change to her Brexit demands in cross-Channel phone calls with European Union leaders despite her own plan being heavily defeated by MPs earlier this week, it has been reported.

The prime minister left EU diplomats in a state of 'disbelief' over her failure to shift her stance despite the historic defeat by a margin of 230 votes, a source said.

Mrs May's requests continued to focus around either a legally binding time-limit for the Irish backstop; a right for Britain to unilaterally withdraw, or a commitment to a trade deal finalisation before 2021 to prevent the backstop from coming into force.

She repeated her demands in talks with Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron and Irish Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, reported The Telegraph.

"It was the same old story - the same set of demands - all unchanged



despite the defeat," a source with knowledge of the calls said.

The solutions to the border issue were rejected by the EU at the European Council meeting in December after leaders expressed doubts that they would be enough to get the deal over the line in Westminster.

It comes as the Dutch and German governments publicly signalled their opposition to any new concessions for Britain, with Mr Rutte telling Mrs May the deal could not be 'tweaked'. Daily Mail

BRIEFS

Burkina Faso PM and government resign

OUAGADOUGOU - Burkina Faso's government and prime minister Paul Kaba Thieba stood down on Friday, according to a statement released by the country's president.

No explanation was given for the resignations, though sources told AFP President Roch Marc Christian Kabore wants to breathe new life into the leadership of the landlocked west African country, which is battling a rising wave of jihadist attacks and hostagetaking. Canadian Edith Blais, 34, and her Italian partner Luca Tacchetto, 30, have been missing since mid-December, and late Wednesday a Canadian geologist kidnapped by suspected jihadists was found dead at a remote gold mine in the northeast. AFP

PESHAWAR - The Afghan Taliban rejected reports in the Pakistani media that they were prepared to resume meetings with US special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad in Islamabad and repeated their refusal to deal directly with the Afghan government. Pakistani newspapers and television stations reported that a meeting in Islamabad was in prospect following discussions between Khalilzad and Pakistani officials including Prime Minister Imran Khan on Friday.

Senior Taliban leaders said that regional powers including Pakistan had approached them and wanted them to meet the US delegation in Islamabad and also include the Afghan government in the peace process but that the approaches had been rejected. Reuters

Afghan Taliban reject talks with US in Pakistan Zimbabwe groups say at least 12 killed in unrest Zimbabwe public workers reject latest wage offer

HARARE - A collection of Zimbabwe human rights groups says at least 12 people have been killed, at least 78 have been shot and more than 240 have faced "assault, torture, inhumane and degrading treatment" in a crackdown on protests that began on Monday over a dramatic rise in fuel prices.

The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum in a statement also says 466 people have been arbitrarily arrested or detained in what it calls "massive" violations.

The statement says children as young as nine have been reportedly tortured as security forces break into private homes. It calls it "regrettable" that Zimbabwe's government is blaming civil society leaders for some of the country's worst unrest in years. AFP

HARARE - Zimbabwe's public workers have rejected a second offer to raise their salaries and demanded to be paid in dollars, days after at least three people died in violent anti-government protests. Hundreds of Zimbabweans were detained on public order charges on Friday, as the United Nations urged an end to a security crackdown and an internet blackout. Zimbabweans, who have seen their purchasing power eroded by soaring inflation despite adopting the dollar in 2009, say President Emmerson Mnangagwa has not delivered on pre-election pledges to kick-start growth after the exit of Robert Mugabe. Mnangagwa has promised a clean break from the 37-year era of Mugabe, who was forced out in a de facto coup in November 2017 but the economy is afflicted by a severe shortage of dollars which has led to shortages of fuel and medicines. Reuters

Australian Open

14-27 JAN

HALEP WIN OVER WILLIAMS TO BOOK LAST-16 MATCH WITH SE

ELBOURNE - Top seed Simona Halep had the odds stacked against her ahead of the Australian Open but the Romanian proved her title credentials with a breezy 6-2, 6-3 third round win over multiple Grand Slam winner Venus Williams yesterday.

The reward for the 27-yearold French Open champion is probably the toughest challenge in the women's

draw at Melbourne Park, a fourth round date with the younger Williams sister,

Coming to the year's first Grand Slam on a five-match losing streak and without a coach, Halep had to grind her way through the first two rounds with tough three-set wins.

Now without Darren Cahill, the man who helped drive her to winning her first Grand Slam title in France last May, Halep continues to rally on her own with her best performance to date

in this year's tournament. there was an early trade of breaks before She started positively against Halep broke again to go 4-3 up. But Venus and broke her twice the American resistance was to be shortin the early stages to take the lived and Halep regained her rhythm first set. and composure to convert her first Venus, now 37, match point with a forehand winner showed more down the line. fight in the

second

a n d

"I'm very happy with the way I played. It's always a challenge to play the Williams sisters," Halep said afterwards.

On the prospect of facing Serena next, she added: "It's going to be a bigger challenge." For Venus, it remains unclear if this was

to be her last ing at h e Australian Open as she continues to mull over her future in the Daily Mail

Simona Halep.

Australian Open results: Day 6

Men's singles

Daniil Medvedev (RUS x15) bt David Goffin

(BEL x21) 6-2, 7-6 (7/3), 6-3 Kei Nishikori (JPN x8) bt Joao Sousa (POR) 7-6 (8/6), 6-1, 6-2

Pablo Carreno-Busta (ESP x23) bt Fabio Fognini (ITA x12) 6-2, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 Milos Raonic (CAN x16) bt Pierre-Hugues Herbert (FRA) 6-4, 6-4, 7-6 (8/6)

Novak Djokovic (SRB x1) bt Denis Shapovalov (CAN x25) 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 6-0

Alexander Zverev (GER x4) bt Alex Bolt (AUS) 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 Boma Coric (CRO x11) bt Filip Krajinovic (SRB) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3

Women's singles

3rd round

Naomi Osaka (JPN x4) bt Hsieh Su-wei

(TPE x28) 5-7, 6-4, 6-1 ■ Elina Svitolina (UKR x6) bt Shuai Zhang (CHN) 4-6, 6-4, 7-5

Anastasija Sevastova (LAT x13) bt Wang Qlang (CHN x21) 6-3, 6-3 Serena Williams (USA x16) bt Dayana Yastremska (UKR) 6-2, 6-1

Madison Keys (USA x17) bt Elise Mertens

(BEL x12) 6-3, 6-2

Simona Halep (ROU x1) bt Venus Williams

Garbine Muguruza (ESP x18) bt Timea Bacsinszky (SUI) 7-6 (7/5), 6-2

Klaasen advances through in Australian open doubles

ELBOURNE - Raven Klaasen and his New Zealand partner Michael . Venus edged out Kiwi Marcus Daniell and Dutchman Wesley Koolhof 7-6 (4) 6-3 to reach the third round stage of the doubles at the Australian Open yesterday.

The sixth seeded pair, who never faced a break point in the match, closed out the second set to secure victory in just under 90 minutes. Klaasen, a former finalist at Melbourne Park, took control of the match to keep the country's hope alive in the opening Grand Slam of the year. "I am pretty happy with our

It was going to be tough match out there...and also Mike (Venus) like Daniell is a Kiwi, so they knew each other...there were no surprises there," an excited Klaasen said from Melbourne yesterday.

"We played a clean match which was quite satisfying. I think that we are getting sharper as the week goes, and hopefully we can build on this, come back tomorrow (today) even stronger. AFP

Muguruza dodges zombie apocalypse to make Open last 16

ELBOURNE - Spain's Garbine Muguruza said she narrowly avoided turning into a zombie before reaching the Australian Open last 16 yesterday after playing her previous match in the middle of the

The two-time Grand Slam winner, seeded 18, defeated Timea Bacsinszky of Switzerland 7-6 (7/5), 6-2 to make the fourth round at Melbourne Park.

The 25-year-old's previous match against Briton Johanna Konta set a record for the latest start in the tournament's history after it began in the early hours of Friday morning.

The clash, which Konta condemned as dangerous and unhealthy, began at 12:30 am and finished after a draining three sets at 3:12 am, the latest end to a women's match at the Grand Slam.

