



NOVEMBER 24, 2019

PRICE: E7.00 (VAT INCLUSIVE)

Reverend Grace Masilela bursts into song...



The Eswatini Conference of Churches on Friday celebrated its 90th anniversary where it honoured a number of individuals and institutions for their role in the advancement of the Gospel. Reverend Grace Masilela, who was one of the awardees, dances on her way to collect her award from acting Prime Minister Princess Lindiwe. (Pics: Fortune Ndlangamandla)



Barnabas **honoured** for role in church

Pages 4-5

EEC manager **arrested** in MD's absence

PAGE 2

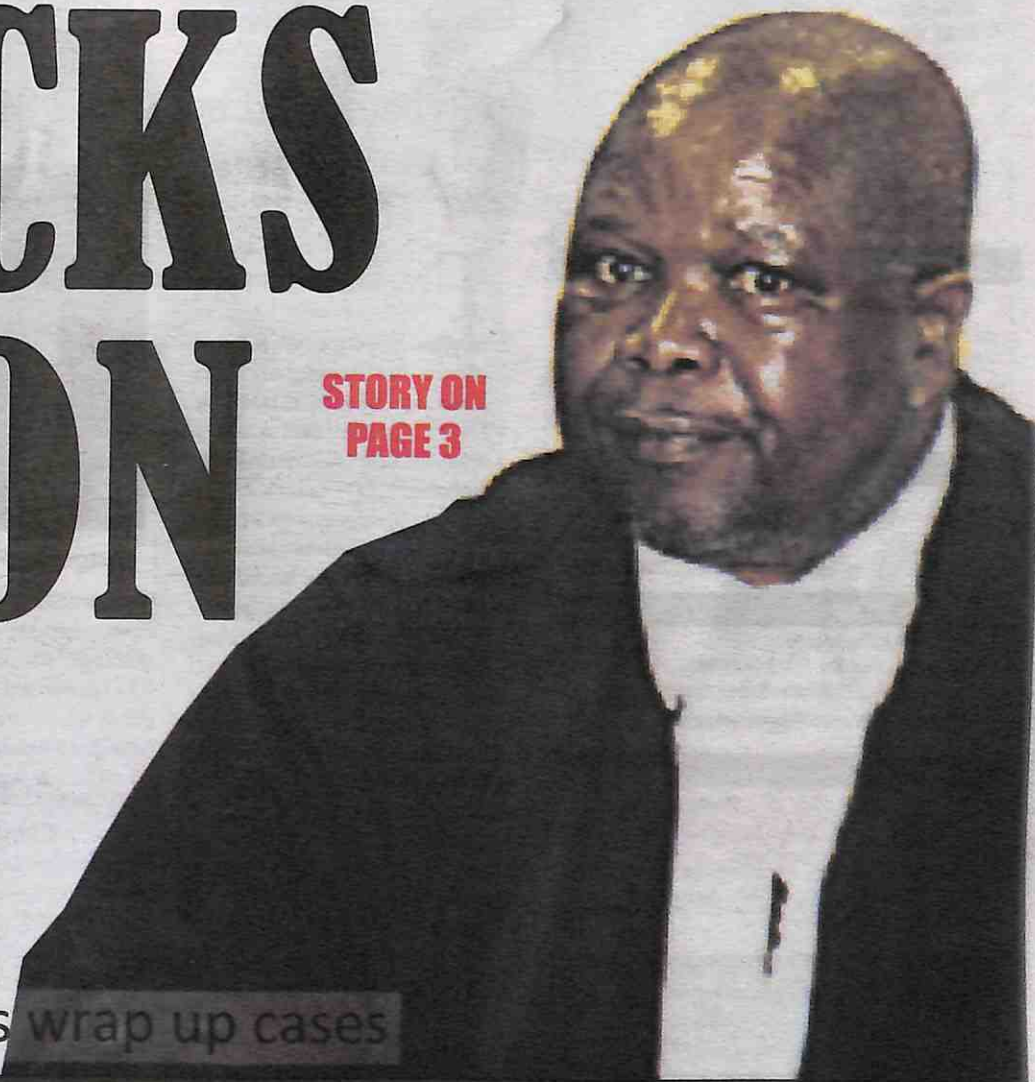
CJ CRACKS **WHIP** ON JUDGES

STORY ON
PAGE 3

● Issues directive demanding judges wrap up cases

We parted in good terms - FSRA Chair ■ Acting CEO announced

Page 3



EEC MANAGER ARRESTED IN MD'S ABSENCE

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

INVESTIGATION FINDINGS

The arrest of Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) Commercial Manager Ephraim Madoda Kunene in connection with the fraud that rocked the company took place in the absence of the Managing Director Meshack Kunene.

This was confirmed by the MD yesterday evening. Kunene stated that he was not aware of the arrests which included an EEC employee as he was away for nearly two weeks on a work related trip.

"Really? You know they have called me about the matter telling me that some individuals have been arrested but I am not aware who they are. I will catch up on Monday from the acting MD since I was away for two weeks. We have been to India and Turkey on company business where we engaged potential investors on the energy sector," he said.

The MD said he was accompanying officials and the minister of natural resources and energy in the mission which was almost two weeks.

Some officials from EEC had started speculating that the absence of the MD had something to do with rumours that he was suspended as they were not aware of his trip.

"It has been a while since we saw the MD and I only inquired yesterday when we heard of the arrests.

EEC indicated that the forensic investigation was concluded and a report presented to the Board of Directors with findings, conclusions and recommendations. The results of the audit, in part, detail the following: That there is no evidence in support of the report that EEC was hit by a fraud scandal involving an amount estimated to be

E400 million. However, the investigation found that EEC has suffered in millions of Emalangeni, though this falls way short of the initially reported figure, through irregular conduct, fraudulent misrepresentation and over invoicing. Several Eswatini-owned companies were implicated in the instances where fraud appears to have been committed, and in some

cases, EEC has incurred possible overcharges by suppliers.

The investigation further unearthed manipulation of controls intended for the safeguarding and issuing of stock and the processing of write-offs. The scope of the investigation covered the period between 2013 and 2018. Losses incurred amounted to millions of Emalangeni.

Some said he is abroad on a trip while some were suspecting that he might have been suspended because the arrested official may have sought his approval when doing the transactions," said one of the employees.

The MD, on the other hand, clarified that those who said he was away on a business trip were correct as he has not been suspended.

The commercial manager's arrest comes after a forensic audit into operations at EEC. At least two other suspects have been arrested and face four charges of fraud.

The three appeared before Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi after having been rounded up by the police for the four

fraud charges. According to the charge sheet, the highest amount allegedly siphoned from the company as included in one of the charges

stands at E475 000 with another amount standing at E75 000.

The company, Patco Sales, which deals extensively with the public utility company, has also been included in the charges.

Patco is a supplier of high quality transmission and distribution hardware as well as cable anchoring and control hardware and systems, fibre optics and copper splice closures. Its core focus is on distribution, transmission, telecommunications, agriculture, solar, to mention but a few.

The three suspects were on Friday remanded back to custody by the principal magistrate pending commitment to the High Court where they may seek bail.

ABOUT THE AUDIT

The Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) in 2018 instituted a forensic investigation into allegations of theft and/or fraud and/or corruption within the organisation. This followed an external auditors' report which raised suspicions to this effect.

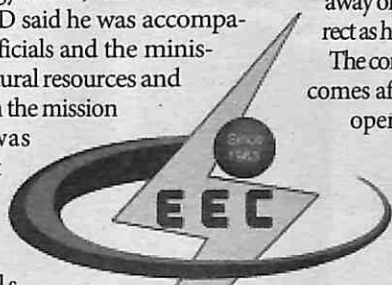
The Board of Directors and management engaged Prodogy, an experienced forensic service provider to

conduct an expeditious and comprehensive forensic investigation into alleged stock losses and procurement of material.

Prodogy was requested to, among other issues, to determine the existence and extent of the theft, fraud or corruption and as well conduct lifestyle audits of EEC officials and suppliers suspected to be involved in such practices. Certain EEC employees were placed on a precautionary suspension pending the outcomes of the forensic investigation.

Prodogy was engaged through the EEC tender procedures and was evaluated along with other bidders to conduct the investigation. On evaluation, they were found to be most competent company for this assignment.

It is important to state that Prodogy has been previously engaged in the country by other entities for investigative works prior to the EEC engagement. They continue to be engaged for similar work. The EEC remains satisfied with the performance and competence of Prodogy.



Eswatini Electricity Company

MANAGING EDITOR

Mbongeni Mbingo

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

P.O. Box 4385, Swazi Plaza,
Mbabane, Lilunga House 2nd Floor
Tel: 2404 4437, 2404 4436, 2404 9600
2404 9797, 2404 0706
Email: info@observer.org.sz
Website: www.observer.org.sz

HOW TO FIND US



NEWS REPORTERS

Zwelethu Dlamini - 7946 0392
Fortune Ndlangamandla - 7946 0386
Email: sunday@observer.org.sz

SPORT EDITOR:

Sibusiso Masilela - 7946 0404

SPORT REPORTER

Melusi Mlotso - 7946 0320
Email: sport@observer.org.sz

SCENE EDITOR:

scene@observer.org.sz

SENIOR SUB-EDITOR

Paradise Mamba - 7946 0328
Email: subeditor@observer.org.sz

NHLANGANO

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

SITEKI

Siteki Market Office No. 15
Wonderboy Dlamini
CELL: 7643 6549 / 7946 0358

PIGG'S PEAK

Kai Kai Building opposite
Shoprite, Office No. 3, Tel: 2437 1083
Sizwe Dlamini Cell: 7806 3590 / 7946 0377
Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz

MANZINI

Makhaya Convenient
Centre, Office No. 25
Bongiwe Dlamini
Cell: 7612 475 / 7946 0385
Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 25 05 7220

SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Thulile Nxumalo: 7946 0347/7806 3485
2404 8671/2404 8699
smm@observer.org.sz

CIRCULATION OFFICE

Mhlonishwa Dlamini:
7946 0394
circulation@observer.org.sz

No bad blood between FSRA Board, outgoing CEO

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) Board Chairman Stephen Simelane has quashed reports that the outgoing Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sandile Dlamini's contract was not renewed due to a strained relationship.

There have been reports that Dlamini's contract was not renewed after the board and the CEO had a fallout, pointing to the authority's retirement age policy being placed at 65 early this year before it was adjusted back to 60.

Truth

However, the FSRA chair has clarified that the institution took a decision that every employee who joined the company before March 31, 2019 would retire at 65 but anyone who would be employed from April 1, 2019 would retire at 60. "It is not true that we did not see eye-to-eye regarding the issue, there have been no arguments about that one. It was not directed to me because it doesn't affect me; I have always



Outgoing FSRA CEO Sandile Dlamini.

been working on contracts. Contracts have nothing to do with age," the outgoing FSRA CEO elaborated. He stated that those who were hired before March 31 would still retire at 65 and there were no plans to change this.

Contract

On Friday, our sister publication exclusively broke the story that Dlamini was leaving the financial institution. On Friday midday, the institution convened a press conference at the company's boardroom where Dlamini officially announced that his contract had not been renewed and as such he would be leaving at the

end of the month.

Dlamini announced that his last day in office is on Friday at 4pm. Dlamini joined the FSRA in 2009 when it was operating as a Registrar of Insurance and Retirement Funds (RIRF).

In an interview with the Sunday Observer, the chair said Dlamini's contract expired and the terms of employment state that each of the parties can decide to renew or not to.

"There was no conflict or whatsoever," he said.

Simelane continued to sing praises for Dlamini stating that the outgoing CEO was essential in transforming the institution to what it is now.

Gugu Makhanya acting CEO

The FSRA has confirmed that as of December 1, Gugu Makhanya will be acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

The position is yet to be advertised, confirmed Simelane, who said this would be done soon. In 2010, government transformed the entity when it amended the RIRF Act 2005 to regulate everything that falls under the non-financial services to include regulating savings and credit institutions, capital markets development and retirement and insurance funds.

PSPF probe not dead – FSRA Board Chairman

The FSRA Board Chairman Stephen Simelane last night said that the controversial probe into the Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) was not yet dead.

The probe was dropped by the FSRA after the intervention of Cabinet. Asked on this matter, Simelane said they were still working together with the outgoing Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sandile Dlamini on the issue. He stated that outside stakeholders influenced the stoppage. "I would have difficulty in making a comment as it is not a dead issue. It is still a burning issue (yindzaba lesabobotsa) so I can't discuss it on public forum. It is not over," Simelane said. He continued to state that when a regulator conducts an inspection, at the end a report is expected to be presented. He mentioned that the probe has not been abandoned, however, he could not state what would happen going forward.

CJ CRACKS THE WHIP

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

...orders judges to deliver judgements in two weeks

The Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala has put his foot down and issued a directive, ordering judges to wrap up their judgments before courts go for a break.

In a note he issued to judges, the chief justice reminded them that the maximum period to deliver any written judgement was three months from the date of hearing of any matter.

This means that judges have to wrap up all their cases within two weeks, something that has left many over them working round the clock to finish their judgments. However, legal eagles have reacted with mixed views to the directive that has now forced judges of the High Court of Eswatini to work tirelessly day and night, trying to meet their deadlines to deliver written judgements before the end of the current session.

Session

The notice released on November 14 directed to the judges has been received with mixed feelings by judicial officers, as the end of the current session by early December nears. This means the judges have about two weeks to wrap up cases heard at the beginning of the session. "Accordingly, you are directed to deliver all outstanding written judgements before the end of the current session of 2019," reads part of the reminder from the chief justice.

Sources close to the matter stated that some of the judges were working under pressure due to delayed cases to the extent that others hardly have tea and lunch breaks. Judicial officers who elected to grant interviews anonymously for personal reasons, agreed that releasing judgements earlier was in the interest of justice and litigants, they had different views on the notice and the timeframe considering the situation in the courts.

Some were in favour of the judges while some were in favour of the chief justice's notice.

Those in favour of the judges argue that the work is cumbersome for the judges, as they felt

they are understaffed combined with the shortage of courtrooms, forcing others to share.

"It is true the speedy conclusion of cases is in the best interest of justice as the litigants want to know the outcome of the cases as soon as possible, as some remain behind bars and want to know whether their appeals had been successful.

At the same time, because there is a pile of matters, it is unfair on the part of the judges. They have different matters per sessions to deal with those of the roll, contested roll and urgent matters, which means their work is added," said the judicial officer. According to the legal practitioner the workload was not the only challenge but also other factors contributed to the delays, including the nature of the matters and the number of witnesses to be paraded, shortage of resources as well as the need for further research.

Judgments

"For instance, some of the judges are sharing the courtrooms, you find that one can only use it twice a week as they are forced to give each other more days yet if they had enough courtrooms, they would be able to execute their duties well. I feel that this is unnecessary pressure that has been put to the judges, yet they must fully apply themselves on his analysis as opposed to them rushing to meet the deadline," added one of the judicial officers.

officers.