Muguruza said it made preparation difficult for her match against Bacsinszky.

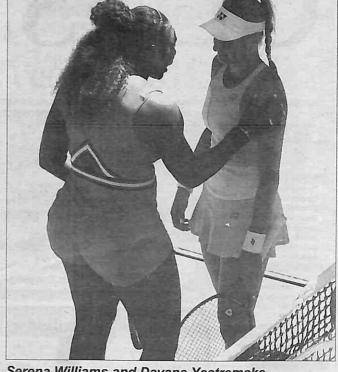
"I tried to fall asleep quickly and stay active a bit, not like a zombie," she said. "But I felt good on

Muguruza, a quarter-finalist in Melbourne two years ago, will face either Czech seventh seed Karolina Pliskova or 27th seed Camila Giorgi of Italy in the next

The Spaniard is seeking to recapture the form that propelled

her to the world number one ranking and delivered a French Open title in 2016 and Wimbledon a year later. AFP

Garbine Muguruza.



Serena Williams and Dayana Yastremska.

Serena left 'heartbroken'as opponent crumbles in tears

ELBOURNE - Serena Williams marched into the Australian Open last 16 yesterday and warned she was still improving after taking time out to console the latest victim of her quest for a recordequalling 24th major.

Williams swatted aside Ukrainian teenager Dayana Yastremska 6-2, 6-1 in a Melbourne Park mauling that reduced the world number 57 to tears.

The 37-year-old, who is in the hunt for her first Grand Slam since having a baby, comforted the youngster at the net, telling her: "You did amazing, you're gonna make it, don't cry". But Williams, who is in omi-

nous form and has dropped only nine games in her opening three matches, also had a message for her rivals, saying she was not yet at the top of her game.

"I think I'm getting there. I don't feel like I'm there yet," she said. "I feel like I'm still getting there."

Williams will face either sister Venus, who is unseeded this year, or world number one Simona Halep in the next round.

The 37-year-old won her 23rd Grand Slam Down Under two years ago while two months pregnant and is the bookies' favourite to claim an eighth Australian title, despite being seeded 16th.

Another major would match Margaret Court's tally and Williams is focused as she chases down the Australian great's record.

"I'm here, I'm playing as hard as I can and doing the best I can, which is really all I can do," she

Yastremska was not even born when the American won her first major at Flushing Meadows in

Williams said she did not like to see an opponent so distressed but she appreciated that Yastremska cared so much about trying to win their match and "came out swinging". "I kind of liked that. It shows she wasn't just there to play a good match, she was there to win," the American said. AFP

Osaka survives scare against No 28 seed Su-wei

Osaka smashed her racklosing the first set. She tumbled some top 10 players out of majors to the court when she tripped in the second.

The US Open champion recovered both times and avoided slipping out of the Australian Open yesterday with a 5-7, 6-4, 6-1 win over Hsieh Su-wei.

The fourth-seeded Osaka got a warning from the umpire after she spiked her racket in frustration after Hsieh took the first set with three breaks of service.

The 33-year-old Hsieh, who plays with a double-handed grip

ELBOURNE - Naomi on both sides and uses a mixture of spin and slice and drop shots Osaka smashed her rack-et into the court after to unsettle her rivals, has taken before. She reached the fourth round last year here, after beating Garbine Muguruzu, and at Wimbledon, where she beat topranked Simona Halep.

The 21-year-old Osaka was getting flustered, unable to dictate rallies and seemingly unable to find a way to deal with Hsieh's unusual style.

She found a way back, though, from 4-2 down in the second set when Hsieh was one point away from a 5-2 lead.

Osaka got an important break, rallying from 0-40 to win five straight points and converting it with a deep, powerful backhand that Hsieh barely retrieved but can't keep in play.

Hsieh had a breakpoint chance in the next game but couldn't convert, with Osaka saving it with another backhand winner that reinforced the change in momentum. Apart from the tumble, when she rolled her right ankle early in the game as she served for the second set - she held up her thumb to let everyone know she was OK - Osaka was in control until the end. Daily Mail



Classified Section

Book

Your

Classified

Advert Now

INTE CASSIFIEDS

2404 8699 / 2404 3807 / 2505 2320

KUSILE KITCHEN

HOSPITALITY SCHOOL

REGISTRATION FOR 2019 HAS BEGUN:

DAY, EVENING & WEEKEND COURSES:

FULL CATERING

(includes Waiting & Decor)

GENERAL OFFICE CLEANING

HOUSE-HELPERS & NANNIES

HOUSE-KEEPING FOR HOTELS

MBABANE:

2404-7750/2404-2832

CELL: 7617-1632

MANZINI:2505 9689

CELL: 7603-6455 7614-8564

Email:. kusile.nd@gmail.com

2019 REGISTRATION

GARDENERS & JANITORS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Clients are advised to please check their adverts on the first publication day, for we will not be held responsible for any errors after the first day of publication. If it happens that you note any errors, immediately and it will be corrected as soon as possible. Fallure to adhere to these terms, we assume no financial responsibility Thanking you in advance

for we assure satisfactory services.

NDEX

General Items

Legal Notices Sales & Foreclosure

Auctions Special Services nesses Opport Restaurant, Catering & Office

Garage sale Other Business Items Maintenance & Construction Motoring and Transport

Medical & Natural Healing **Tultion & Courses**

Cats & Kittens Birds & Poultry

Other Pet & Accessories TV's, DVD Players, Decoders &

Household Appliances

Music Equipment, Amplifie Equalizers & Speakers

Computers, Lap & Optics Games, Gar Software

Clothing Baby and Kids Handcraft

Machinery & Tools Plumbing & Electrica Other Building & DIY Plants, Trees & Flo Garden Furniture & Appli

Car Spares or Parts

Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares **Stripping for Spares** Farming Equipment & Machinery Other Farmin

Tennis & squash Watersport Angling & Cycling Other Sport Caravans, Campers and Trailers

Camping and Outdoor

Farms and Vacant Plots

Biles Trucks **Buses Farming**





PATIT DRILLING BOREHOLES

- Survey
- Drilling
- Tank stand Water Tank
- Pump installation
- Solar Pump installation

25052138 /76026444 /76446293 / patitdrilling@gmail.com

Trained in South Africa

CHEAP, FAST & VERY NEAT

7844 5984-watsapp

7655 6850-voice

Baobab ExpressPrinters and Stationery

and Baobab Express Furniture Supply.

Office/School Desks, Chairs, Typek, Stationery,

Receipts/ Invoice Books, Business cards. Call: 2404 0491 / 7637 2858 / 7615 7325



Approved by SHEC

EXISTING COURSES CERTIFICATE

Electrical Wiring. Plumbing. Motor Mechanics.

Health & Safety [6mnts] Full-time & Part-tin

ADDED COURSES CERTIFICATE Agriculture

MANAGEMENT COURSES DIPLOMA _Finance Accounting (level I, II & III)

Business English for Communication (level I. II & III) Spreadsheet Processing Techniques (level I, II & III) _Pastel Accounting (level I, II & III) Cost & Management Accounting (level III)

>Free driving lessons for one year courses<<<

Contact Details For More Information:

Ngwenya | Mbabane | Manzini 2442 4944 | 2404 0639 | 2505 7476 Email: sdlamini381gmail.com

7602 5418 7832 4746 BSA Training Centre

Spray Painting

Diesel Mechanics. _TLB Lessons [4wks].

LIQUOR LAND WHOLESALE **WE SELL ALL KINDS OF LIQUOR** Spend E500 and get a gift

Shining Star Glassworks

SPECIALS!!

Windscreens from E799 for uzu, Hilux, Nissan & Imports

Glass, Alumnium sliding shower doors, Klingshield & Tinting. Quality Gua

Tel: 2404 4787 Cell: 7611 0341 / 7612 6974.

JMC TRUCK FOR SALE



E165 000 8302Km CONTACT: 79022869



CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699



tion for 2019 NOW OPEN, places are available from, Pre School, Grade 1 to 6, Form 1 to Form 5

pass rate on Grade 7 results in 2017

Transport available to all neighbouring places in Mankayane Excellent Sporting facilities: Football, Tennis & Volleyball

Our School Offers the best of the following:

Inclusive and friendly learning environment

Boarding facilities for both boys and girls

Practical subjects ie: Computer (IT) and French

Money should not be a problem come to the school

We BRIDGE the GAP between URBAN and

RURAL Schools. We are here to Wipe your Tears Bring your 3RD CLASS PASS pupils, we will groom them to MERIT pupils. Guaranteed.

Yonder

Worship Centre

with

Mrs. Nokwanda Diami

Sundays:

10am-12pm

Venue:

Woodlands.

Ezulwini

Apostle Bakhe

e up to Form 5 *

Qualified and Motivated Teachers





KASHALI PROLEARNING HIGH SCHOOL

(BOMNKATJUBOVU)

LIMITED SPACES **FORM 1-5** (SGCSE) **GRADE 10 - 12** (Matric) FORM 5 & Matric upgrading. Adult classes

(F1 - F5) Evenings.

Experienced teachers. With hostels available. Visit the school in Ngwane Park Or call 76118139 for more info.

HILLSIDE COLLEGE

N-SERIES, ABMA. ICM ELECTRICAL

MECHANICAL.

CIVIL, CHEMICAL COMPUTER

ENGINEERING, H.R.

MANAGEMENT,

AAT/CAT

Experienced

Lecturers &

Hostel Facilities

Available.

Approved by the

Ministry of

Education (SHEC)

Hillside College.

Manzini. 25058856 / 7641 1168

7641 1138





Rock Drilling and Blasting, Call: 76682304/ 79682255

omopay Dx 21/01/2019

EMACEMBE

KENYA & **GWALAGWALA** kaZombodze phansi kweMdzimba. Call 7699 8798 / 7612 9345

Dx 27/01/2019



you are sick

R/N 205235 Dx 20 FEB 19 Ethangeni Contact:



Matric registrations SGCSE Upgrading, Experienced Teachers, Hostel facility available.

Hillside College Manzini 2505 8856 / 7641 1168 7641 1138

RN 205235 Dx 20 FEB 19





JUBILEE WORSHIP HOUSE INTERNATIONAL THEME: A Place Where We

Celebrate God's

Intervention

Youth summit 6pm - 8pm

Prayer 6pm - 8pm

10.00 am -1.00 pm

to Min tower (Emkhiweni)

God is changing changers

to change the world Contact: 76158475

Trouble finding a job, problems in Marriage, Business, Bonkhe labafuna kutsatsana kanye nenhlalakahle emindenini yabo a b e t e ngitobakhulekela kuNkulunkulu. I can pray for you. I have been doing this since 1984.Prophet Henry Ndwandwe, Mbabane PTS

7614 2654.



OBSERVER



ALLIANCE CHURCH

Mondays er 6.00pm-7.30pm Thursdays osition 6.00pm-7.30p Fridays Youth 6.00pm-7.30pm

Saturday Women 2.00pm-3.30pm Sundays English Service 8.30am -10.30 an Siswati Service 11.00am

1.00pm Children's Ministry 8.30am 10.30am, 11.00am, 1.00pm

Men-Every 1" and 3" Tuesday of the month 6.00pm - 7.30pm ngle Parents -Every 1"Saturda

of the month 2.00pm -3.30pm Contacts 2404 0979





9.00 am - 10.30am

6.00pm - 7.30pm

Thursday Bible Study 6.00pm

Mbabane FEA below Mbabane clinic, 24045807/76572977

il; mbabanefea@swazi.ne



WORSHIP WITE

Every Sunday

10:30am-2:00pm

Join us Fridays

JOIN US SUNDAYS

10:30am - 1:00pm
Deliverance &
Prophetic Service
3:00pm - 5:00pm
Manzini kaHelemisi next to
Toyota Leites Motors
Warehouse No.1

NHLANGANO BRANCH

SUNDAYS: on-1.00pm • Mathe omnunity Hall next gano Central High S

MANZINI BRANCH



Manzini Branch: Wednesdays- Prayer 6:00-7:30pm

Thursdays- Mid-week Service 6:30-8:00pm

Sundays- Teachings 9:30-10:30am

Main Service 10:30am - 1pm

Mbabane Branch:

Sundays- Service

www.observer.org.sz





GROWING FAITI Ministries International

> Mondays: Prayer & Transformation 6-8pm

Tuesdays: Transformation Class at Syney Williams in Manzini 6:30-8pm

Fridays: Breakthrough Service 6-8pm

Sundays: Prayer 9am

Main Service 10am - 1pm

(Lobamba, Esitjeni on you way to Millwane)



SERVICE 7imes

SUNDAY SERVICES BABANE THEATRE CLUB 10.00 AM-1.00 PM

> MANZINI SATELITE 2.30 PM-5.00 PM

CONTACT 7605 3160









ed Can Still Do It Again with postle Jeremiah

CHURCHI

in spite of your past, ou skall smile again.

Place of miracles where the blind see. Iame walk, sick healed, jobless find job. deliverance happens its your moment to grasp it. CONTACTS

7671 0029/7631 4007 Come one come all









GOD'S GLORY ABLAZE CHURCH (NHLANGANO MATHENDELE)

Services

Pastor N.T Dlamini

Send us your Classified Adverts

1. Send your Classified Ad via Whatsapp. Get a Quotation via same platform.

3. Send Payment via Mobile Money.



EASY AS Convenience



SWOZ

MBABANE TEL: 2404 8689 / 2404 380 MANZINI TEL: 2505 2320 MHLANGANO TEL: 2207 5159 PIGGS PEAK TEL: 2437 1083 SITEKI TEL: 7643 6549



ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



ANDER-ARNOLD SIGNS

IVERPOOL - Liverpool defender Trent Alexander-Arnold is the latest star to commit his future to the Premier League leaders after signing a long-term contract.

Alexander-Arnold's improved deal is reported to tie him to Liverpool until 2024.

The 20-year-old has emerged as one of Liverpool's brightest young stars as Jurgen Klopp's side chase the club's first English title since 1990.

Alexander-Arnold, who joined Liverpool at the age of six, is one of a host of Reds stars who have pledged their futures to the Anfield team.

Andrew Robertson agreed fresh terms earlier this week, following in the footsteps of Roberto Firmino, Mohamed Salah, Jordan Henderson, Sadio Mane and Joe Gomez, who have all signed new deals since April 2018.

"I'm ecstatic and really proud," Alexander-Arnold told Liverpool's website.

"I feel privileged to have the support and the trust the club has in me to offer me a new deal. "There was no doubt in my mind to sign and extend the years I have with the club. "Hopefully we can



Liverpool defender Trent Alexander-Arnold.

achieve a lot of success in those years." Alexander-Arnold made his Liverpool debut in October 2016 after graduating from the club's academy and has since established himself as the Reds' firstchoice right-back. He made his England debut against Costa Rica last June and was part of Gareth Southgate's World Cup squad in Russia. "As soon as they

offered the contract, there was no hesitation whatsoever," added Alexander-Arnold, who has made 67 appearances for Liverpool.

The thing that made it easiest for me was having the people around me to make sure I was able to focus on football as much as possible and get the deal done as soon as possible." *Daily Mail*

Jota bagged himself a hat-trick

ONDON - Wolverhampton Wanderers got back to win-Ining ways in the English Premier League with a thrilling 4-3 victory over Leicester City yesterday afternoon in a thrilling encounter.

Wolves were pushing for a return to winning ways after suffering defeat at Manchester City, while the Foxes were looking to put an end to their stuttering form.

The home side got off to a perfect start when Joao Moutinho swung a ball into the box, where Diogo Jota was on hand to poke home from six-yards out.

The lead was doubled after 12 minutes when Wolves defender Joe Bennett rose above Harry Maguire to nod home a corner from Moutinho for his first goal of the season.

Leicester, meanwhile, struggled going forward as the likes of Jamie Vardy and Demarai Gray looked out of ideas in the absence of James Maddison, who started on the bench. reduced the deficit when Grey collected a pass from Vardy before skipping past one challenge to fire into the far corner.