The legal practitioners stated that the judicial processes were themselves lengthy and contributed to the delay in the completion and delivering of judgements within the specified time. Others, however said justice delayed was justice denied, especially civil cases and saw the reminder as means to increase efficiency on the judges as there were certain judges who took a while to deliver judgements at the expense of the litigants. "Writing a judgement is not rocket science and should

not be a problem, both parties file heads of argument and then the judge makes decisions based on what has been filed before him

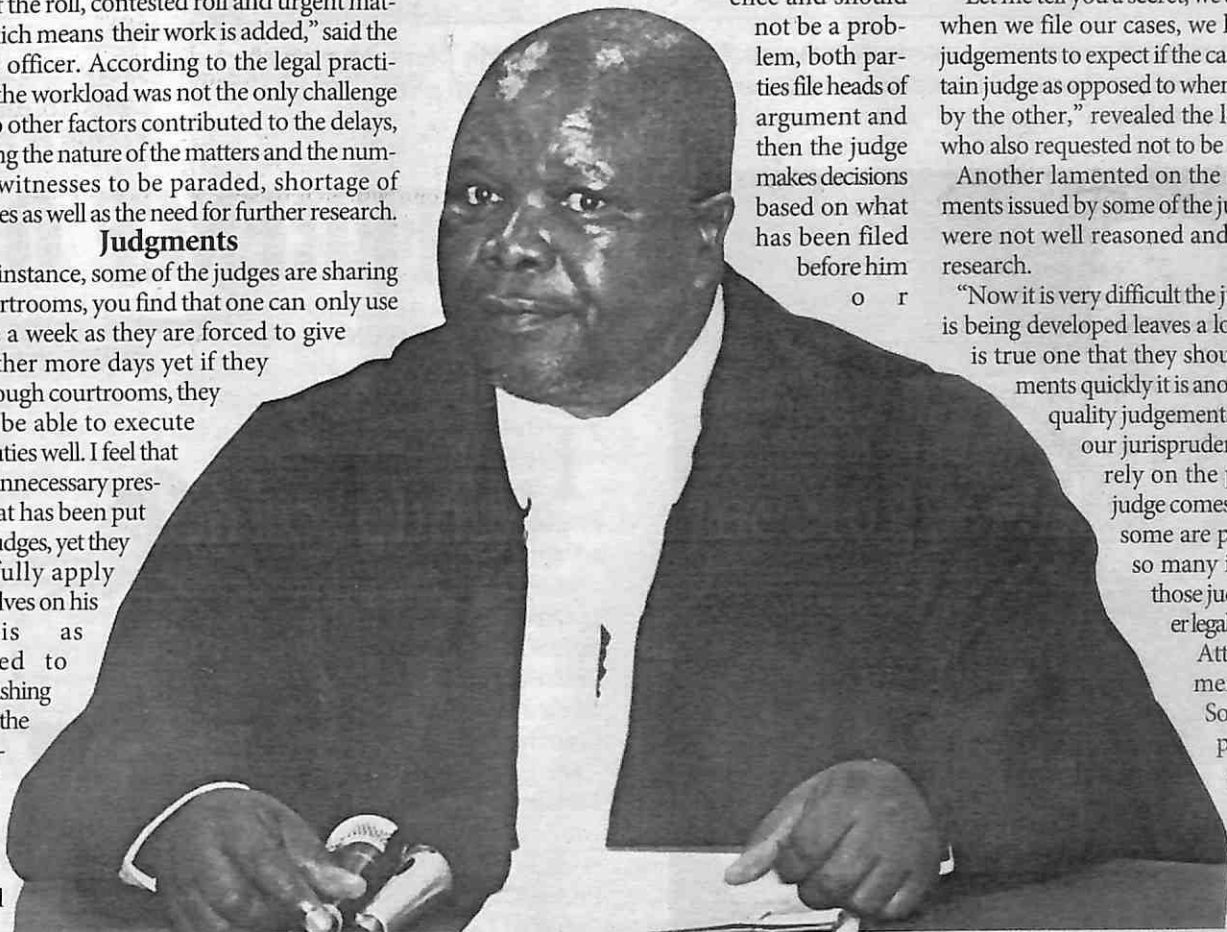
o r

her. The concern has been raised is that there are judges who take a while to issue judgements and that affects litigants," said the judicial officer. Another learned friend argued that the more the litigants stayed without knowing their fate as they are denied justice. The question that has been raised by the legal practitioners was how the quality of the judgements was going to be guaranteed if the judges were working under pressure, as there are already concerns on some of the judgements issued by the courts.

"Let me tell you a secret, we also choose judges when we file our cases, we know the kind of judgements to expect if the case is tried by a certain judge as opposed to when it has been heard by the other," revealed the legal practitioner, who also requested not to be named.

Another lamented on the quality of judgements issued by some of the judges, saying they were not well reasoned and have no further research.

"Now it is very difficult the jurisprudence that is being developed leaves a lot to be desired. It is true one that they should deliver judgements quickly it is another thing to issue quality judgements that will develop our jurisprudence. Now you can rely on the principle as each judge comes with his/her own, some are personal, there are so many issues involved in those judgements," another legal practitioner alleged. Attempts to get comments from the Law Society of Swaziland proved futile as the secretary general and the vice president could not be reached yesterday afternoon.



CJ TRAVELLING FIRST CLASS

Despite that government has taken a stance on cutting costs on external travel by cancelling first class flights, the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala is travelling first class instead of business class.

According to a document this newspaper has seen, the CJ's most recent trip cost a total of E158 410 while the accumulative costs of his trips in this financial year is now at E548 669.

This has already raised concerns among judicial officers, as well as other public servants who see this as watering down efforts to resuscitate an ailing economy.

Notably, during the Editors' Forum Breakfast Meeting with the Prime Minister held on Wednesday at Sibane Hotel, the prime minister said government had contained expenditure on external travel.

"Mechanisms and appropriate structures have been put in place to monitor and evaluate all external travel – these have indeed been enhanced to ensure that only assignments of national importance are embarked upon by civil servants.

Questions

"The deputy prime minister now reviews and signs-off all travel requests that have been evaluated by PPCU and examined by the Cabinet Sub-Committee. Government external travel per diem rates are also being reviewed in order to generally reduce the incentive to travel," he said.

Government's Spokesperson Percy Simelane when asked on the CJ's trip, referred questions to the ministry of justice, saying the CJ's bookings for flights are handled by the ministry.

"His bookings and funding falls under the justice ministry. Kindly take it up with them," he said.

Simelane, however stated that external travel was normally approved by the prime minister and the deputy prime minister when the premier is away, or he is the one travelling.

According to the document this newspaper has seen, the CJ's trip was to attend the Golden Anniversary of the Supreme Constitutional Court of Egypt, which was held in Cairo from the 18th- 22nd October 2019.

As per the document, the chief justice is said to have pocketed at least E112 260 as transit and conference allowances in the financial year and his trips had cost E373 409 as the accumulative cost.

This follows that exactly a year ago government committed to financial prudence and control measures following the financial and economic challenges faced by the country.

The first control measure that government put in place was to cut on external travels within government to spend as little money as possible.

"The prime minister, deputy prime minister, cabinet ministers, presiding officers, principal secretaries and all others in the same category

will no longer travel first class but in business class when flying on national duties. All other public servants will fly in economy class," said the Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini in his November 2018 statement.

History

The concerns, therefore emanated from the document which suggests that the CJ disregarded this control measure and travelled in the first class.

The trip was in honour of the invitation of the CJ to attend the anniversary celebrations which marked the significant hallmark in the history of the Egyptian Judiciary and constitutional system of their people and land.

The celebration was justified as one that would help promote international cooperation amongst jurisdictions where they will convene, converse, deliberate, and share ideas as well as reflect on the special status occupied by the Supreme Constitutional Court of Egypt throughout the 50 years.

Government Spokesperson Percy Simelane said government had not yet changed from its stance on the travels, which suggests that travels in the first class were still cancelled until further notice. Simelane then referred further questions to the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs. Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Communications officer Ncobile Dlamini confirmed that the CJ's overall expenditure on trips now stood slightly above E500 000 as at the time of the trip to Egypt.

She said this was the cost for the trips for this financial year.

Investigation

However, this trip has been roundly criticised by judicial officers, who question the allowances of the CJ's bodyguards. Questions have been raised on how the CJ claimed a conference allowance of five days when the celebrations took only three days when he reportedly arrived in Cairo on October 19 and returned home on October 21.

"The CJ was given two-day transit allowance of E7 000 and he should have received a two-day conference allowance since he only spent two days in Egypt which amounts to four days. However, he was paid a conference allowance of five days. This does not correspond to the subsistence allowance of his bodyguards, which was claims for four days. This needs to be investigated," questioned one of the officers.

Dlamini referred further questions to the minister. The minister was asked to justify why the CJ travelled on first class against the government stance, and was also asked to clarify the payment of the conference allowances against the days he allegedly spent in Egypt.

She was also requested to clarify why the allowances of the chief justice's bodyguards were higher than that of the CJ when he is superior them.

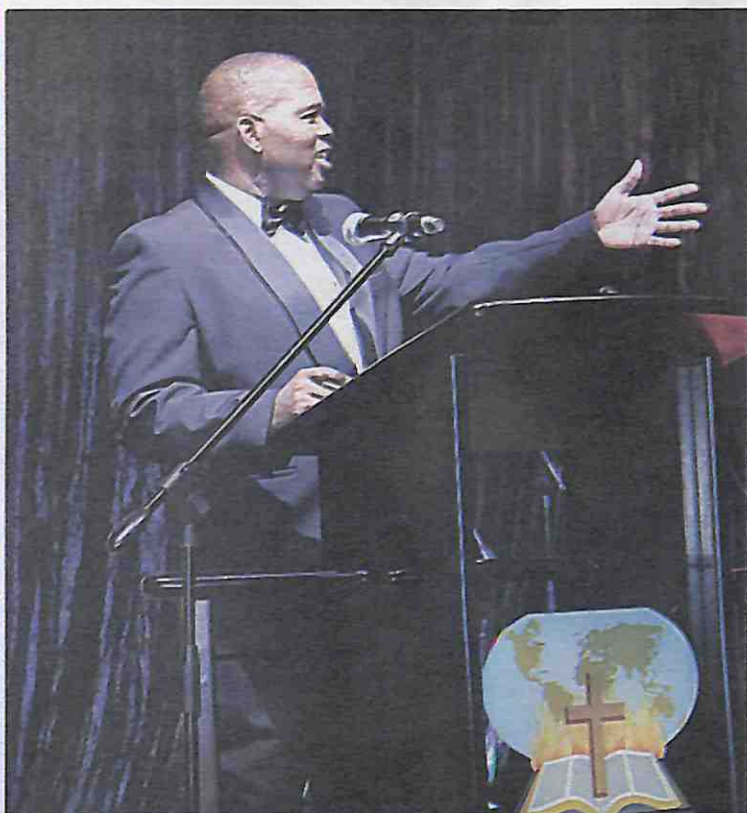
The communications officer said the minister was out of the country and could respond to the question this week.



Some of the people who received awards at Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre during the 90th Anniversary of the Eswatini Conference of Churches pose for a group photo. (Pics: Fortune Ndlangamandla).



Daughters of the late former Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Barnabas Dlamini, Busisiwe and Fikile taking a selfie as the event proceeded.



Eswatini Conference of Churches President Bishop Stephen Masilela addresses the audience.

CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

The Eswatini Conference of Churches has honoured the late former Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Barnabas Dlamini for his role in the advancement of the Gospel in the country.

Dlamini was honoured on Friday night at Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre during the 90th Anniversary celebration of the Conference of Churches.

The guest speaker was the Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini, who was however represented at the event by Minister of Home Affairs Princess Lindiwe.

Men of God, well-known and unknown came from all four corners of the country to witness the colourful celebration.

Although this was a celebration,



Minister of Home Affairs Princess Lindiwe delivers the keynote speech on behalf of PM Ambrose Dlamini.

the ambience did not resemble such an occasion, as most of the attendees hardly danced to the performances of Fakazi Samuels and Nothando

Global University College

GRADUATION 2019

City Guilds City University Science & Technology LUSAKA ZAMBIA Cambridge International College ICM

7th DECEMBER

Global University

DATE: SATURDAY 7th DECEMBER 2019
VENUE: GLOBAL VILLAGE GUEST HOUSE
TIME: 09:00 AM

Congratulations Class of 2019 on our 3rd graduation ceremony the future is in your hands

LEARN AND LEAD!!!

JAN 2020

Government is fresh from receiving massive criticism in the past few weeks over the purchasing of a fleet of motor vehicles, the Minister of Home Affairs Princess Lindiwe has come out to state that the country welcomes criticism.

The minister was representing Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini at Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre during the 90th Anniversary of the Eswatini Conference of Churches (ECC).

The minister mentioned that His Majesty's Government remained committed to achieving sustained economic growth, thus providing the nation with a conducive environment for the continuous improvement of people's livelihood.

"We are always open to advice and constructive criticism as it allows us to realign our strategies to meet the needs of Emaswati and achieve steady and sustainable growth," she explained.

She said government launched a Strategic Roadmap early this year, which serves as a master plan for all efforts towards improving the economy. The overriding purpose of this plan is to provide Emaswati with more opportunities to succeed and flourish, allowing them to develop competitive skills that will set the country on

Government open to constructive

the path to achieving Vision 2022.

"I have great confidence in the ability of the Kingdom of Eswatini to pull through its current challenges and achieve sustained economic growth. As long as we remain focused and stand united, I have no doubt that the best is yet to come for Eswatini," the minister elaborated.

She mentioned that Emaswati must protect the unique advantages of peace and stability anchored in our long standing cultural values.

Passionate

The Church has to continue nurturing our young people into a new generation with a sense of national identity, who would also be passionate about God and committed to the well-being of our communities.

She also appealed to all churches in the Kingdom of Eswatini to once again lead the 'Clean Eswatini Campaign' that was launched in July this year.

The minister expressed that on Friday it was a joyful moment not only for the Conference of Churches but the entire Christian fraternity in the country – a

moment to mark the 90th anniversary since a meeting of most missionaries working in Eswatini established a permanent and unified body of missionaries called 'The Swaziland Missionary Conference', which later transformed to 'Eswatini Conference of Churches' prior to independence in 1968.

She said the Conference of Churches has made a telling contribution to the sustenance of national peace and stability and continues to be a beacon of light, embracing tenets of social welfare, community and national development.

"You have truly lived to the true calling and values of Christianity, and demonstrated the love of Jesus Christ over the past 90 years by engaging in many projects of national interest and development, while winning lost souls to God," the minister explained.

She proceeded to add that Eswatini is a proud nation that holds dear to her heart the banner of peace - strongly pegged to the need to consistently develop the lives of all Emaswati.

"There can be no development without

REVEREND GRACE MASILELA'S CORNER



Reverend Grace Masilela dances on her way to collect her award.

HONOURS EX-PM

Dlamini, except for a few who could not resist the good music dished out. At some stage, the Master of Ceremony would remind the guests that they should cheer-up as the event was a celebration not a sombre church service. But, to their credit, the dress codes matched the red carpet setting.