Leicester were level five minutes later as Harvey Barnes pounced on a loose ball before seeing his effort deflect into the bottom corner off Conor Coady. However, the hosts restored their advantage on 64 minutes as Jota latched onto a long-ball from Ruben Neves before smashing the ball under Kasper Schmeichel.

In an attempt to rescue an equaliser, Leicester Manager Claude Puel threw on Nigeria international Kelechi Iheanacho for Danny Simpson for the final 10 minutes.

The equaliser eventually arrived with three minutes remaining when captain Wes Morgan sent a wellplaced into the back of the net.

However, Wolves had the final say as Jimenez broke free down the right flank before picking out Jota, who slotted into the bottom corner to seal the win and his hat-trick.

Daily Mail





Frustrated De Bruyne raring to go for Man City

· ANCHESTER - Pep Guardiola takes reigning champions . Manchester City to struggling Huddersfield today, with the Premier League's bottom side facing the prospect of finding themselves on the receiving end of Kevin De Bruyne's frustration.

Arguably City's standout performer in their record-breaking title campaign last season, the Belgian's season has been badly interrupted by two lengthy spells on the sidelines with knee problems.

Now fully fit, De Bruyne has cut a frustrated figure on occasion, most notably when substituted during his team's emphatic 9-0 victory over League One Burton in the semi-final of the League Cup last week.

De Bruyne ran down the tunnel after being replaced in that game and, according to reports, watched the final exchanges from the City dressing room rather than from the bench, as club protocol dic-

Coincidence or not, De Bruyne found himself left out of the starting line-up for City's next game, the 3-0 victory over Wolverhampton on Monday, although the fact he was joined there by frontline players such as Sergio Aguero, Riyad Mahrez and Ilkay Gundogan also spoke volumes about the club's strength in depth.

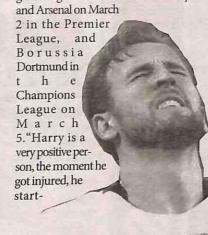
Guardiola has talked about how De Bruyne needs to get game-time under his belt to rediscover the form that made him one of the Premier League's star players and a potentially testing match against an in-form Wolves team seemed perfect scenario for him.

Daily Mail

Tottenham can cope without Harry Kane - Pochettino

ONDON - Harry Kane's absence will inevitably affect Tottenham's ✓ performances in the coming weeks, Manager Mauricio Pochettino admitted on Friday, but the Argentine is positive they can cope without the England

Kane is not scheduled to return to training until early March after suffering ankle ligament damage towards the end of a 1-0 defeat to Manchester United last weekend. However, the World Cup Golden Boot winner has a track record of returning ahead of schedule from injuries, and Pochettino hinted that could be the case once more. Spurs face huge games against Chelsea on February 27



Harry

Kane

ed thinking about recovering as soon as possible," said Pochettino on Friday.

'When he is one of the best strikers in Europe, it is going to affect performances.

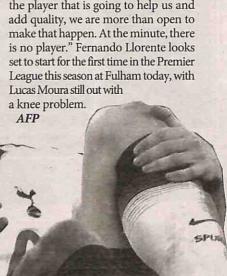
'We are positive, we can cope and we have players who can cover his position. It won't affect our approach to the games."

Kane's injury is compounded by the absence of Son Heung-min, representing South Korea at the Asian Cup potentially for the rest of the month.

Yet Pochettino reiterated that the club are unlikely to dip into the transfer market for a short-term fix upfront.

"It is not going to change our mind. We are open to adding to our squad, but that is not going to put pressure on us to sign," he added.

"The market is very difficult. If we find the player that is going to help us and Lucas Moura still out with



'OZIL'S TIME IS UP AND HE HAS TO MOVE ON'

ONDON - Mesut Ozil needs to accept his "time is up and ⚠ he must move on", says Charlie Nicholas, with the Arsenal playmaker tipped for a possible switch to China.

The World Cup winner is facing questions regarding his future after slipping out of favour under Unai

A lucrative contract penned in February 2018 and a lack of contribution on the field is considered to be causing those at Emirates Stadium unnecessary problems.

Removing Ozil from the fold could help to resolve some of those issues, with Nicholas suggesting that he could attract interest similar to that being shown in West Ham forward Marko Arnautovic.

The former Arsenal striker told Sky Sports, with Aaron Ramsey also edging towards the exits in north London: "I think they should get rid of Ozil.

"It is the people running the club who gave him the wage, but it looks silly letting Aaron Ramsey and Jack Wilshere go. "Hopefully Juventus will take

Ramsey immediately and Arsenal get some money for him. Ozil does not fit Emery's plans, so you get the agent in and look for him

to go elsewhere.

bench but the common-sense consensus is finding a club and looking to sell him." Another ex-Arsenal star, Paul Merson, also believes that a decision needs to be made on Ozil. He considers goings on at the

be interested in Ozil.

Emirates to be "a joke", with Ramsey being allowed to walk away on a free transfer while Emery is told he has no transfer funds for reinforcements.

"If this was in a book, you'd throw the book in the sea as it would be so unbelievable for such a big football club," said Merson. Goal



"Ozil has amazing talent and is

popular in the dressing room but

his time is up and he must move

on. If the Chinese clubs are inter-

ested in Arnautovic, then they should

"He will not want to sit on the

Mesut Ozil.

SALAH SCORES TWICE FOR REDS

O N D O N

Liverpool overcame a strong challenge from Crystal Palace to win an exhilarating game 4-3 and extend their lead at the top of the Premier League to seven points.

Having beaten Manchester City last month, Palace looked like they might have another say in the title race when Andros Townsend struck in the 34th

minute at Anfield.

Liverpool hit back after half-time with two goals in seven minutes from Mohamed Salah and Roberto Firmino, but James Tomkins headed in from a corner in the 65th minute.

An error from 39-year-old goalkeeper Julian Speroni gifted Salah a second goal and Sadio Mane made it 4-2 in injury-time after James Milner had been sent off. *Sky Sports*

SOLSKJAER SECURES 7th CONSECUTIVE WIN

ONDON

Manchester United made it seven wins out of seven under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer with a 2-1 victory over Brighton in the Premier League at Old Trafford yesterday.

Paul Pogba continued his fine form as he won and converted a penalty for United's opener (23), before Marcus Rashford got his eighth goal in 10 games with a fine curling effort from an acute angle (42).

Pascal Gross halved the deficit in the second half with a poked finish from eight yards (72), but United held on to maintain their 100 per cent record since Jose Mourinho left the club.

Sky Sports



Saints secure vital win over Marco Silva's side

O N D O N
- Southampton's revival under
Ralph Hasenhuttl continued
as James Ward-Prowse's strike and
a Lucas Digne own goal
handed the hosts a 21 victory over Everton
yesterday.

Southampton took the lead in the 50th minute

as Ward-Prowse scored in his second successive match, before Digne extended the hosts' advantage when his tackle on Nathan Redmond rolled into the net (64).

Gylfi Sigurdsson pulled a goal back in the 90th minute with a cool finish to set up a nervy ending, but Marco Silva's side failed to find the all-important equalis-

Fabian Schar scores double in vital win

Charter

ONDON-Fabian Schar proved Starting the day in the drop zone, there was a feeling around St James' the unlikely hero after his double moved Park that this was a must-win Newcastle encounter and Schar, who had never out of the scored for the club, netted either relegation side of the break (24 & 63) and Ayoze Perez added a late third places with a 3-0 win The victory was a timely boost for over fellow strug-Rafa Benitez's men who had slipped glers Cardiff down the table after a run of just one win in their last nine games. City. Meanwhile, this victory lifts them above Cardiff, who drop into the bottom three and are now two points from safety. Sky Sports Newcastle's

ONDON

Bournemouth secured just a second win in their last eight Premier League games as goals from Callum Wilson and Joshua King gave them a 2-0 win over West Ham at the Vitality Stadium.

The Cherries had lost 11 of previous last 14 matches in all competitions, but after a goalless first half, Wilson met Ryan Fraser's deflected cross to volley home a fine opener (53).