The former PM was given an award with 10 others for being the pioneer of the Christian faith. He is the country's longest serving government leader as he served 17 years as premier, through three full terms and one in part.

It is no secret; Dlamini was known to be a staunch Nazarene Church member. Completing the list of pioneers of the Christian faith were David Hynd, Dr Samuel Hynd, Reverends Kaiser Fakudze, Sikhova Msibi, Alfred Kunene, Isaac Hleta, Meshack Mkhwanazi, A.B Gamedze,

Simon Mahlalela as well as Amos Matsenjwa, respectively. Dr Dlamini's award was collected by his younger daughter Busisiwe Johnson, who was accompanied at the event by her elder sister, Fikile Gama.

In a short interview with the Sunday Observer, the visibly excited Busisiwe said it was an honour for them that their father could be recognised for his work in the church. Honoured for distinctive leaders at Eswatini Conference of Churches (ECC) were Reverends Nicholas Nyawo, Johannes Mazibuko, Aaron Matsebula as well as Bishops Stephen Masilela and Robert Kasaro. Health Principal Secretary (PS) Dr. Simon Zwane collected Matsebula's award.

In an interview, he said Matsebula was his spiritual father from Free Evangelical Assemblies Mbabane Branch.

Out of 500 guests, Chief Gija only one in traditional attire

Notably, Manzini Regional Administrator Chief Gija was the only one who was in traditional attire (imvunulo) during the event.

Close to 500 people attended the event but they were either dressed formal or smart casual. There has been an unproved conspiracy that Christians do not want to associate themselves with traditional attire, however, over the years, some congregants wear traditional attire.

Worth noting, is that the reason why almost all of the people did not wear traditional attires could be because of the theme colour. Also spotted at the event was former Principal Secretary at the Home Affairs who is now Lubombo Regional Secretary Pastor Anthony Masilela.



Manzini Regional Administrator Chief Gija welcoming bretheren to the Manzini region.

Bishop Nash, Rev Masilela cheer them up

Founder of the Divine Healing Ministries Bishop Nash Shongwe and retired Reverend Grace Masilela were at their normal cheerful mood as they collected their awards.

Shongwe was honoured for distinctive service in Christianity. There were loud screams and applause from the floor as Bishop Nash was called to receive his award. He was awarded together with Apostles Justice Dlamini, Jethro Malindzisa, Elliot Sihlabela, Bheki Thwala, as well as Reverend Chong Yang Kim. Apostle Justice was not present; however, a church representative collected it on his behalf.

On the other hand, Reverend Masilela was awarded together with Dr Elizabeth Hynd and Jabulile Mabuza as women with distinctive roles in Christianity. Masilela was the Mbabane Church of the Nazarene branch preacher before she retired in 2017. After her name was called she danced all the way to the stage, much to the delight of the audience.

Meanwhile, organisations with distinctive role in Christianity went to the Bible Society, World Vision Eswatini, Scripture Union Eswatini, Challenge Ministries Eswatini, Voice of the Church, Eswatini Broadcasting and Information Services (EBIS) as well as the ministry of home affairs. Meanwhile, Reverend Johannes Mazibuko informed the audience that ECC was the country's eldest church body in the country. However, he stated that the body later split and other church bodies were formed.



Divine Healing Ministries founder Bishop Nash Shongwe celebrates after getting his award.

criticism – PM

peace, cooperation and mutual respect. This is where the church has a crucial role to play, and I am happy to say it has played this role with distinction," she said.

She pointed out that government continues to rely on the church and all peace loving Emaswati to instil the values and ethos of respect and unity of purpose as the country surges forward with the national agenda of uplifting the living standards of all people.

”

You have truly lived to the true calling and values of Christianity, and demonstrated the love of Jesus Christ over the past 90 years by engaging in many projects of national interest and development while winning lost souls to God

CAPPUCCINO

E25 for 2

*and get a free KFC mug

OFFER AVAILABLE AT MBABANE STORE ONLY
LIMITED MUGS AVAILABLE

...Director once took board to court

This is not the first time the former director has taken his board to court as he did so in January last year.

Back then, he moved an application at the High Court filed under a certificate of urgency to stop the company's Annual General Meeting that was scheduled for January 19 at Ngwenya, among other prayers. However, his application was dismissed by the court.

According to Tshabalala's founding affidavit, he was appointed a proxy by Zolile Tshabalala, who is the Executor of the estate of the late Norman Bishop Tshabalala.

The main reason that was cited by Zwelibanzi for his intention to stop the AGM was that shareholders of the company were not furnished with latest and past audited financials of the company for the shareholders to prepare for the meeting.

Further, he alleged that the shareholders had not been given reports on how the company had been operating in order to enable them to prepare for the meeting.

He argued that it was the duty of the chairperson of the board of directors to give the shareholders audited financials of the company at least three weeks before the AGM.

He averred that the failure of the board of directors to provide the audited financials meant the meeting was to be held without the pertinent documents on the running and functioning of the company and as such the shareholders were going to be in a position to contribute meaningfully and, therefore, the whole meeting was a sham.

He further sought an order to declare invalid a decision of the

board of directors to suspend him. In addition, Zwelibanzi sought an order compelling the board to produce all pertinent documents in relation to the administration and operations of the company.

Furthermore, an order directing the respondents to pay him a total sum of E12 000 in respect of outstanding sitting allowances dating back to February 2017.

The applicant alleged that the company has not been functioning well due to maladministration committed by the respondents.

Another issue alleged by the applicant is that of poor and or inadequate keeping of the company's records such as those of meetings, resolutions, and correspondences. The applicant alleged that while he was a director, he was denied access to records and minutes of meetings ever since chairperson took office in 2013 and forcefully took control of communicating with major stakeholders to the exclusion of other directors of the company. The veracity of these allegations is yet to be tested in court.

“He argued that it was the duty of the chairperson of the board of directors to give the shareholders audited financials of the company at least three weeks before the AGM

High Court rescinds, sets aside

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The High Court of Eswatini has rescinded an order restraining former Mchlageni Development Company Director Zwelibanzi Tshabalala from divulging confidential statements and defamatory allegations to the media.

Tshabalala is a shareholder and was appointed a proxy by Zolile Tshabalala, who is the Executor of the estate of the late Norman Bishop Tshabalala.

This follows that the company had received a final order interdicting both Tshabalala and the Times of Eswatini from publishing articles and/or information uttered and/or alleged by the



Former Mchlageni Development Company Director Zwelibanzi Tshabalala at the High Court last week where the order was set aside.

former that is defamatory, confidential and detrimental to the operations

of Mchlageni Development Company, among other restraints.

Setting aside the order, Justice John Magagula said the execution was stayed until the main application in the matter is argued and finalised.

“Upon hearing counsel for the Applicant and counsel for the Respondent an order is hereby issued as follows: the execution of the final order granted by the above honourable court of Friday September 20, 2019 is hereby stayed. The final order by the above honourable court is hereby rescinded and set aside that the main application in these proceedings be argued and finalised on its merit,” the judge ordered.

The order that has been set aside also

Registrar of companies noted issues of lack of transparency

The Registrar of Companies Msebe Malinga noted that there were issues of transparency and accountability in the company as raised by Zwelibanzi.

This is according to the minutes of a meeting held on March 14, 2019 at the ministry of commerce industry and trade with the board members of Mchlageni Development Company.

In that meeting, the registrar said though some issues raised by Zwelibanzi were not clear he noted from their presentations that there were issues of lack of transparency and accountability.

He informed the meeting that he would convene a meeting where both the complainant and the board would discuss the issues and settle for an amicable solution on a date to be set.

The Secretary of the Board Sanele Zwane advised that the former board

was removed through a court order in 2013 if they said that Tshabalala's family were the custodians of the company documents before the current board came into office in 2013.

He also told the meeting that every year the company held its annual general meeting besides the elective meeting that was held as and when necessary.

Misconduct

Zwane told the registrar that Zwelibanzi was no longer a director of the company and the reason was that he was removed for gross misconduct in that he was not cooperative in running of the affairs of the company.

“Tshabalala would perform duties outside his scope of duty.

He would perform duties of the secretary and would also approach clients and creditors of the company without authority.

He also interfered in the company's negotiations with clients without authority and would misrepresent the company and mess up deals and pre-contracts with clients,” he alleged.

Zwane further stated that Tshabalala also engaged lawyers and preferred charges against the company while he also served as a director.

“He lost the matter with costs which are due to the company.

However, the company was considerate in that it advised him to pay E17 000 which was half of the costs as awarded by the court.

Engaged

Tshabalala also demanded that the company compensates him for a flight ticket to the United States back home because he had been engaged by the company.”

Zwane confirmed that the resigned chairperson (Nomcebo Nkambule)

SA High Commission condemns police lies on petition delivery

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The SA High Commissioner (SAHC) Singo Curtis has condemned the police for depriving the PPAs the right to deliver a petition to his offices using him as a scapegoat.

The PPA is an assembly of various organisations inclusive of; political parties, progressive civil society organisations and labour unions under the banner of the Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA).

Curtis was responding to reports that suggested his office had said they would only receive the petition if submitted by a maximum four people, otherwise they will not receive it which he said was a lie.

This follows that the PPAs had on November 13 intended to deliver a petition to SAHC but their move was thwarted by the police who claimed they were not allowed to deliver it as a group by the commission.

“We never put conditions on how the petition should be delivered to us as we were not part of the planning of its delivery. We disassociate ourselves

from what was said by the police. We would encourage them to deal or resolve matters with their people without using us as scapegoats. The PPAs had alerted us about the petition and we were expecting them; we never put the conditions that we are said to have forwarded,” he said.

The commission stated that they believe in freedom of expression and was anticipating seeing the marchers deliver the petition, regardless of their numbers. Curtis stated that to date the SAHC had not received the PPAs.

Petition

This was also confirmed by Jan Sithole who was leading the march to the petition delivery.

“We want to confirm that the reason we did not deliver the petition to the South African High Commission was because the police said the South African High Commission told them that they can only receive the petition if submitted by a maximum four people, otherwise they will not receive it.

It should be recalled that this was only a leadership march and not a mass march, and the resolution was that it was the mandate of the meet-

ing that the entire leadership should deliver the petition,” he said.

Sithole said the purpose of the march was to sensitise the people and the public about the concerns affecting the protesting citizens and those they represent, sending four people would undermine the whole purpose and the mandate.

He added that if such was allowed it could create a serious precedence of allowing it in future, yet it was opposed to the mandate of the masses.

“I had made a follow-up with the Commission, after we called off the march and planned to do the delivery another day. I called South African High Commission and they were not only surprised that we were not coming but concerned when we told them that police said they had placed a condition, that was undemocratic. They expressed their disappointment at the untruths that the police blocked a petition service to them using their name,” he added.

He said the civil society was concerned about deliberate misinformation by leaders and custodians of Public Order in the country saying by this

action alone, which is unprecedented and unprofessional, the police have thrown away their integrity and trust that people and other countries and embassies have for them through the nearest window.

“The National Commissioner of Police (NatCom) has a duty to address this trust gap that has been created by his officers, he said.

Premature

Questioned on the demands and the content of the petition, Sithole said it would be premature to divulge these because they have not yet formally delivered it.

Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati, when asked on the matter said they were not able to comment as it was raised by a body of a higher authority.

“It is not in our power to comment on issues raised by SAHC as it is a very senior body representing a country.

The police are just a law enforcement agency responsible to maintain law and order, preserve peace and protect life and property,” she said.

Asked on the concerns by the PPAs, Vilakati stated that they had good relations with the organisation hence she believed the concerns were from an individual or a few people.

“I suppose this is an individual or few individuals' opinions not the organisation because we have a good understanding with the organisation. We have a good working relationship and we are open to them for discussions where they feel they are not happy with us. The NatCom keep saying that they should not hesitate to communicate with him about any uncertainties,” she added.

Probed on the allegations that the police had violated the groups' rights and the Public Order Act, she said in any violation of any right or Act an enquiry file for investigation was opened.

On the other hand, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Thuli Dladla said she was not aware of the matter and believed that if the office of the SAHC is not happy with the way this issue was handled, they would formally write to her ministry.

ex-director's gag order

restrained Tshabalala and his allies and agents or anyone acting on his behalf from setting foot and entering Mchlageni Development Company business at Ngwenya.

He was also interdicted from dealing in whatever manner with the company's stakeholders including but not limited to Galp Filling Station, banks, company shareholders and consultants.

Additionally, Tshabalala and his allies and agents or anyone acting on his behalf were interdicted from uttering defamatory statements and/or allegations against the company as such information would tarnish the image of the company.

The interim interdict order was issued on June 12 and Zilile was expected to

have had by June 21 showed cause why the court should not issue a final order.

Information gathered suggests that the main application was with regards to Zwelibanzi's move to divulge confidential and detrimental information to the media after he was dismissed as a board of director.

Attempts

He was allegedly frustrated by the court processes, the lack of the Law Society's Disciplinary Tribunal and failed attempts to get the company to fully comply with the Companies Act despite having reported some issues with the registrar of companies.

The merits of the matter are yet to be determined by the court.

was still a part of the board of directors which Tshabalala had raised as one of his concerns.

He also stated that the company was in the process of developing a policy which was part of the assignment given to Tshabalala and that the company was also compiling its consolidated memorandum and articles of association.

The secretary further said that there was a meeting with the Tshabalala family on a peace binding approach and advised the family to return and work with the company and avoid the courts.

On another note, the Treasurer Jeffrey Shongwe also confirmed that the board started its work in 2016 because there was no document in the company registers to work with.

He said only E8 000 was found in the company account and told the meeting that the company budget is presented to the members for their

approval.

"Minutes of the last meeting are always shared with the members for review. The company holds its annual general meeting and the company will also convene its elective meetings by way of special resolution at any time when needs arise," he said.

He also highlighted that the dividends are declared at the annual general meeting and informed the meeting that the company distributes its dividends every year-end and of late the company has also introduced a new system offering dividends monthly and will also share their annual dividends.

When contacted on Thursday, the registrar of companies stated that he called the meeting where both parties were present, but the meeting ended abruptly as the complainant was not cooperating, especially after it emerged that he had lost the case in court as he felt the registrar was biased.

Three cases still investigated by PAC

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is working tirelessly in investigating three cases following the mandate from the House of Assembly after presenting its report.

The PAC report was passed with amendments pertaining to three cases.

One such case is that of the Correctional Services which has since brought new information to the PAC.

It seeks a review of the PAC recommendation to have its budget cut following E4.1 million losses incurred from the Prison Poultry Extension Trading Programme.

His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) is appealing the recommendation by the PAC to have its trading account subvention cut by 50 per cent following the auditor general's finding that it operated at a loss, thus continued subvention is a drain to government.

Continued

Despite the auditor general having found that the Prison Poultry Extension Trading Programme continued to make a loss in the 2017 financial year of E4 119 629.72, which showed a significant increase from that made the previous financial year of E131 013.96, HMCS believes that the project is profitable.