West Ham were caught once more on the counter-attack in the first minute of stoppage time as King met David Brooks' low cross to fire in his sixth league goal of the season.

The result keeps
Bournemouth in 12th, but
they move three points off
seventh, while West Ham stay

Heading into this game, there had been 28 goals in the seven previous Premier League encounters - an average of four per game - but there was not a shot on target in a cagey opening 45 minutes.

Bournemouth's best chance fell to Brooks, who met Wilson's deep cross but headed wide at the far post from an acute angle. Referee Simon Hooper correctly ruled out a Nathan Ake header from a Fraser cross with Wilson standing in an offside position and clearly interfering with play.

CALLUM WILSON ON TARGET AS CHERRIES END SLUMP

Replaced

Bournemouth welcomed back their talisman Callum Wilson as he replaced Junior Stanislas, but the bigger news was that Artur Boruc started in goal in place of Asmir Begovic.

Marko Arnautovic was absent from West Ham's 18-man squad. Andy Carroll started in the one change from the side that beat Arsenal last weekend. West Ham grew into the game and had their best opportunity after

25 minutes when Samir Nasri dragged a shot wide - but the contest came alive after the break as after Lukasz Fabianski produced a fine save to keep out Steve Cook's header, Andy Carroll missed a glorious chance to break the deadlock.

goal.

Mark Noble's cross was initially headed back across goal by the striker, but after Nathan Ake failed to clear under pressure from Michail Antonio, Carroll inexplicably scooped his shot from two yards over the crossbar.

Sky Sport

Maritzburg remain winless under Ertugral after Chippa loss

Fabian Schar.

Port ELIZABETH-Maritzburg United remain rooted to the bottom of the ABSA Premiership table after suffering defeat to Chippa United, who boosted their survival hopes in the process.

New coach Larsen was looking to make an immediate impact at the Chilli Boys - on his debut - who had not won a league game in their last ten matches and lost their last three games and therefore in the relegation zone.

Meanwhile Muhsin Ertugral, was searching for his first win at Maritzburg after losing his first three games in charge, making it five losses in a row for the Pietermaritzburg-based side.

After a lively opening, Thabiso Kutumela should have made it 1-0 for Maritzburg on 24 minutes after he got to the end of a through ball at the far post and with the net gaping, he somehow fluffed his chance.

Ertugral was forced to make

a substitution in the 26th minute as attacking midfielder Keletso Makgalwa picked up an injury and he was replaced by striker and target man Judas Moseamedi.

Goalless

Maritzburg would have been pleased with a goalless first stanza after weathering the storm for much of the half while the Chilli Boys probably felt they deserved a lead after dominating for most of the first half.

Eight minutes after the break,

Tebogo Tlolane finally broke the deadlock for Chippa with a powerful effort from 20-yards that sailed to the top corner of the net, 1-0. Ertugral responded with his second change on the hour-mark, looking for more penetration in the middle of the park as attacking midfielder Bandile Shandu came on for a defensive midfielder Motsie Matima. However, Andile Mbenyane doubled the lead for Larsen's men three minutes later

with a flicked header at the near post that deflected off Rushine De Reuck and looped towards the back post, 2-0.

Soccer Laduma

Maritzburg coach Muhsin Ertugral.





TOP TO BOTTOM:

Sibusiso Mkhonta, Njabulo

and Melusi

Dlamini.

'D4D' Ndlovu, Dino Hlatjwako NGWENYAMA CUP 2018/19



COMPILED BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

WILL 'DOWNS' REVENGE MISSION SUCCEED AGAINST UNBEATEN 'BIRDS?'

Manzini Sundowns Mbabane Swallows

4pm, Somhlolo National Stadium

COCmatch between these two sides has always been a thriller, and although Swallows have triumphed in the last few matches, winning the most recent one barely a week back, hanks to a 78th minute Tony

TT' Tsabedze's strike. This was during their MTN Premier League encounter played at the very Somhlolo National Stadium.

Swallows head coach Musa Manyatsi's match against his former long-time employers in the 'Kappa Boys' is always a special occasion for him and the first one ended splendidly - with a 2 -1 win.

He still wants to prove a point on his abilities and what better way to do this than what it matters the most - a crucial Ingwenyama Cup quarter-final encounter.

'Predator Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa made his long anticipated return to the field and even Manyatsi was quick to point that more game-time would be needed for him to get to his very best in terms of sharpness, but his football intelligence can never be disputed, and Sundowns would be making a huge mistake to let him loose. One match could be all it takes for him to get back his instincts and

Sundowns will want to make sure that doesn't happen.

A loose 'Sikhali' at his best can end the game in a couple of moment, never mind the injury.

Tough-as-nails captain Kingu Pemba will have to marshal his charges and command efficiency and discipline against the troublesome Swallows forwards which consist of seasoned wingers Tony 'TT' Tsabedze and Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko who can create and also score goals. Sundowns are clear with the fact that they face-off against a team which has not lost a single Ingwenyama Cup match since its inception a good three years ago, in 17 matches to be precise!

It is therefore a challenge to them - a motivational one - as they step into the field of play.

They can go down in the history books as the opens that put an end to Swallows' 17-match unbeaten run, and the Julias Chakupewa led-charges do have the talented youngsters to do the job in the likes of former Manzini Wanderers skilful winger Sabelo 'Sabza' Shongwe and Reagan Kangumbu to finish the job upfront.

MANZINI SUNDOWNS

Coach: Julius Chakupewa Captain: Kingu Pemba

Key players: Sandile Dlamini, Phumlani Mtsetfwa, Sibusiso Mkhonta Linda Maphalala

Match winner: Reagan Kangumbu

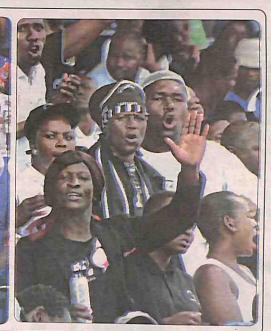
MBABANE SWALLOWS

Coach: Musa Manyatsi Captain: Tony Tsabedze

Key players: Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu, Colani 'Papi' Sikhondze, Wonder Nhleko

Match winner: Sizolwethu 'Nunu' Shabalala





BUCKLE-UP: A picture spread of fans enjoying themselves during the round of 32 and 16. Fans have been treated to goals and football artistry in the richest cup tournament of the land. Today, the last-two teams to make it to the semi-finals will be known by the end of the day.

Matsapha looking to spoil Landers' parade

Matsapha United vs Mbabane Highlanders Somhlolo National Stadium, 2pm

Mbabane Highlande and Matsapha United have a history.

A well documented one at that, which arguably has one of the most interesting stories in local football history. Today, the two teams will meet for a clash that is important to Highlanders as they look to progress to the semi-finals of the

Ingwenyama Cup for the first time and during the pre-match conin three years.

Saul Chamunika was at the other end just last season with about half of his first 11 players at the 'Bull's OCCER- Kraal now and they are all clear with how demanding the fans are. They need silverware and there's no better way that they could do this by snatching a title that has belonged to their arch rivals in Mbabane Swallows for the past three seasons.

Highlanders just salivate at the idea. This has been a rather pretty impressive performance for the black and white ensemble and they will not want to let Matsapha ruin the party for them. Rodwell Dhlakama is a master technician

ference at the King's Office in Nkhanini, he made it succinctly clear to all and sundry that this tournament - this match in particular- is more than just progression to the next round for them, rather a chance to put themselves on the map and prove what they are really about. They are currently placed at the bottom of the MTN Premier League log-standings with six points out of a possible 39. They will be coming at Highlanders hard and they really have nothing to lose, but everything. Whatever the result today, if Matsapha United win, those players will have made their mark in local football, some of them might just be playing one

of the most important matches of their lives, and this they will prove in the field of play.