This has raised the question why HMCS continued to request a subvention for the very same project which has not been profitable in three consecutive years.

According to the AG's report, the loss was a result of three factors, namely the operating deficit of E3.6 million, the death of seven cows valued at E119 700 and 6 853 unaccounted for broilers worth E342 650.00 which allegedly died.

The controlling officer disputed the AG's findings regarding the deficit and submitted that there was an error which occurred in the statement submitted to the Treasury Department, which has since been corrected.



PAC Chairperson Phila Buthelezi.

Regarding the dead cows and broilers, he submitted that the department tried its best to take care of the animals by providing them with the necessary medication, but they died anyway.

The PAC recommendation is that government cuts the HMCS annual subvention by 50 per cent since the controlling officer says the project is profitable when the auditor general's findings are that the project is making a loss.

The controlling officer was also urged to submit semi-annual reports to the AG proving the claimed profitability.

HMCS has since availed new information that was not divulged during the sitting of the PAC.

This was confirmed by PAC Chairperson Phila Buthelezi on Wednesday who said the House had mandated them to consider the new information and recommend what will be of benefit to government thereafter.

Buthelezi also revealed that the committee was also investigating two other cases involving government vehicles; one belonging to the ministry of tourism and one from Parliament.

US envoy, minister kiss and make up

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO

After a tumultuous couple of weeks, the diplomatic row between the United States Embassy and the country is now a thing of the past.

This follows a behind closed doors meeting between the US ambassador to the Kingdom and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Thuli Dladla.

The minister has followed up on her promise to meet with envoy Lisa Peterson following critical comments the ambassador made in the controversial purchase of the escort cars.

The minister has confirmed the meeting between the two and said they have kissed and made up. While contents of the meeting could not be ascertained as it was held behind closed doors, impeccable sources have hinted that the minister had fruitful discussions with the envoy, where the envoy reiterated her country's continued support to the kingdom while also availing her office on future endeavours of the country.

However, the minister could only confirm the meeting having taken place, refusing to disclose any details of their deliberations.

The minister stated categorically clear that it was a private meeting.

However, some concerned citizens are wor-



Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Thuli Dladla.

ried about the meeting resolutions not being shared with the public after Ambassador Peterson's comments in a public space.

The US is a major partner of the country when it comes to health and developmental programmes. The minister wanted to make it clear that Eswatini would not like to have the bilateral relations that exist between the countries to be broken.

The US is a major partner of the country in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and always deploys volunteers in educational, health and agricultural projects. These volunteers are normally attached under the US Pearce Corps programme.

...Tourism vehicle involved in accident while driven without keys

The auditor general found that the ministry of tourism incurred expenditure of E29 467 in respect of two unserviceable vehicles (GSD 027 TC and GSD 036 TC) which had been boarded.

"He further found that there was another vehicle registered GSD 034 TC, which had been recommended for boarding but was not and it was found lying idle in the ministry premises. It had been there since December 2016.

The auditor general could not ascertain when the car was last used since the ministry claimed the logbook had been locked inside the vehicle and the car keys had been kept in a safe, whose keys were allegedly lost," Buthelezi said.

The principal secretary submitted that indeed the vehicles registered GSD 027 TC and GSD 036 TC continued attracting charges, yet they were boarded. This was because the vehicles only stopped incurring these charges once they had been sold by public auction.

Regarding the vehicle with the registration GSD 034 TC, the PS revealed that the car keys were locked in a safe in the min-

istry, but he was told by the senior accountant who was supposed to be in charge of the safe that the keys to the safe were lost. What baffled him though was that the car was involved in an accident after it was reported that the keys were lost. It remains a mystery how it was driven out of the premises without the keys and efforts by the police to get fingerprints were unsuccessful as the car steering wheel, gear and door handles had been wiped clean after the accident.

The PAC had urged the PS to conduct an internal investigation on this matter and submit a report within three months after adoption of the PAC report.

However, parliamentarians felt that the principal secretary has in the previous year failed to investigate the matter and thus felt that the PAC must investigate it further.

The PAC is also investigating the matter of a Parliament vehicle that has vanished into thin air.

The Central Transport Administration general manager is said to have requested some time to continue investigating where the vehicle in question is.

ZION BIBLE COLLEGE 'RELEASES' 170 GRADUATES

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO

The Zion Bible College (ZBC) celebrated the graduation of students who studied the Diploma of Christian Ministry yesterday at the Divine Healing Ministries in Manzini.

The Principal Jerome Sangweni hosted the successful Graduation Ceremony, where 170 students graduated officially and were registered as congregation members, therefore writing a new history in spreading the gospel.

Students from 25 locations in the country participated in the glorious event after four years of their hard work and dedication. They were supported by their families, who were also present at the ceremony.

Distinguished guests were also present to witness the and beautiful performances were rendered by the Ekuphiweni Zion Choir.

President of the League of African Churches in Eswatini Bishop Samson Hlatjwako, who was the invited guest gave encouraging words to the graduates to preach and embrace the pure gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Graduates should not focus too much on using their knowledge to make money from preaching the gospel, but should look forward to educating people and spreading more on the word of God," said the president.

Hlatjwako read from the book of Matthew 10:1-12 and asked the graduates to learn and follow what the 12 disciples were taught by Jesus Christ.

He also encouraged the graduates to continue to learn under their ministries and not rush to be pastors.

Principal Jerome Sangweni said as the graduates were leaving, they should not feel like they were going to be forgotten and neglected as they have what they call ALUMNI classes.

Sangweni said this was the 13th graduation since the college was first established and has since seen 1 483 students graduate with diploma certificates.



The 170 Zion Bible College students who celebrated their graduation day at the Divine Healing Ministries yesterday. (Pics: Khetsiwe Khumalo)

He gave a kind gesture to the graduates by allowing them to use the college's hall for events that they may wish to host in future.

As a sign of appreciation for extra-ordinary service and dedication to the ZBC, John Mark was given a certificate for his hard work and support to the lecturers, students and other staff members.

Samuel Dvuba was given the Xaba Educational Award, which is given to the best attendant, best behaved and most dedicated student.

Speaking on behalf of the graduates, Enock Dlamini said they were very happy to have been associated with a college of such excellent work.

"As students we call forth other people to come see for themselves. To my fellow graduates, I say let us continue to plant a seed, go out there and feed other people what has been taught to us," said Dlamini.

The returning student representative, Ben Khumalo said ZBC had helped them through so much and as continuing students, they would like to invite people to register with the college.

A few of the graduates conveyed their happi-



Sifiso Dlamini, Nhlanhla Magongo, Bishop Samson Hlatjwako and Principal Jerome Sangweni follow proceedings.

ness and one Ellen Simelane, said she thanked God for having made it, as it was only by His grace that she was able to control there.

"I am very happy because for someone that was not as motivated about this from the beginning, I have managed to pull through and have learnt a lot. I am also thankful to my husband who has supported and pushed me," said Simelane.

Simelane said they were taught on certain topics and can easily differentiate between a Christian and someone not faithful. She said she learnt different things on, which she can now go around spreading the word of God to her own congregation.

Theminkhosi Khumalo, who preferred to be addressed as Reverend, said that he was really excited to be graduating and was thankful to God who prepared him and kept him to witness this day.

"We have achieved and we are very much thankful to the college for the opportunity. We will take all what has been taught to us and apply it in our daily lives, also considering what Hlatjwako has said.

"I trust we will blossom in our congregations and set a good example to our fellow congregants," said Khumalo.

The award recipient Samuel Dvuba said he was very much honoured to have gotten a spe-



Principal Jerome Sangweni and Academic Dean Sifiso Dlamini hand over Xaba Education Award to Samuel Dvuba.

cial award and said it came as a surprise to him. "I will continue to shine everywhere I go and spread the gospel according to what was taught to us here at the college," Dvuba added.



Ekuphiweni Zion Choir delivers soulful sounds that kept the graduates and guests entertained throughout the event.

BODY PARTS CENTRE & SPARES

MANZINI BRANCH: Former Indali Furnitures Building, Opp. Lihaga Flats
Contact BONGANI: 7612 8651, or Tel/Fax: 2505 9454 / 2505 9002

SERVICE KITS
&
WINDSCREENS
specials



SERVICE KIT:

- HONDA JAZZ/ HONDA FIT.....E790.00
- MADZA 2/3.....E699.00
- TOYOTA YARIS/ VITZ.....E670.00
- POLO 2003.....E600.00
- RUN-X/ COROLLA A E100.....E610.00
- TOYOTA HILUX D 4 D.....E600.00

OIL INCLUDED

WINDSCREENS SPECIALS:

- TOYOTA QUANTUM.....E850.00
- TOYOTA COROLLA 1988-1994.....E699.00
- TOYOTA COROLLA / RUN-X.....E799.00
- ISUZU 1987-2003.....E699.00
- HONDA FIT.....E999.00
- POLO ROUND LIGHT / VIVO.....E899.00

FREE FITTINGS

SADC civil servants in similar no CoLA predicament – PM

STORIES BY FORTUNE NDLANGAMANDLA

Eswatini is not the only country in the SADC region struggling to reward its public service with the cost of living adjustment, Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini told editors on Wednesday.

He stated during the Editors Forum breakfast meeting with the PM that other SADC civil servants have also not had an adjustment over the years. The Public Sector Associations (PSAs), who comprise the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT), Swaziland National Association of Government Accounting Personnel (SNAGAP), the National Public Services and Allied Workers Union (NAPSAWU) are demanding a Cost of Living Adjustment (CoLA) from government for the past three years.

The PM pointed out that the fiscal challenges were not unique to the country alone.

"Our first assignment was to stabilise the fiscal, in particular the cash flow and I must say that a lot of people are not aware that the issue we are going through as Eswatini is not unique to this country. By studying the region, you'll know that the regional GDP dropped to the average of about 2.6 per cent," the PM elaborated.

"Namibia, their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been negative and civil servants haven't been paid CoLA for at least three or four years now. That is the same thing with Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia so the entire region as we speak is in serious drought," PM Dlamini explained in his preamble remarks.

He mentioned that one major problem was the drought situation which has affected the region. He said serious drought crippled the agriculture sector, which is essential to economic growth; however, he stated that the country was slightly better when compared to countries like Namibia. He narrated that in a recent visit to Botswana early this month, Emaswati who have been in that country since February informed him that Botswana had not received any rains. Since it rained on the day the PM was in Botswana for President Mokgweetsi Masisi's inauguration, Eswatini nationals informed him that his

Govt is collecting taxes, it should give CoLA – Economist Sibiya

University of Eswatini (UNESWA) Department of Economics Lecturer Sanele Sibiya believes government should award civil servants the Cost of Living Adjustment because it was collecting taxes.

He said how the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was growing did not have an impact on CoLA.

He acknowledged that even South Africa, which is the richest country in the SADC region was having fiscal crisis, however, he stated that the challenges were not an obstacle to awarding CoLA. Further, Sibiya agreed with Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini that the SADC region's economy was struggling.

"GDP's issue has got nothing to do with awarding CoLA because government is collecting taxes," Sibiya said.

Sibiya noted that the awarding of CoLA may increase government's deficit, however, he stated that it would depend on how government would collect its taxes. He mentioned that in the country, the only challenge was that the economy was not managed well.

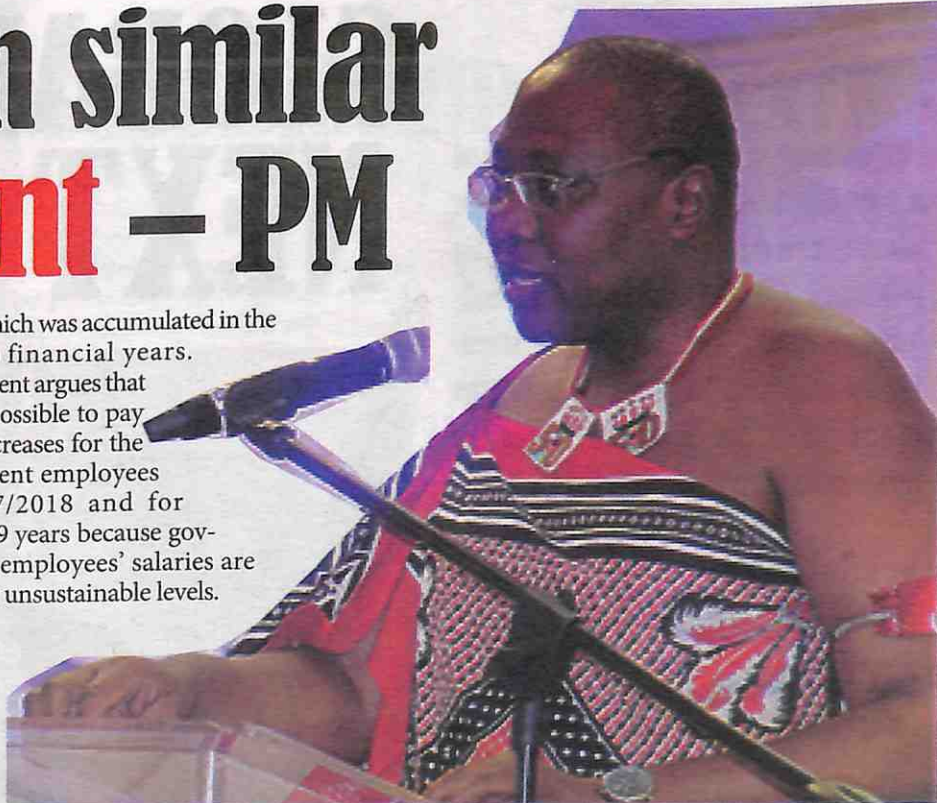
visit had brought rains. "They have been there for almost a year; it hasn't been raining, so what I am saying is that these economic challenges are really bad in our region. Maybe it has to do with climate change issues," the PM elaborated.

The month of November marks a year since the PM Dlamini's led 19 ministers inclusive of the Deputy Prime Minister Themba Masuku assumed office. They were sworn-in on November 6, 2018 after being appointed on November 2. On the other hand, the PM was appointed by His majesty King Mswati III at Sibaya on October 27, 2018.

Meanwhile, the PSAs claim that government owes them 14.4 per cent in respect of

CoLA, which was accumulated in the past two financial years.

Government argues that it is not possible to pay CoLA increases for the government employees for 2017/2018 and for 2018/2019 years because government employees' salaries are already at unsustainable levels.



PUBLIC NOTICE



EMPLOYEES NO LONGER WITH SRA



Khaya Vilakati



Nkosinathi Mkhwanazi



Dumisani S. Thwala



Mavela Dlamini

Members of the public and taxpayers are hereby informed that the above-mentioned persons are NO LONGER employed by the Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA). They therefore DO NOT represent the SRA business or interest and are NO LONGER authorised to transact on behalf of the Organisation

SRA Toll Free - 800 8000

”

Investment in health is imperative and a compelling affirmation of commitment toward achieving Vision 2022, Sustainable Development Goal 3, good health and well-being of all, with a special focus on reaching the most vulnerable people so that no one is left behind in efforts to end the three epidemics

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO

The Kingdom of Eswatini has taken keen interest in the activities of the Global Fund and ongoing grants are coming to an end in 2021.

The Global Fund team will be coming to the Kingdom next week to help the Eswatini Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) prepare for the applications for the next funding cycle.

This was revealed by House of Assembly Speaker Petros Mavimbela, at a Parliamentary workshop attended by ministers, for the Global Fund Activities in the country which took place at The George Hotel in Manzini this past week.

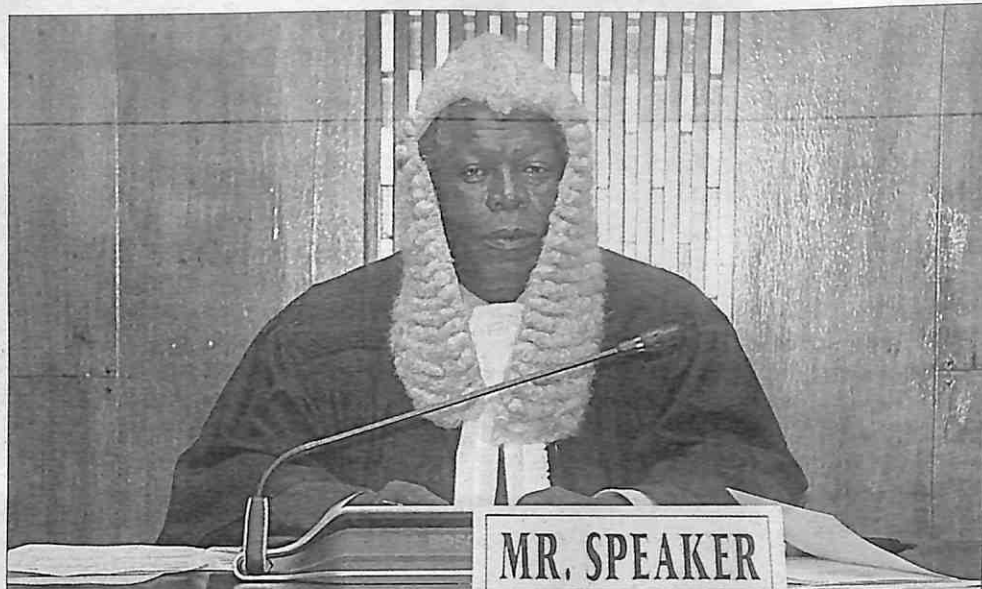
This was supposedly aimed at sharing information and empowering parliamentarians serving on the Parliamentary committees: Health, HIV, Gender and Development.

Investment

Delivering his remarks at the workshop, the speaker firstly hailed His Majesty the King for demonstrating leadership and commitment by making a contribution of US\$6m towards the Global Fund's recent replenishment in Lyon, France last month.

“Investment in health is imperative and a compelling affirmation of commitment toward achieving Vision 2022, Sustainable Development Goal 3, good health and well-being of all, with a special focus on reaching the most vulnerable people so that no one is left behind in efforts to end the three epidemics (AIDS, TB and Malaria),”

GLOBAL FUND TO PREPARE NEXT FUNDING CYCLE



House of Assembly Speaker Petros Mavimbela.

said Mavimbela.

Mavimbela applauded the CCM for mobilising resources from the Global Fund on behalf of the country to save lives; in the fight against HIV, TB and Malaria. He further applauded strategic partnership by Government, Development partners and civil society.

According to statistics given by the speaker, he said there was great need to refocus and improve data quality, planning, decision-making and oversight of health programmes targeting adolescent girls and young women who are disproportionately vulnerable to HIV.

Impacts

He challenged leaders and representatives of the people to take a closer look with a view to support and make sustainable impacts in the lives of the populace.

Highlighting the Global Fund processes to come was Vulindlela Msibi, Executive Secretary

of CCM Eswatini who said the next funding cycle will cover the period of 2022-2024. He said preparations were already in motion for the GFCT this month to prepare the country in developing the applications.

He further stated in his presentation that the CCM stakeholders had been engaged in the development of the three NSPs, by the MoH and NERCHA to prepare for the next applications.

Countries will be updated next month on disease burden; grant absorption, GDP and more.

Applications for Malaria, HIV and TB funding requests will be submitted by the CCM between March to May 2020.

In ending, the secretary said CCM played an important role of encouraging countries to implement sustainable programmes and support transition preparedness.

“Planning for sustainability is an integral part

of programme design and should be taken into account by CCMs when developing funding requests regardless of where they are on the development continuum and regardless of economic status,” said Msibi.

Msibi said implementing successful transitions takes time, and therefore CCMs should encourage early and proactive transition and sustainability planning among partners and with the government even multiple allocation cycles prior to transition from the Global Fund financing.

Here are the Global Fund achievements:

- HMK pledged \$6m to the recent GF replenishment in France – 2019 (Eswatini one of 25 African countries to pledge).
- HMK launched the Eswatini – Global Fund strategic partnership; grant agreements; 2018-21.
- HMK launched the End Malaria Fund in May 2019- the country at elimination stage.
- Government signed agreement with Eswatini and the Global Fund - Privileges and Immunities (2011) – protects the fund's assets.
- Cabinet decision (2019) supports CCM operations and CCM line ministry is the Prime Minister's Office.
- Grant absorption across the three grants improved; currently over 90 per cent (2019)
- Eswatini also participates in Six Regional Grants- complement national grants (2014-2021)
- Improved CCM governance processes and stronger oversight to enable Eswatini meet the six minimum requirements and eligible to access Global Funds resources (since inception).
- Global Fund's hits the target of US \$14 billion – resources mobilisation for the three diseases – Eswatini along with over 100 countries will benefit (2019).
- Sustainability Transition and Co-financing (STC) Committee established to develop sustainability strategy beyond Global Fund – (2020).

5 MONTHS LATER, T&S ENTERPRISES' RETRENCHED STAFF UNPAID

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Swaziland Shopping and Retail T&S Enterprises (Pty) Ltd have been reported to the labour commissioner of Labour for failing to pay terminal benefits of the seven retrenched workers.

In the letter delivered to the ministry of labour and social security, it is stated that one of the employees has been rehired after three months.

The retrenchment exercise was communicated to the workers through letters dated June 22, 2019, titled 'Letter of redundancy, served to the workers, signed by the shop Manager Alec du Pont.

“The current situation and the volatility of our business have compelled the management to review its organisational structure and manpower requirements,” reads one of the letters.

Assistance

After the long wait to get their monies and futile efforts to get responses from management on when they would be paid, the staff decided to seek the assistance of the commissioner of Labour.

In a letter dated November 15, 2019, the workers mentioned that they were seeking assistance and interference of the ministry in solving their issues.

“Again we have since noticed that our Eswatini National Provident Fund (ENPF) funds were not transferred to the ENPF since the year 2018 until termination date yet they were deducted from our salaries,” reads part of the letter.

The workers complained that the company had promised to pay them sooner after they were retrenched.

Benefits

The letter, which has all the seven workers' signatures, states that they have noticed a trend of postponement of the payments telephone conversations with Du Pont. They alleged that Du Pont has been promising week after week that they would be paid their terminal benefits.

“Information gathered on the meeting held

on July 23, 2019 with Du Pont, he told us that both Eswatini Revenue Authority and labour department have since concluded with calculations of the monies and they are yet to be paid soon,” reads part of the letter.

The workers continued to add that from that meeting, they made numerous phone calls to Du Pont upon realising that there was now foul play by the company as months passed by without any payments thus they decided to involve the ministry.

Parties

The staff added that lately their calls were not being answered, due to financial constraints they are unable to travel to T & S Enterprise for a meeting or getting updates on the matter.

“This situation is now depressing, frustrating and draining as we cannot send applications for new jobs or support our dependants,” the workers stated.

The workers also mentioned that they were convinced that the company was financially stable because they noticed that a liquor shop was opened in the gazebo area within the company's premises. They view this as growth of the company. The retrenched staff said despite claiming being cash-strapped, the company has been having late night parties on weekends within its premises.

“Moreover, there has been an additional staff hired. These activities are a clear indi-

cation that the company is not going through financial crises,” reads the letter.

Furthermore, the workers pleaded with the ministry treat their matter seriously.

T&S Enterprise Director Muzi Magagula blamed the delay in the payments on the country's fiscal challenges. He mentioned that the company had been liaising with the commissioner of labour regarding the matter.

“I am hoping that by the end of this month the matter would have been finalised. We have also been disturbed by the government cash flow crisis because we were also depending on its payments,” he explained while emphasising that the workers would be paid before month end.

In a previous interview, Magagula said there was nothing sinister with the retrenchments as it was according to labour laws. He said the company had followed stipulated guidelines, like getting correspondence from the ministry of labour and social security.

On allegations that there were moves to open an office at Sidwashini, the director stated that this was ludicrous, as one can open as many companies as they can.

“The company will not close, it is a big company,” he said.

Assuring his clients not to panic, Magagula stated that the retrenchment process was a cost cutting exercise.

T&S
ENTERPRISES
(PTY) LTD

'GOVT MISLEADING NATION ON SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS'

STORIES BY FORTUNE NDLANGA-MANDLA

Government has failed to keep its promise of paying all students their allowances before November 20, 2019.

On November 18, government through the ministry of labour and social security issued a statement claiming that books and uniform allowances had been paid from November 15 and all students were expected to have received their allowances by November 20.

The statement also added that the normal monthly student allowances would be paid as scheduled on November 30.

Student Representative Councils (SRC) from four tertiary institutions have come out to accuse government of misleading parents and the public on the payment of the allowances.

These institutions include the University of Eswatini (UNESWA), Eswatini Christian Medical University (ECMU), Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT), as well as the Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU).

Challenges

UNESWA SRC President Lunga Dlamini said as students they were sick and tired of Ministry of Labour and Social Security Principal Secretary (PS) Thulani Mkhalihi's unchallenged misrepresentations. The President mentioned that this was because falsehoods without any challenge were taken as the truth.

"Why didn't the Eswatini Broadcasting and Information Services (EBIS) after interviewing the PS then interview the SRCs of all the institutions?" Dlamini said rhetorically.

He said about 30 per cent of students had not received their allowances at UNESWA, adding that only five per cent may have submitted invalid bank accounts.

He continued to state that it was just propaganda that government had been using to paint a bad picture about students once they engaged in demonstrations demanding what rightfully belonged to them.

President Dlamini also mentioned that PS Mkhalihi should have gathered all the facts before issuing the statement, which is misleading. The leader added that some students were

writing exams on empty stomachs, meaning they have little or no energy to study which will lead to poor grades, to be precise it will lead to failure.

"Some students who their parents or relatives support them get confused by government's tactics and it breaks the trust between the students and that financial supporter since they believe that everyone got allowances," Dlamini explained.

On the other hand, LUCT SRC President Sibusiso Mathebula he said government only paid 70 per cent book allowance while a lot of Students have not received the book allowance and the monthly allowance.

Disappointment

"It's so disappointing for ministry of to run to the media with fabrications claiming to have paid all students monthly and book allowances, while at LUCT students many students have never received anything from the government, not even the E1 690 cheque," he elaborated.

Mathebula wondered if the ministry of labour and social security have competent employees or the one who are responsible for paying LUCT students didn't care.

He said only 70 per cent had received the book allowances.

"Then my biggest question goes to PS if" is proud of himself", he ever asked himself the very important question about how the students survive without the saying allowance for four month," he said.

The leader proceeded to add that students wonder if they would ever have a department that cared about the well-being of students.

"We have lost hope in our ministry but we will never stop praying for a competent ministry," Mathebula mentioned.

Meanwhile, ECMU Secretary General Samkelo Dlamini stated that government was not honest when it announced that all students had received their allowances.

"At ECMU, we have students who have never received allowances this semester, while in the statement; the figure of students who have not received allowances is not stated. They have not received either the book or monthly allowances," the SG mentioned.

He added that some of the students received book allowances and not personal allowances,

which PS Mkhalihi has never mentioned in any of the press briefings.

He said on Thursday, he was at the ministry to inquire about the allowances and he was told that the other students would get their money after the list of students who had not received allowances had been sorted.

"If the ministry was transparent, it was supposed to mention these challenges. Last time government claimed that the error was with students' accounts but some of the students have received their book allowances through the same accounts," Dlamini argued.

"To be honest with you, I can say 80 per cent have received their allowances but that doesn't mean we should forget about the other 20 per cent because they are also students like everyone and they deserve to be given what I believe belongs to them," SG Dlamini elaborated.

Arrest

Moreover, SANU SG Colani Maseko disputed the PS's statement, adding that students had lost faith in him and the ministry of labour and social security including government.

"On December 2, exams are starting at SANU without our book, practical and monthly allowances. They want us to fail and they don't care about our welfare as students. We are hungry, frustrated, stressed and confused as SANU students," the SG explained.

SG Maseko also added that it pained them a lot that their beloved sister Phephile Sifundza was still lying helpless in hospital. Therefore, she may miss the exam and never walk again. She decried why no one had been arrested and charged and, wondered why administration was not showing any concerns.

He said about 60 per cent of students had not received their allowances. Maseko said it was not true that the delay was caused by students who submitted invalid accounts as the same accounts were used in August.

Ministry of Labour and Social Security PS Thulani Mkhalihi.

Some students submitted IDs as bank accounts — ministry of labour

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security, through its Communications Officer Nompilo Mncina has come out to blame the students for submitting invalid bank accounts.

Mncina said some of the students submitted wrong bank accounts, while some submitted their National Identity (ID) numbers as their bank accounts. "The accounts department is working on it, they are even working overtime to ensure that all students get their allowances," she said.

However, she could not give the figure of students who have not received their allowances. As she was reached on Friday evening, she said officers who could assist with the figures had knocked.

However, the version by the mouthpiece was vehemently disputed by the different Students Representative Councils (SRCs). They said Mncina was economical with the truth.

On the other hand, in September, most institutions embarked on jointly class boycotts over the disbursements of their allowances. After the series of strikes which resulted in the closure of four institutions, government successfully negotiated that the allowances be disbursed monthly.

Delay unfair on workers — Unionist Fundizwi

Unionist Fundizwi Sikhondze has said the delay by T&S Enterprises (Pty) Ltd to pay terminal benefits to the ex-workers was not fair on the side of the workers.

Sikhondze said the workers were supposed to get their benefits from the day after their last day at work.

"There is unfairness; the matter has dragged for too long. Payment of benefits is supposed to be soon or reasonable," he said.

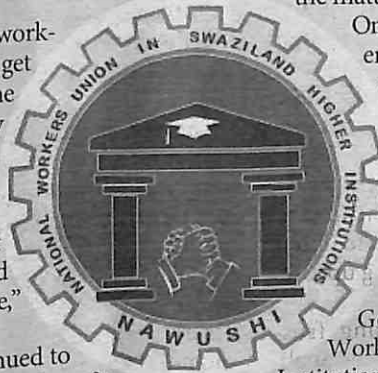
The unionist continued to add he believed that the benefits should have at least been paid within 30 days after the staff members' contracts were terminated. Sikhondze mentioned that the earlier payment would help the workers to survive so going for months without the benefits was unfair. Sikhondze advised the workers to approach the Conciliation Mediation and Arbitration Commission (CMAC), among other concerns; they should state that the delay was too unreasonable.