MBABANE HIGHLANDERS

Coach: Saul Chaminuka

Captain: Xolani 'Chocco' Sibandze Key players: Mlamuli 'Mlaba' Nkambule, Nkosinamandla 'Nkola' Nkambule, Thabiso Mokenkoane Match winner: Melusi 'Slender'

Dlamini

MATSAPHA UNITED

Coach: Rodwell Dhlakama Captain: Sifiso Dlamini

Key players: Innocent Obodia, Dino Hlatjwako, Sihawu Dlamini, Muzi 'Mzo' Dlamini

Match winner: Johnston Mensah



INGWENYAMA CUP 2018/19

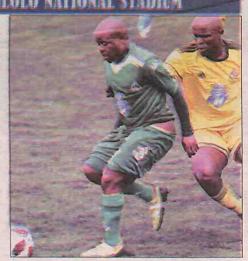


Tinyosi FC's Thando Gule attempts to go past Malanti Chiefs' Sandile Mazibuko during the Ingwenyama Cup quarterfinals at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Malanti won 1-0 in extra time. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

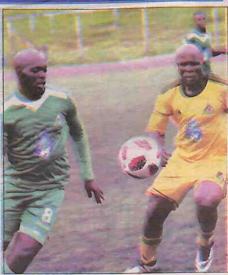
Scorer of Malanti's winning goal Asive Langwe (r) joined by Binwell Ketuyi and Sandile Mazibuko in celebration.



Tinyosi FC goalkeeper Muzikayise Mtsetfwa making a save from Malanti's Binwell Katinji.



Tinyosi FC's Timothy Mathonsi winning the ball from Malanti's Thembumenzi Mayisela.

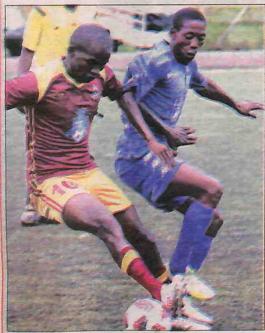


Lwazi Dlamini and Thembumenzi Mayisela vying for the ball.





Malanti players celebrating their victory against Tinyosi



Young Buffaloes' Wandile Shabangu and Royal Leopard's Fanelo Tsabedze in a tussle for the ball during the Ingwenyama Cup quarterfinals. Buffaloes won 3-2 in extra time.



Well beaten Royal Leopard goalkeeper Phephisani Msibi lying on the turf as Buffaloes scored their first goal.

Buffaloes' Ndoda Mthethwa controls the ball while Royal Leopard's Siboniso Sigudla tries to stop him.



final whistle.

Dejected Royal Leopard coach Edwin Matsebula after the referee blew the

Buffaloes' Fanelo Mamba and Bongane Ndzimandze fighting for the ball.







Participants of the Zithande athletics club bootcamp captured after the session which was held at the Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday morning. (Pic: Mthunzi Maziya)

ABOUT 200 AT ZITHANDE'S BOOT CAMP

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

PORTS - About 200 fitness enthusiasts braved showering rain to attend a very intense work-out during the Zithande's athletics' boot camp at Mavuso Trade Centre yesterday.

The event lasted the usual three hours non-stop, and most of those in attendance were grateful that it came right after Christmas when their tummies had taken in more than necessary. Zithande coach, Nsizwa Thwala emphasised the need for continuity,

urging those in attendance to not wait until the next boot camp but to work-

"The people got what they wanted and I am impressed with the turnout, especially because we have people travelling as far as Lavumisa to

We are also continually surprised by the blend of age groups that attend. People are now beginning to see the importance of working out," he said.

Thwala added that it was also encouraging to see familiar faces. He said the boot camps were now turning into a family affair, as persistently, people look forward to the next one. "We also have companies who have shown interest in integrating our programmes into their wellness initiatives at the

This is encouraging because it means more people will take part in such training.

This can only be good for the health of not only individuals, but the nation at large," he said. The next boot camp, according to Thwala, is planned for Lobamba on the second week of February.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS Alwande Nxumalo (Ezulwini)

"The training was intense. It was my first boot camp but I have benefitted a lot. I think such training will come handy for my swimming career as endurance is a critical part of it."

Semu Mdluli

"It was a tough training of as always. I have attended a couple of times before, and each time I benefit a lot as I have lost tremendous weight since I started."

Ncobile Ginindza

"It was a very challenging session. As a Taekwondo artist, I need such as my sport demands a lot of energy. I have lost about 10 kilogrammes since I started, and will definitely be coming back again."

Muziwethu Simelane (Zakhele)

"It was a very nice and challenging session. I always come to boot camps and will definitely be coming back

Lungile Nxumalo (Ezulwini)

"It was a lovely training. I enjoyed it very much and will use the endurance gained in cycling and road running. I feel fitter than ever."

Lungelo Nxumalo (Ezulwini)

"It was tough but I enjoyed it very

I am a swimmer and this will help me a lot in my career. I will definitely come back." (More interviews in tomorrow's edition)

We are still a work in progress - Flyers coach

BY JONGILE XUBA

OCCER - Ubombo Flyers coach Gcina Dlamini said his team still have a long way to go despite beating Young Movers 2-1 to progress into the finals of the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup regional competition.

The two sides met at Somhlolo National Stadium on Thursday evening with Flyers coming from a goal down in the first half to record a hard fought victory in extra time. Dlamini said that though they managed to win, the side had not reached its full potential but there were a lot of positives to be taken away from their performance on the night.

"We played one of our toughest games in the competition against a side that is doing really well in the Super League. We are not a finished product yet but, it is a young team filled with potential and we will take it one day at a time," he said. He added that playing at Somhlolo before their match helped them adapt quicker unlike their opponents who took a while to adjust to the pitch conditions.

"After facing Sundowns we already knew the challenge lying in front of us. The players were motivated to do well and they really showed up which is what I am happy about, he said. Meanwhile, Young Movers coach Machatha Nhlabatsi said the red card they picked up dashed their chances. "Losing a player in extra time killed our momentum. We had already prepared for penalties but were unfortunate to concede. We had a good run in the competition even though we could not go all the way. I would like to promise the fans that we will do better next time out and the future looks bright for Young Movers," he said. Ubombo Flyers will take on Masundvwini Royal Swallows in the final of the Ingwenyama Cup Regional Competition.

200 riders expected at Time Trial

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

YCLING - Close to 200 local professional riders are expected to take part in the OK Foods Individual Time trial slated for the Masundwini - Phocweni road this morning

The trial would see riders compete in the 30km and 19km races as this is the second edition of the annual road competition under the flagship of the Eswatini Cycling Association

ECA President Sihlangu Nhlabatsi

invited the entire local cycling fraternity to attend the race in their numbers when contacted yesterday. "We are expecting 200 riders in tomorrow (today's) race and we are appealing to cyclists to keep time since the main race will start at 7am. Riders will get their one day licences at the arena during registration.

We are going to have a prize presentation after the two activities of the day," he said. The race will serve as preparation for the members of the national team who will be representing the country during the 2019



Local cyclists in action during a recent local competition.

African Road Championships slated for Ethiopia next month. MTN Khemani star and national team rider Mduduzi Zwane is the reigning champion of the competition.

Zwane is likely going to face a stiff competition from his national compatriots in Gcina Banda and Muzi Shabangu in the main category of today's competition.

ENBA HOSTS SUCCESSFUL BASKETBALL WOMEN'S DAY

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

ASKETBALL - THE Eswatini Basketball Association (ENBA) yesterday hosted a successful national basketball women's day.

The one-day intense training day attracted about 40 children from different parts of the country who braved the rain in the hub-city to make it to the Mavuso Sports Emporium.

When interviewed, Eswatini National Basketball Association Head of Development Bheki 'Size' Nxumalo thanked parents for letting their children come and spend the day at the court, and also all the older-players who turned out to guide, officiate and inspire the youngsters.

"We are very happy with the success of today's event. We would like to thank parents and the children for having the burning-passion to come and play basketball today. The idea was to have women and young girls come together and introduce them to basketball. We thank

the lady basketball players who also took their time to come-out and meet the children and have talks and drills with them.

It means a lot to the players when such comes from people who are their gender and who have been imparted positively by the sport in their day-to-day lives, not just in court," he said.

Number

Nxumalo said the association was concerned with the number of ladies in the sport, and they wanted to make sure that they develop them from a tender age. "The ladies we have now, as our shining stars will not be around for long, so we need to start planning for the future, because in basketball ladies don't stay around for long as commitments come early.