"When an employer is about to retrench, they make projected calculations detailing how much the exercise would cost the company," he said.

Sikhondze also hoped that the ministry of labour would intervene as per powers bestowed on the Labour Commissioner. He said the Labour commissioner had the power to refer the matter to court.

On the issue of complaints by workers that the labour officers were in bed with most employers, Sikhondze raised concerns that with the high rate of corruption in the country, there was a possibility that individuals entrusted to intervene in such situations took bribes.

Sikhondze is the Secretary General (SG) of the National Workers Union of Swaziland Higher Institutions (NAWUSHI).



When an employer is about to retrench they do projections detailing how much the exercise would cost the company

RME Bullion lured by SEZ incentive

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

A year after the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) only one company has qualified and granted a licence to operate while several others have expressed interest and are still in the application process.

At the core of operating a business on the SEZs is the Zero Corporate Tax and other taxes for 20 years and entitlement to unrestricted repatriation of profits as incentives to attract Foreign Direct Investment into the kingdom. According to the ministry of commerce industry and trade RME Bullion, a company that will manufacture jewellery from expensive metals for export purposes, has successfully obtained the licence to operate at the Royal Science and Technology Park (RSTP) SEZ.

A special economic zone is an area in which the business and trade laws are different from the rest of the country. SEZs are usually located within a country's national borders, and their aims include increased trade balance, employment, increased investment, job creation and effective administration.

They offer lucrative incentives to attract foreign direct investment into the country in an attempt to create an ecosystem that improves a country's economic standings.

Ministry of Commerce Industry and Trade Director Investment Roadmap Unit Albert Chibi revealed that so far, the ministry has approved and granted one company a licence to operate at the RSTP SEZ.

He, however, stated that several companies have expressed interest in setting shop in these SEZs and are being assisted in meeting the requirements for obtaining the licence.

Chibi stated that two major requirements are essential for businesses that qualify to get the incentives that come with the licence to operate on the SEZs. These include the minimal investment and producing goods and services for export purposes to avoid unfair competition.

The minimum capital investment needed for businesses to qualify to operate in the SEZ is E30 million for a sole trader and E70 million for a joint venture.

"The company must also upon approval pay the licence fee which are E150 000 and E50 000 for

renewal every year. It is also obligated to ensure decent employment for employees, ensure that 90 per cent of the employees are within the taxable bracket and ensure that the minimum employment quota of Emaswati is two thirds," he added.

On the other hand, the benefits include the exemption from the payment of corporate tax for an initial period of 20 years and thereafter a corporate tax shall be charged at the rate of five per cent. Furthermore, companies operating on SEZ enjoy remission of customs duty; value added tax and any other tax payable in respect of goods purchased for use as raw material, equipment, machinery, including all goods and services directly related to manufacturing in the special economic zones. "They also enjoy exemption from foreign exchange control or restriction on operations carried on in a special economic zone and several other benefits," Chibi said.

Chibi also revealed that there were several other companies that had expressed interest in operating their businesses in the SEZs that are being assisted by the ministry and the parastatals assigned to manage them.

DEGREE PROGRAMMES FOR EMRC IN 2020

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Emergency Medical Rescue College (EMRC) Founder and Principal Tshepo Maak says the institution is on the verge of introducing degree programmes in Emergency Medical Care next year.

Maak said the University of Eswatini and EMRC were working hard with other institutions across the country to introduce this programme, emphasising that the EMRC was an institution with merit and is not interested in playing politics.

On the recent graduation which he said he was proud of, Maak has stated that this was their third graduation, during which the country witnessed its very own locally-trained professionals in Diploma in Emergency Medical Care being conferred with their certificates.

He said the graduation is a reminder that through collective thoughts, effective collaboration and care for humanity, Eswatini's future was in good hands and Vision 2022 was already underway.

The graduation was held on October 31, 2019 at UNESWA Sports Emporium building.



UNESWA Vice Chancellor Professor Justice Thwala, best EMCR student Tibuyile Dlamini and Emergency Medical Rescue College (EMRC) Founder and Principal Tshepo Maak pose.
(Courtesy Pics)

On paramedics training in the country, Maak stated that all programmes were articulated with the aim of addressing the current challenges within Eswatini's Emergency Medical Services as well as the Fire and Rescue Services.

Accredited

"These challenges were mainly on the shortage of Advanced Life Support Paramedic, qualified Rescue Technicians as well as providing Emergency Medical Care and Rescue training within the country," Maak said.

He added that EMRC is also accredited by the Eswatini Higher Education Council and was recognised by the Medical and Dental Council of Eswatini.

He said the institution conducts its training in partnership with the University of Eswatini. The two institutions have a documented memorandum of agreement and have developed curriculum for Certificate in Emergency Medical Care and Diploma in Emergency Medical Care.

He elaborated on the partnership with UNESWA to add that Emergency Medical Care and Rescue trainings

were expensive to conduct and implement at an internationally recognised standard. "It was for this reason that EMRC saw an opportunity to partner with the University of Eswatini in establishing such programmes in the country," he said.

Maak mentioned that the partnership would ensure that programmes were delivered at a higher standard in line with other recognised institutions internationally, the cost for the programme would decrease, thus creating access to education or training for the general public to enrol

into the course, contribute in pre-hospital research through scientific research and the partnership also meant that students could have access and be taught by different lecturers who are experts in specific fields within the programme. Collectively, the faculties and departments ensure that the programme is being delivered at the highest standard and provides the students with an all round exposure into Emergency Medicine.

Possibilities

In 2015, EMRC approached the ministry of health to discuss possibilities of establishing a training college specialising in Emergency Medical Care and Rescue in the country.

"At that time the EMS was still at its infancy stage and there was more work to be done at ground level, but the priority remained having professionally trained graduates to drive the Pre-Hospital mandate," Maak explained. The founder and principal pointed out that EMRC further met with the other major key stakeholder, the National Fire and Emergency Services, and discovered that they also needed both theoretical knowledge and technical skills to equip their employees with knowledge.

The future is bright

The Emergency Medical Rescue College (EMRC) is working hard to improve its academic programmes.

The EMRC is also looking to ensure its long-term future by investing in a structure of its own.

These are projects the emergency college is now pursuing to ensure its long-term future in the country.

The college will partner with the University of Eswatini (UNESWA) to introduce a four-year Bachelor of Sciences in Emergency Medical Care and Rescue.

All things being well, this programme will be introduced in 2020.

This will see both EMRC and UNESWA con-

tributing significantly in pre-hospital research, because this is what is needed to grow Emergency Medical Services that is practiced from an evidence based philosophy. But to introduce such an expensive programme, they will need support from all ministries and stakeholders.

EMRC and UNESWA have a dedicated team of lecturers, departments and faculties who are more than willing to contribute in pre-hospital education.

The college, which is located at Mbangweni, is in the process of securing land for its permanent structures.

Currently, the college conducts its trainings at both Mbangweni and University of Eswatini, Faculty of Health Sciences premises.

The college plans to embark on the construction of their permanent structures next year.



The UNESWA vice chancellor with another graduate Siphosethu Mdluli and Maak.

EMRC sponsors 20 students

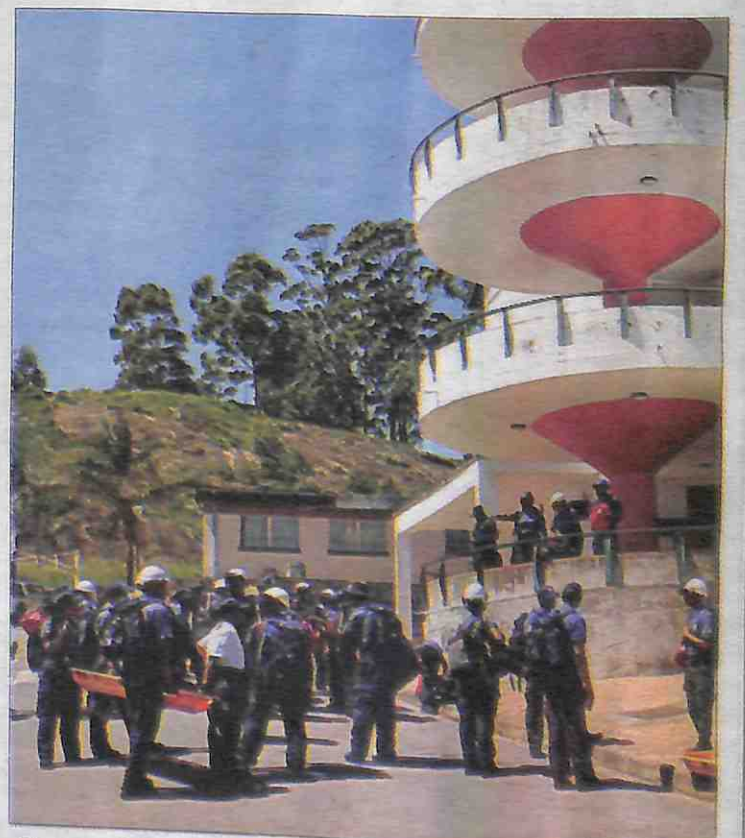
Emergency Medical Rescue College (EMRC) also helps students who are struggling financially with paying their tertiary fees.

Founder and Principal Tshepo Maak EMRC said the institution has offered over 20 students with financial assistance.

"The country desperately needs advanced life support practitioners," he stated.

Training partners

- University of Eswatini
- The ministry of health
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Hospitals: Releigh Fitkin Memorial (RFM) Hospital and Mbabane Government Hospital
- National Fire and Emergency Services of Eswatini
- Royal Eswatini Police Service
- Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force
- Ministry of Labour and Social Security – Scholarship Department
- Ministry of Public Service



Some of the students during a rescue training.

LONLA INVESTMENTS

BLACK FRIDAY

29th, 30th NOV. 2019

Pampers and Huggies

All sizes available from pre-mature to elders.

ALL SIZES OF TYRES E250 each

225/40 R18 4 FOR E1200.⁰⁰

185/65R14 255/55 R19

175/70 R13 205/80 R17.5

195/65R15 175/65 R14

185/65R15 4 for 1000.⁰⁰

185/55R16 165 R13

205/55R16 4 for 1000.⁰⁰

225/45R17

195/80R15

Stock price 1.50 each.

Re-packed 25 pieces for 37.50 stock prices.

RIMS COMBO from E2500.⁰⁰

NEW STOCK ARRIVED

www.lonlainvestment@gmail.com

Manzini: Opposite Satellite Bus Rank below Hub | Cell: +268 7639 8839 Tel: +268 2505 8455

OPERATING HOURS: 6:00 AM - 6 PM

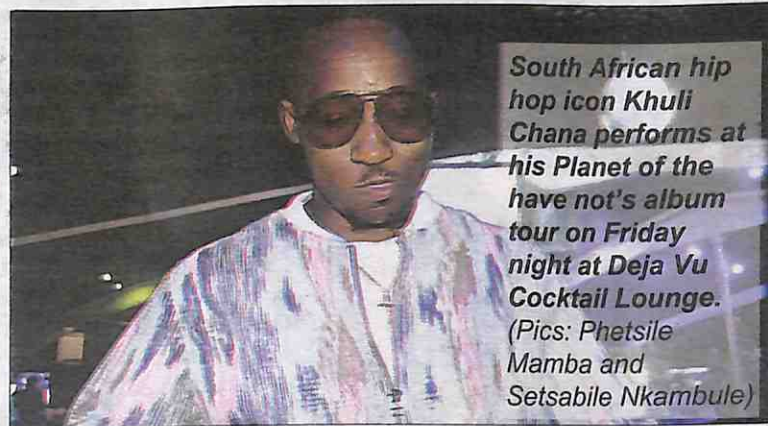
First stop Eswatini for Khuli Chana

BY PHETSILE MAMBA AND
SETSABILE NKAMBULE

Khuli Chana delivered a stunning performance during his 'Planet of the have not's' album launch on Friday night held at Deja Vu Cocktail Lounge.

A pioneer in the South African Hip Hop industry, Khuli Chana, whose real name is Khulani Morula made Eswatini his first stop to launch his album, the first in a series of events lined-up for his album tour.

For his fans, this was a once in a lifetime honour that did not disappoint, with a good turnout that witnessed a brilliant performance from the talented rapper. The artist who expressed his delight at being in the kingdom set the tone for an energetic performance as



South African hip hop icon Khuli Chana performs at his Planet of the have not's album tour on Friday night at Deja Vu Cocktail Lounge. (Pics: Phetsile Mamba and Setsabile Nkambule)

he performed two songs from his recent album, and a few others from his previous hits. The crowd sang along to a few of his songs, notably 'Tswa daar', 'No more hunger' and 'Dintshang'. He also paid tribute to two of South African

fallen music legends HHP and Pro KID by performing some of the songs he collaborated with the two.

He then made his famous Chana power punch, which got the crowd screaming and mimicking him. The

Chana power is a punch of freedom in which, according to him it is a reminder to himself of his ability to overcome any obstacle.

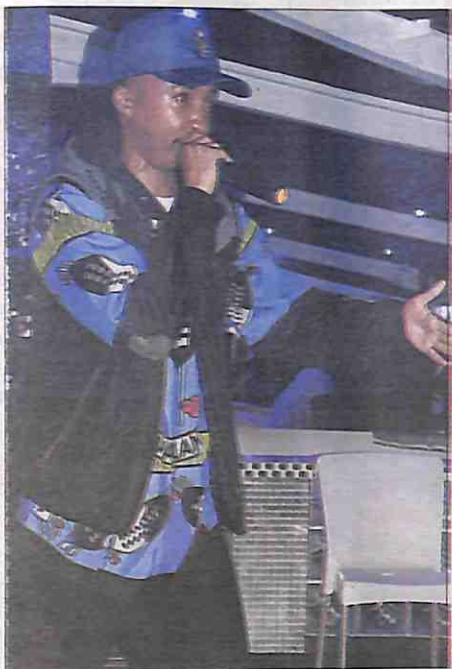
The not so packed venue allowed him to interact more with his fans, as he would allow some of his fans to dance alongside him on stage and he also would stop in-between his performances to talk to the crowd. During his performance, he mentioned that he felt young, energetic and good about himself and the performance. He thanked the crowd for the energy and love they were giving him. In an interview after his performance, he mentioned that although he had not been in the kingdom in the longest time, having to get such a response from people amazed him. He said he was happy that people came all out for his show.

"I am happy that people came out to support this show. I have missed my Eswatini fans and having to see them enjoying my sound is amazing. Eswatini is important to me and it was with that reason that I chose to begin my tour in the kingdom," he said

Supporting acts who performed during the event were the likes of local artists; Sarnilo, Ncwiki flex, DJ MBO, Wicked, Fantasy, Size killer, Mistosoul, and DJ Cybos to name a few. Psycholution was the MC for the event.

One of the hip hop star's fans Simiso Simelane was pleased with the show, saying he felt the artist gave his all in the performance.

"One would have sworn that he was performing for a big crowd. He kept the same great energy from the beginning of his performances to the very end. All the other supporting acts were great also, although I had doubts in the beginning with regards to how artists like Sarnilo would work in such an event, it worked perfectly well," he said.



Psycholution was the host at Khuli Chana's show.



One of the hip hop lovers dancing while Khuli Chana was performing.

FAMILY FUN DAY
FOOD STALLS
KIDDIES GAMES ZONE

SAT 30TH
NOVEMBER

MOSASWA
MALARIA
AWARENESS
Festival

K.O (SA) PROFESSOR (SA) MABERMUDA (MOZ)
MAGAWUGAWU (SD) NOMALUNGELO (SD)
POPZIN (SD) KANGAROO (SD)

DRAMA GROUP: SISONKHE
DJS: FANTASY | MAYE LE MUSO
MC'S: MDURA & NTFOMBITANELE
VENUE: MAVUSO TRADE CENTRE

FREE ENTRANCE TIME: 10AM TO 5PM

NO ALCOHOL & WEAPONS ALLOWED ON THE VENUE PREMISES

ZERO MALARIA STARTS WITH ME



NMP
NATIONAL MALARIA PROGRAMME

'Magician pastors belong to witchdoctors'

STORIES BY FORTUNE NDLANGAMANDLA

Bemdzabu Bamunye Eswatini Balaphi Witchdoctors Association believe that men of God who use anointing oil, holy water or any other form of healing which is a process are also traditional healers.

This is the view of the association's Chairperson Makhanya Makhanya, who said that pastors ordinarily heal using supernatural powers.

"There is no magic in church but only miracles so whosoever uses magic belongs to us," he said.

He continued to state that individuals who perform miracles are the righteous ones, adding that God's power was above any power.

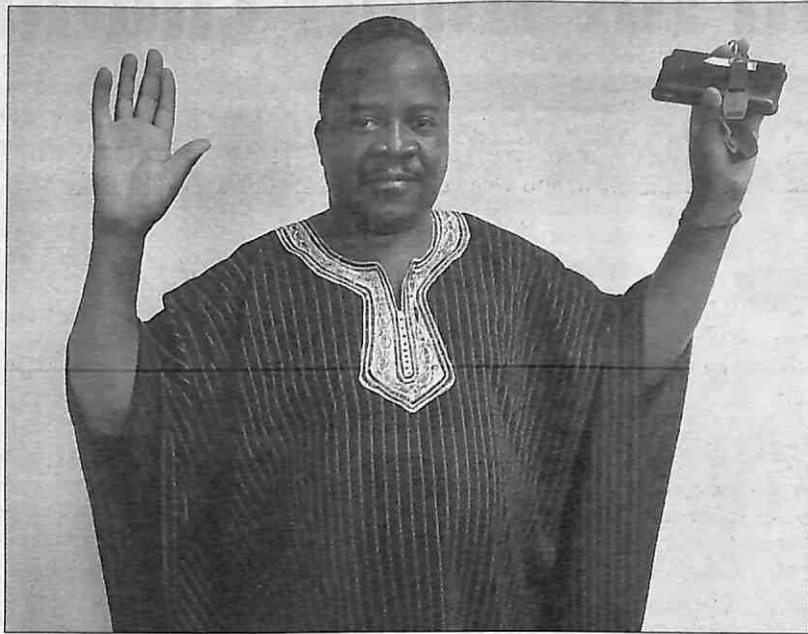
He argued that pastors who give congregants holy water and anointing oil were one of their own.

He proceeded to state that magic is wrong to be practiced in churches.

"It's difficult to be righteous because we as Africans we have our own way of doing things, which involve healing. Whenever, we come across teething troubles we run back to our roots," Makhanya said.

However, Makhanya also said that if they are to use the olive oil or holy water, pastors should not give it to church members.

He said this was because the pastors were the ones that must cast out demons not delegating such task to fellow Christians as that can be viewed as *bunyanga*. He said righteous ones should not even go



Bemdzabu Bamunye Eswatini Balaphi Witchdoctors Association Chairperson Makhanya Makhanya posing for a picture after an interview at Eswatini Observer. (Pic: Fortune Ndlangamandla)

to hospitals.

"Africans survive with a healing which has a process while there is God's power which is more powerful and heals, unlike ours.

The Creator's power is more powerful but it is difficult to engage it. Nothing can be above God's power," he elaborated.

Given this understanding of the power of the Creator, Makhanya was asked about his own choice over Christianity, to which he blamed on birthright also claiming that the powers *tinyanga* have

was from God.

He acknowledged that once one is born again, they eventually face challenges because of their African background which includes the use of *muti* and ancestors beliefs.

Makhanya joined the list of other *tinyanga* who have alleged without giving names that most pastors got their powers from them (*tinyanga*).

He stated that the *tinyanga* protects the men of God who consult from them through the non-disclosure of *tinyanga* and their clients.

CENSUS TEAM

● Hopes of getting tax refund dashed

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO

The national census team which helped government through the Central Statistical Office in collecting Population and Housing Census data has claimed that it was robbed part of their pay for work done back in 2017.

Every 10 years, government conducts a Population and Housing Census, the largest national data undertaking which provides demographic and socio-economic data on every person who is resident in the country at the time of the census.

Before 2017, the last national Population and Housing Census was conducted in 2007, and the country conducted its last data col-

lection in April/May 2017.

In preparations for the national exercise, the ministry deployed a team of enumerators to initiate country mapping processes. The first census to utilise computer based mobile equipment for data collection was the 2017 team.

Some of the enumerators that took part in the collection of data during that time were sent from pillar to post when they pursued their claim for a 'tax refund'.

This was after a number of them tried to access these funds. Most gave up completely, while some of them took up the matter further and pursued the subject which landed them at a dead end.

One of the enumerators, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said they were promised E9 000 when they assumed the job and when they finished they were told to collect their cheques at Eswatini

Azerbaijan to contribute to economic recovery of Eswatini

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Bilateral agreements between Eswatini and the Republic of Azerbaijan are envisaged to contribute effectively to the country's economic recovery strategy.

Eswatini is expected to learn from Azerbaijan considering that despite that both countries are developing and landlocked, the latter has managed to grow its economy exponentially by employing various strategies to utilise the various resources at its disposal.

It is anticipated that there are numerous lessons and best practices which the two countries can exchange in various sectors including culture, agriculture, tourism, public service, trade, education and ICT.

This is according to the report of bilateral meetings held on the sidelines of the 18th Summit of the Heads of State and government of the Non-Aligned Movement which was held in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The 18th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement was held from the 25-26 October 2019. The Kingdom of Eswatini participated in the summit.

The delegation from Eswatini was led by His Majesty King Mswati III and comprised of six ministers which

included the ministers of foreign affairs and international cooperation; commerce, industry and trade; public service; ICT; and home affairs.

The delegation also included two ambassadors and CEOs of two parastatals which are Eswatini Investment Promotion Authority and Eswatini Tourism Authority, the King's Office and government officials.

The bilateral meetings were facilitated by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Eswatini to Azerbaijan, resident in Brussels.

Delegation

The delegation from Eswatini met with officials from the Unibank Group which is an investment entity interested in purchasing bonds and securities. UniCapital is their investment entity.

"The Eswatini delegation explained the work being done to identify bankable projects on which investors could apply their funds and expect to earn a decent return on investment, and also how the government was actively seeking to develop the PPPs model and encourage the private sector to increase their level of investment in projects of this nature," reads the report.

UniCapital expressed a desire to support not just big companies in emerging markets where they have invested, but also SMEs and stated that their corporate banking unit

Leave us alone – Church bodies tell witchdoctors

The country's church bodies have called on Bemdzabu Bamunye Eswatini Balaphi Witchdoctors Association Chairperson Makhanya Makhanya to leave the church alone.

Eswatini Conference of Churches President Bishop Stephen Masilela and League of Churches Chairman Bishop Samson Hlatshwako were responding to Makhanya's claims that pastors who use holy water and anointing oil for healing are also traditional healers.

Masilela wondered why Makhanya was interested in church affairs since he was a witchdoctor not a church leader. He said the men of God used the items as per the Bible's teachings. He said it should not be an issue that some of the processes used by pastors are also used by traditional healers.

"If you're talk about oil, it is in the Bible," the bishop said.

He quoted **James 5:14**, "Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord".

Masilela continued to add that pastors should not stop using the oil just because traditional healers are also using it.

"Witchdoctors and the saints are two different things even if they used what is similar to what we are using. From a biblical perspective, that does not suggest we should stop using it," Masilela explained.

Masilela also wondered where Makhanya got the notion that it is ungodly for men of God to heal Christians through a process. The bishop made an example of when Jesus healed a blind man at Bethsaida.

Mark 8: 23-25 "When he had spat on



Eswatini Conference of Churches President Bishop Stephen Masilela and League of Churches Chairman Bishop Samson Hlatshwako.

the man's eyes and put his hands on him, Jesus asked, "Do you see anything?" He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like trees walking around." Once more Jesus put his hands on the man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly".

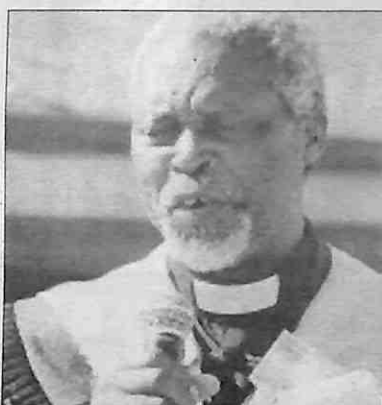
The bishop also quoted **1 Timothy 5:23**, "Paul says, 'Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities'".

Masilela added that these two verses show that a process is used in healing in churches.

"I won't entertain traditional healers over the media concerning what they want us to stop doing. We also have our own ways of doing things which is parallel to how they are doing them.

"Traditional healers must just leave us alone and we would do what we know best; they should also the same but Judgement Day is coming," he said.

On the continuous attack of pastors by *tinyanga*, Masilela wondered why



traditional healers were always on their case. He stated that traditional healers should go on with their practice if they feel it is okay and stop attacking the 'house of God'.

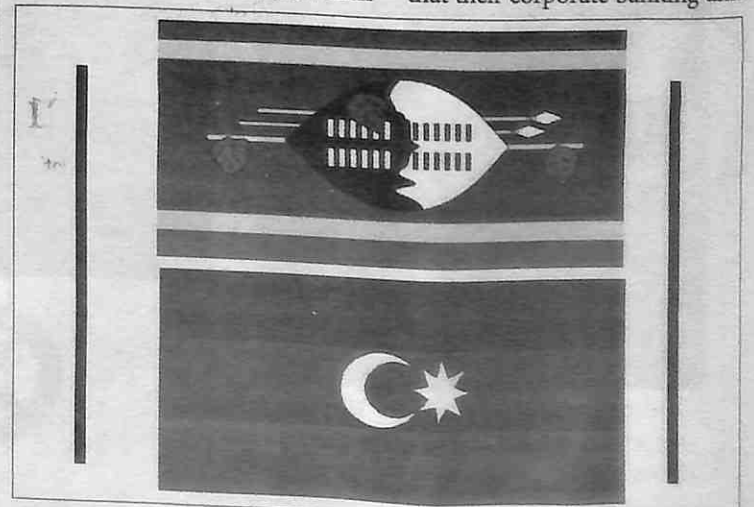
Masilela added that pastors do not attack traditional healers.

Meanwhile, Bishop Hlatshwako also told Makhanya to speak about his calling not Christians as his calling is not one of them.

He said things used by pastors during prayer sessions are those shown by the Holy Spirit.

He quoted **John 9: 6**, "After saying this, he spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes".

He continued to add that there was nothing wrong with men of God using the items and processes to heal the people. Hlatshwako continued to add 'real' pastors do not charge for their services, however, he stated that it was not an issue if a healed individual decides to show appreciation to the man of God.



FIGHTING A LOSING BATTLE

Central Bank.

"When we got there they gave us the money in cash and it was short by E1 000. When we asked why the money was short they told us that as we are not employed we should be able to claim the money in a month or two," said the former enumerator.

She never claimed the money after the stated month. However, when she eventually decided to pursue this matter, she was told that to claim her tax refund she needed some certificate from her employers.

She first went to the revenue offices where she was turned back and told as she was not permanent she can get the certificate at the ministry of economic planning and development.

"When I got there I was told they never got the certificates and if I do end up getting the certificate, the money might be less than what we were promised. They also said that I have to pay tax as a citizen of this country. So the story

had now changed and it turns out people have been going there to claim the tax refund but no one has ever been successful," added the disgruntled enumerator.

Collectors

Mlandvo Dlamini, another of the data collectors who was part of this programme and collected data in the Ezulwini and Lobamba surrounding areas, confirmed that they did an enumeration of the population which is the counting of individuals per household, collecting data as to what they did for a living, education, disability, their property in terms of livestock, cars, crops and more.

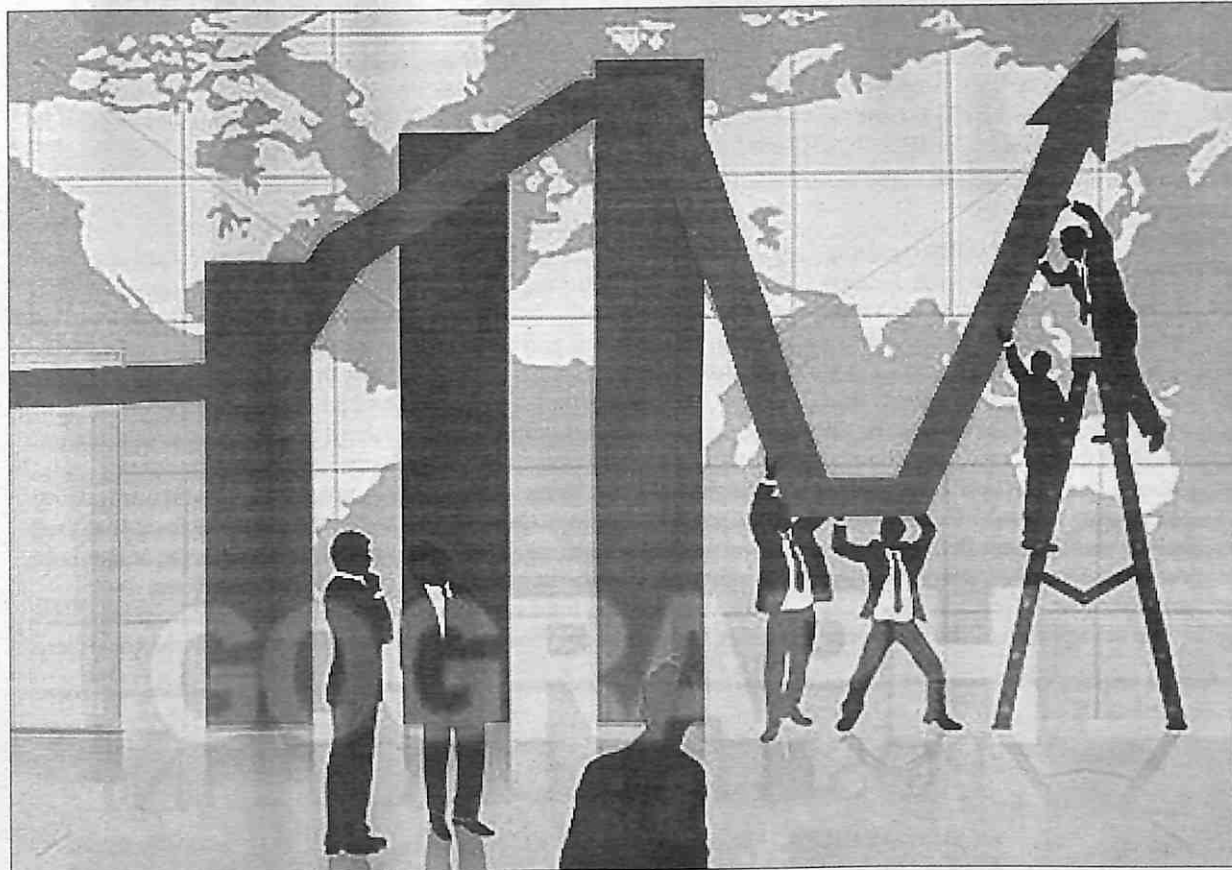
"There is over E1 000 that was deducted as tax and they were never supposed to do that to us as we were not permanently employed," said the source.