We want to make sure that we start grooming them from primary school level throughout their high school and college/university life. This will definitely develop the standard," he said.

... More reports on tomorrow's

Hayley Hoy breaks 10-year old record

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

→ WIMMING -10-year-old SwimLab swimmer Hayley Hoy finally broke a record set earlier than she was even born.

The girls 100 metre Freestyle record was set back in March 2003 by Kattie Millin who clocked an amazing time of 1:15:37. Hoy beat that and clocked

This was during the 2019 Toepfer Gala held at the Enjabulweni School yesterday, and saw well over 20 swimmers brave the chilly rainy weather conditions to compete in an outdoor swimming pool.

When interviewed, Eswatini Swimming Association (ESA) President Berger Nxumalo congratulated the youngster and thanked the sponsor Toepfor Constructions for their involvement in the sport.

"Let me start by thankingthe sponsor who made it possible for all of us to be here today. They have shown belief in the sport, and we encourage other companies and individuals to follow suit and play an integral role in the development of the sport in the country. Parents as well, I can never



Haley with Olaf Torpfer and Willmot Kayla after breaking the record.

thank them enough for allowing their children to brave such weather conditions which made it hard for anybody to want to be in an outdoor pool.

I would therefore like to congratulate Hayley for breaking the record. She is an amazing swimmer who dedicates herself and is definately one for the future. We applaud her and the team for the good work," he said.

'SKOSH' 'THE HERO' AS BUFFS EDGE LEOPARD

Leopard......(1)2 Buffaloes.....(1)3 (After extra time)

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

OCCER – It was sweet revenge for Young Buffaloes as a last gasp goal from Wandile'Skosh' Shabangu saw them eliminate rivals Royal Leopard from the quarterfinals of the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup.

The dramatic encounter was played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday

Leopard had equalised in the last minute of injury time to force extra time, before Shabangu's scorcher with five minutes of additional time remaining saw the army side emerge victorious and avenge a 0-1 semi-final defeat to the same opposition in last year's competition.

Both teams started on a high tempo and it was clear early on that this would be a hotly contested derby match.

However, it was Leopard that drew first blood, Sifiso 'Sushi' Nkambule rising above the Buffaloes defence to head in a cross from Muzi Dlamini on the right.

The police service side appeared to have the edge over the opposition at this stage, with Fanelo Tsabedze breaking on the left flank only to see his final shot drift just wide of the left upright.

Buffaloes

eventually found their footing and took control of the game from this stage onwards. Ndoda Mthethwa found the equaliser right on the stroke of half-time when he tapped in a cross from Alli Matse.

It was a deserved score-line at the break, and 'Amathole' never relinquished their hold on the game at the start of the second inning.

Leopards were reduced to long range shots, and Fanelo was unlucky to see his powerful strike from about

> 45 yards miss the target by a few inches. Buffaloes made a

double change in the hour mark, bringing on Phiwa Dlamini for Fanelo Mamba and Siboniso Ngwenya for L i n d a n i

Matsenjwa.
The substitutions seemed well measured by Buffaloes'

coach Dominic Kunene as his team continued to frustrate Leopard.

Nonetheless, Leopard were still creating chances and almost took the

lead in the 61st minute when a header by Siboniso Sigudla bounced perilously close to the upright.

The response from Buffaloes came in the form of a goal in the 69th minute. A corner taken by Ali was met with a joyous header by Ndoda Mthethwa

to hand the army side a deserved lead. Coach Dominic played his cards once again,

removing the twogoal hero, Ndoda for a midfield player in Mpendulo Dlamini. The move seemed

deliberately designed to frustrate Leopard's attack, but it did not. Instead

it was the police side that reached for Buffaloes' danger area almost regularly. They launched attack after attack until they stunned the opposition deep into injury time. In the very last of two added minutes, Sifiso Matse scored a goal that broke Buffaloes hearts and sent the game to extra time. There was virtually no time to even restart the game after that goal as the referee soon blew for full-time.

Extra time was characterised by a huge penalty call by the Leopard bench when substitute Melusi Mkhwanazi was upended inside the box but the referee gave nothing.

The stage was then set for the sucker puncher that sent Buffaloes into the semi-finals.

The teams

Leopard - Phephisani, Muzi, Mlamuli Msibi, Sikhumbuzo, Machawe Dlamini, Siboniso, Sifiso, Bongane, Mcolisi (Zweli), Fanelo, Sifiso Matse.

Buffaloes – Nhlanhla, Linda, Wandile Maseko, Sihlangu, Siboniso Mamba, Lindani (Siboniso Ngwenya) M, Alli, Wandile Shabangu, Ndoda (Mpendulo), Sandile, Fanelo (Phiwa)

Langwe's strike ends Tinyosi honey-moon

Malanti Chiefs..... (0)1 Tinyosi FC..... (0)0

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

Soccer - The honey-moon is over! It had been a dream run in the Sincemphetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (SMVAF) Ingwenyama Cup for First Division side Tinyosi FC, but they eventually failed to clear the quarterfinal hurdle as they fell 0-1 to Malanti Chiefs at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

From what was a very poor game in the early stages, both teams failed to string together meaningful passes and their attacks were unfruitful as shots were either rushed from outside the box or missed the

target.

The only chance there was in the first half fell to Tinyosi's Bongumenzi Dlamini in the 24th minute when he came face to face with the opposition goal-keeper Xolani Mngometulu, but his attempt drifted wide of the target.

Aside from that, it was a wasted first 45 minutes for both teams as any sort of energy used could have perhaps been saved for a purposeful game later. The referee blew for the interval with the score deservedly at 0-0. Neither side showed signs of improvement at the start of the second half, but Malanti did attack a little bit better than they did in the first half. However, a goal seemed far-fetched.

In a bid to force improvement, Malanti brought on Thokozane Dlamini for Zweli Fakudze in the 63rd minute.

Coach Raymond Dlamini must have hoped for an immediate change in fortunes, but it was not to be as the game maintained its first half momentum.

Tinyosi followed suit by taking off a visibly tired Timothy 'Timo' Mathonsi for Simphiwe Makama two minutes later.

Following the changes, it was Malanti that had the first chance on goal. Asive Langwe was set free by a pass from Binwell Katinji, but Tinyosi's goal-keeper, Mzikayise Mtsetfwa came out of his line to produce a stunning save. A follow up shot by Katuyi sailed over the bar. Tinyosi did have a few breaks towards goal, but their final shots were not threatening.

On the other end of the pitch Langwe had another one on one with the keeper in the 84th minute but he once again shot straight at the keeper. It was a man of the match performance by the Tinyosi keeper, which underlined just how poor the players on the pitch were.

Langwe's miss was the last action of the match as the referee soon

blew to send the game to extra-time.

It was Malanti that started well in added time as for once they attacked with purpose.

They were duly rewarded when Langwe eventually found his finishing touch three minutes

into extra-time when he benefitted from a low cross by Sandile Mazibuko. Tinyosi had no response to this goal as their run in the competition came to an end. They were the only National First Division side remaining, and can take courage at the fact that they held their own against an established Premier League side in Malanti Chiefs.

The teams

CHIEFS

Malanti – Colani, Siyabonga, Jere, Sithembiso Simelane, Thembumenzi, Bhekisisa Shongwe, Zweli Fakudze (Thokozane), Sandile, Sifiso Mkhabela, Binwell, Asive (Sithembiso).

Tinyosi FC – Mzikayise, Simphiwe Makhanya, Msimisi, Steven Maluleka, Thembinkosi, Mangaliso Nkambule, Bongumenzi, Bongani Sibandze, Wandile, Timo (Simphiwe Makama), Thando Gule (Lwazi Dlamini).

We have big ambitions - Malanti's Raymond

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

Soccessia Social Section Secti

Speaking soon after a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Tinyosi FC at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday, Dlamini said this being a knock-out tournament, anything was possible.

He said they would not limit themselves in terms of being ambitious to go on and win the tournament.

"We just have to continue to apply ourselves the way we have been doing. I have confidence that if we play with intensity like we have done, we stand a good chance," he said.

The coach further pointed out that they created enough opportunities

against Tinyosi but were wasteful in front of goal.

"We knew that they would not be an easy opponent because we were playing them for the first time. We pressed them hard but they were resolute at the back. In the end, I think we deserved to win the game," he said.

Tinyosi FC's coach, Mpumelelo Ngwenya said his team faced a difficult opponent. He said the intensity of the game was high from the onset, further pointing out that he hopes his players learnt something from the game which would prepare them to face other big teams in future.

"We are still to play more big teams in other tournaments, and I hope the experience we gained in this tournament will help us in those matches," he said.



Malanti Chiefs' coach Raymond Dlamini.

Bucs NSC aims to raise 60k for new signings

BY JONGILE XUBA

Supporters committee is hoping to raise E60 000 to help the club sign new players in the transfer window.

This was revealed by the committee Chairman Themba Matsenjwa during a meeting held at the Shosholoza Hall in Manzini yesterday. "We need to assist the team sign new players in the current transfer window by raising the necessary funds in order to revive the glory days in the team by at least winning one trophy. We all need to rally behind the team by attending games in numbers and further give necessary support to both players and management committee," he said.

Meanwhile, the club's treasurer and secretary Thembinkosi Dlamini said the team needed money to beef up their current squad. He said due to the clubs financial woes they could not sign players as a team so they needed a boost from the NSC. "We have identified four players we want and they will cost us around E60 000 and we have verbally agreed with our new signings but we still need money to conclude the pend-



The new Moneni Pirates supporters committee wishes to make changes as they are hoping to raise money for new signings.

ing deals," he said. Dlamini further added that the MC was in talks with various investors to fill the vacant directorship post.

"Before the formation of the NSC we couldn't get any one to come on board since we didn't have all the right structures. Now that we have an NSC it will be easier to negotiate with potential sponsors since we now a have the proper structure," he said. The 'Sea Robbers' are currently without a Director since the departure of businessman December Mavimbela last year.

The National Supporters Committee

ChairmanVice Chairman - Tom Mamba
Secretary- Philile Simelane
Vice Secretary - Thoko Lukhele
Treasurer- Girly Matsenjwa
Members - Thembinkosi Dlamini
Mandla Tfumbatsa
Sthando Vusi Dlamini

Results

INGWENYAMA CUP

Malanti Chiefs after extra time

1 - 0 Tinvosi

Young Buffaloes

3 - 2 Royal Leopard

MTN NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION

3-0	Hub Sundow
1-1	Mbabane Cit
2-1	Madlenya
0-1	Milling
3-1	H.Tycoons
	1-1 2-1 0-1

ABSA PREMIERSHIP

Chippa United	2-0	Maritzburg United			
Black Leopards	0-0	Golden Arrows ***			

PREMIER LEAGUE

Watford	0-0	Burnley
Manchester United	2-1	Brighton & Hove Albior
Liverpool	4-3	Crystal Palace
Newcastle United	3-0	Cardiff City
Southampton	2-1	Everton
AFC Bournemouth	2-0	West Ham United
Wolverhampton W		Leicester City
ArsenaL	2-0	Chelsea

MITN NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION LOG

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Black Swallows	13	9	2	1	21	8	13	29
Milling	13	7	4	2	19	11	8	24
Madlenya	13	6	5	2	17	9	8	23
Rangers	13	6	5	2	18	13	5	23
Tinyosi	12	7	1	4	17	11	6	21
Seven Dreams	13	5	4	4	15	11	4	19
Tycoons	13	5	4	4	14	11	3	19
Red Lions	12	3	4	5	10	13	-3	13
Mbabane City	12	3	3	6	9	14	-5	12
Hub Sundowns	13	3	2	8	6	18	-12	11
T. Callies	12	2	2	-8	10	20	-10	8
City Warriors	13	1	2	10	5	18	-13	5

Fixtures

INGWENYAMA CUP

Somhlolo National Stadium

Highlanders vs Matsapha United 2pm Mbabane Swallows vs Sundowns

ABSA PREMIERSHIP

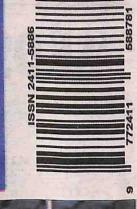
15:30 Polokwane City vs Bidvest Wits 15:30 SuperSport vs Bloem Celtic

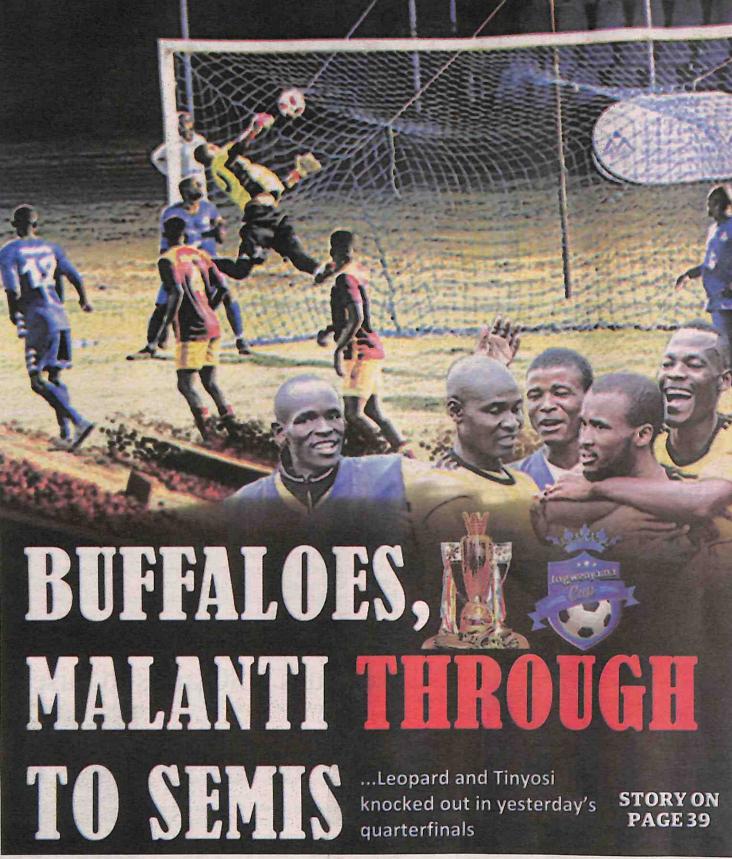
PREMIER LEAGUE

15:30 Huddersfield vs Manchester City Tottenham Hotspur









Lacazette, Koscielny fire Gunners to rousing derby win ONDON-Arsenal attempt to head Sokratis was grasping at air when Lacazette Emirates Stadium.

ways and reignited their bid for a top-four place in the Premier League with an excellent 2-0 triumph over Chelsea.

Alexandre Lacazette crafted a wonderful 14th-minute opener as Maurizio Sarri's side, not for the first time this season, wilted under the pressure of a London derby.

Club captain Laurent Koscielny's

returned to winning Papastathopoulos's volleyed pass six turned sharply and clipped past him minutes before half-time spun off his shoulder and beat Chelsea goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga.

It was the former France defender's first goal since rupturing an Achilles tendon last season and Chelsea were unable to respond.

Sokratis powered wide unmarked from an eighth-minute corner before centre-back partner Koscielny forced a point-blank save from Kepa, who

at his near post. Sead Kolasinac played Pedro haphazardly onside to almost loft an 18th-minute equaliser for Chelsea, although the left-back made himself more useful in attack with a delicate cross that Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang nearly converted with a wonderful overhead kick. Koscielny's fortuitous conversion off his shoulder was not so picturesque but it was nevertheless rapturously received at

Slack set-piece marking at the other end saw Marcos Alonso head against the post, pursuing a lifeline Chelsea scarcely deserved. Chelsea enjoyed sustained possession in the Arsenal half early in the second period but created little, with Koscielny in particular defending impeccably. Aaron Ramsey tried to prod the goal his endeavours deserved in the 64th minute after Kolasinac raided into the Chelsea box. Goal

Alexandre Lacazette.