Another enumerator said he never bothered to follow-up on the refund after he learned from his former colleagues that they were being given the run around.

"No one seems to know what the holdup was. SRA is pointing fingers to the census department and vice versa," he explained. According to the principal secretary at the ministry of economic planning, through Communications Officer Nokuthula Simelane, the data collecting personnel were paid according to the number of days they were engaged for. "Enumerators were paid for 33 days worked and field supervisors were paid for the 42 days worked," said Simelane.

Simelane said all temporal personnel engaged in the data collection exercise of the 2017 Population and Housing Census were paid their salaries.

"No salary was paid E1 000 short," said Simelane. She also explained why the enumerators were taxed, saying that all income in the E3 000 threshold and above whether for permanent or temporary staff attracts tax according to Volume 22 of the Tax Table at the Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA).



would be interested to learn more about these sectors to assist them identify where they could invest in the economy of Eswatini. The delegation also visited the State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovation which is housed under the office of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan (ASAN).

This entity has made significant strides in the provision of efficient public administration through enhancing transparency and the application of innovation.

The team from Eswatini walked through

an 'ASAN service' centre and received first-hand experience and exposure to how service delivery is rolled out and enhanced in a new approach towards ensuring that the citizens' satisfaction in the functioning of the civil service is prioritised.

"It was observed that this is attained through services offered by the different government and private sector agencies housed in a single facility, offering a variety of services including the issuance of identity documents and passports,

birth and death certificates, drivers' licences, pensions, taxes, notarial services and registration of companies, amongst others," states the report.

During discussions, it transpired that Eswatini has been implementing a similar project to create a one-stop shop of a similar nature, however, considerations of the strategy to employ, the basis for service selection and scope of the services to be offered, as well as the line ministry under which the service should be assigned, are under consideration.

were pointed out, and the foundation reps expressed the desire to forge lasting and mutually beneficial ties with Eswatini.

Priority

The priority areas as espoused in the Strategic Roadmap were outlined by the Eswatini delegation, and the importance of improving outcomes from investment in education, as well as energising the private sector to play an enhanced role in the economy were highlighted," further reads the report.

...Eswatini to establish an African museum

Eswatini is expected to establish an African museum as a result of the cooperation with the Republic of Azerbaijan in the areas of culture.

The parties agreed on the possibility of strong cooperation in the areas of culture, education, tourism and ICT. With regards to culture the establishment of an African museum in the Kingdom of Eswatini was mentioned.

This was discussed when the delegation visited Heydar Aliyev Foundation.

A core aspect of the foundation's mandate is to promote culture and the history of Azerbaijan, and one of its core values is that of tolerance for multicultural diversity and the recognition of sovereignty and border boundaries of all countries regardless of size.

Focus

The Heydar Aliyev Foundation has expanded its focus beyond Western Europe.

"In the discussions, the similarities of the two countries in value systems

Country deports five, charges 22 foreigners

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

The country has deported five and charged 22 foreigners for contravening the Immigration Act.

A fortnight ago, the Sunday Observer revealed that two Emaswati were deported to the country; one of the deportees was from the United Kingdom (UK).

On the other hand, since the beginning of the year, the country has deported five non-Emaswati after being declared prohibited immigrants. This was shared by Deputy Chief Immigration Officer Makhosi Simelane.

Simelane, who was assigned by the ministry's Principal Secretary Nhlanhla Nxumalo to discuss the matter with the publication added that, "Up to October 30, 2019 there were 22 people who were charged with contravening the Immigration Act and were tried and convicted by the courts". He continued to add that of the 22, four were African and the rest were from Asian countries (Pakistan, India and Bangladesh).

The deputy chief immigration officer added that the 22 were convicted and they paid the admission of guilt. Therefore, he added that they cannot be deported because they have legal documents of presence while some were left on their own accord because they had not been declared as prohibited immigrants.

The 10th Parliament appointed a select committee before its dissolution, the committee presented an influx of Asians report in the House of Assembly. Among other things, senior officers in the ministry were implicated in wrongdoing. The House of Assembly select committee was tasked with investigat-

ing the influx of illegal immigrants in the country, especially those of Asian origin.

Officers implicated in the report which spilled beans about the rot at the ministry were accused of taking bribes, among other things.

Former Zombodze Emuva Member of Parliament (MP) Titus Thwala was the committee Chairperson.

Two years down the line, the report has not been implemented; however, ex-Principal Secretary Anthony Masilela was recently redeployed to the position of Lubombo Regional Secretary.

However, there is no link that the redeployment is linked to the influx of Asians report.

Meanwhile, the Eswatini Constitution states that one can be a citizen of the country through descent, citizenship by operation of law, citizenship by birth, citizenship by marriage, citizenship by registration, posthumous children, foundlings as well as birth aboard a ship or aircraft.

Most expats became citizens of the country through citizenship by registration and a person who is a citizen of Eswatini by registration may be deprived of that citizenship by order of the Citizen Board.

On the other hand, Simelane added that the technical glitch that has been affecting the production of passports still continues.

"Our IT support in the form of the Computer Services Department under the ministry of ICT is working tirelessly to resolve the problem," he said.

Consequently, Simelane pointed out that the ministry was not able to provide a time frame by which this will be resolved, adding that they would update Emaswati once everything is sorted.

Emaswati to soon visit Angola visa-free

If all goes well, Emaswati and Angolans would soon visit the two countries without using VISAs while negotiations with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) are underway.

This is according to the Ministry of Home Affairs Communications Officer Mlandvo Dlamini. He stated that the only remaining aspect with the Angola-Eswatini deal is for it to be signed by the countries' authorities.

"Though I'm not sure of the exact dates but it was finalised last year," he said.

According to Passport Index, a visa is an official document that allows the bearer to legally enter a foreign country. The visa is usually stamped or glued into the bearer's passport. There are several different types of visas, each of which afford the bearer different rights in the host country.

Dlamini viewed the development as an achievement on both coun-

tries because it would ease trade. He stated that VISAs normally come with restrictions.

He noted that the challenge with the country was the shortage of foreign missions so one needs to travel to outside of the country to apply for a visa.

Other countries that Emaswati can visit visa-free are all countries in the SADC region and some parts in Africa. On the other hand, Emaswati do not need visas when visiting Argentina and Australia.

The Passport Index added that some countries have visa restrictions in order to check and control the flow of visitors in and out of the country and to prevent illegal immigration and other criminal activities. Forcing travellers to apply for a visa allows the authorities to vet potential visitors. For example, individuals may attempt to travel to a country with better economic opportunities in order to work illegally there.

RESIDENTS COMPLAIN ABOUT POOR

STORIES BY KHETSIWE
KHUMALO

For the residents of Moti, they might as well not have a clinic; such is the failure for the health facility to provide the essential services they need.

Residents, who asked not to be identified have raised concerns over the deplorable standards and services offered by the local clinic, with nurses doing as they please, especially turning back patients after lunch.

As a result, patients have to wake up very early in the morning if they are to hope to be attended to and to avoid being sent back.

Residents, mostly women of the area, came out in their numbers but asked not to be identified over the fear of being ill-treated at the clinic, said they were tired of the poor services that the clinic was offering and saw the need to speak up in order to see change at the clinic.

One of the ladies said they were as good as not having a clinic in the area, saying as residents who live close to the clinic they know and hear all activities that take place at the health center.

"We are not happy with what is happening in the area. Nurses here only come to chill and drink tea," said a resident, who said some of the nurses have adopted an arrogant attitude.

"When they are told that there are patients waiting for services, they boast that they get paid regardless of any work done or not," said the woman.

The group she was with concurred that the nurses leave after lunch. They alleged that if they have not left and

Poor turnout has financial impact

The poor service at the Moti Clinic has left residents of the area with little option but to use neighbouring clinics either at Nhlambeni, KaPhunga or the closest one at the Luke Commission situated in Sidvokodvo.

This has had a financial impact on the clinic, with less people coming in, the clinic is not making enough money.

Ironically, two of the staffers who get commission based on the number of people coming in have felt the impact.

Besides the residents of the area that are desperately sick and can't afford to travel to the other clinics and the elderly, the only other people who use this clinic are patients who need to refill their medication or women who come for their contraceptives.

One of the women disclosed that the security guard and one staffer are



greatly affected by this.

"They are paid from the revenue the clinic makes. In essence, they collect the clinic fees and divide it among themselves," said the source.

According to a source, the one other staffer is really having a hard time and does not afford much. The source revealed that back in 2015 when the clinic was still new and when oper-

ating at its best, the women would cash in E210 or E90 on a lousy day where patients were few.

"Now they only get E45 at most and their families are even disapproving of their business, as they are not paying the bills or even putting food on the table," added the source.

shunning

The source further added that even the clinic's committee does not claim allowances anymore as there is no money anyway.

Information gathered also suggests that another reason for the patients shunning the clinic besides the nurses' incompetence was because of another staff member, who allegedly apparently goes around talking about patients' illnesses to other people.

This was also highlighted by a woman, who said the staffer was revealing confidential information which should be kept between the nurses and patients, which did not sit well with residents of the area.

you come for health care services after lunch, they tell you that they have knocked off. People in the area have become accustomed to knowing not to go to the clinic after 1pm.

Issues

"We once complained to the clinic's committee but they too were unable to resolve the issues and they are not able to work efficiently because of the nurses," said one of the women.

However, a woman at the marketplace said while she could not speak on behalf other people, she had never experienced any difficulty when she

visited the clinic.

"I do although know that residents of the area have complained about the nurses' ill-treatment but can't really state the nature of the problem.

"Some have come out of the clinic complaining of bad treatment and when I ask them what seems to be the problem, they say the nurses shout at them. I then tell them to be patient as they might have visited the family late yet they have been continuously told to do so early," said the entrepreneur.

She said people of the area were

asked by the nurses in previous years to visit the clinic early as working during the morning hours was easier.

"I know of people who have vowed never to visit this clinic and they have kept their word.

Records

"Some have said they would rather visit the other nearest clinic, The Luke Commission which to me does not make sense as they have their medical records here," said the woman.

Another lady who was from the clinic, who was waiting for a car at the market, had a different view.

"I can't really complain about the nurses today; they worked effectively and attended to us in time and were open to us, evening telling us that they were experiencing technical difficulties with their computers, which caused a slight delay. So they were able to attend to us all and even finished early," said the source.

A pregnant lady who was walking out of the clinic disclosed that they are in a dilemma as the nurses only start work here at 10 am.

"Even if you can arrive at the Clinic very sickly, you might die inside there



Left - Helemisi FEA Pre-school Principal Dumsile Mngometulu.

Right - Yenzokuhle, Siyamthanda and Sakhokuhle after their performance.

Below - The children give a splendid drum-majorites performance.



POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

BY SUNDAY OBSERVER
REPORTER

The Helemisi FEA Pre-school Principal Dumsile Mngometulu has offered an explanation as to why children do not respond to positive discipline at schools.

Speaking at the pre-school's end-of-year event, Mngometulu said that children whose parents administered corporal punishment at home did not respond to positive discipline easily.

In fact, she stated, these children end up being confused as to the mixed messages of discipline and therefore struggle to adjust - from an early age.

"Children end up being confused because of the different forms of discipline used at school and at home. Children who are used to corporal punishment do not comply easily to positive discipline," she said, after watching her pupils thrill their parents with performances on Friday.

The Helemisi FEA Pre-school hosted its end-of-year event that allowed the children to showcase their talents in a spectac-



Teachers get the children ready for a performance.

lar event witnessed by parents and teachers.

The pupils too turns to entertain their dotting parents, offering a drum majorettes performance, dances and biblical plays depicting the David and Goliath, Cinderella and the prodigal son stories.

One of the parents loved the event so much she said she wept tears of joy after watching the performances.

"It was such a lovely event. At some point I wept tears of joy because I couldn't believe that my son has grasped so much in a few months. I give credit to the teachers for the hard work they put in to help our children grow," said Maggy Ginindza.

Such was the mood that parents had to be repeatedly asked to remain in their seats as they were excited and could not contain themselves, wanting to cap-

SERVICE AT CLINIC



This is how the Moti Clinic appears after lunch when nurses are done with attending to patients.

waiting. Don't mind the times written on their board, they only start working at whatever time suitable to them.

"I arrived here at 6am but look at the time now. I am hungry and tired as I was rushing to avoid the queue but I am only leaving the clinic at 13:38," said the pregnant woman.

Laugh

She revealed that when the nurses open at 8am they have a prayer session and when they are done they go for breakfast where they chat and laugh till past 9am.

They apparently then come out and take the weight of all patients before they can start consulting depending on whether the nurse is in or not which appears takes too long.

"As is, there aren't many nurses at the clinic right now. They only have a few with one that attends to all the patients. The service is

the same even when the nurses are not short staffed as they chat while we await service," said the girl.

Asked what she would like to see happen, she said she wants government to be strict on the workers, in order to improve service delivery.

Samukeliswa Nhlengetfwa, a nurse at the clinic, referred this publication to the clinic's matron for comment. However, the matron was reported to be on leave.

Before parting ways though, Nhlengetfwa disputed the allegation that they do not come to work on time, saying they arrive at work on time and attend to patients.

"As you can tell there aren't any patients now. After we have attended to everyone we then have our tea break and leave at 16:30," said Nhlengetfwa.

Scammers come out to play

BY KHETSIWE KHUMALO

It's that time of the year again where scammers come out of hiding, and chancers try some tricks on unsuspecting members of the public.

The festive season is a playground for thieves of every type – from theft by false pretences to house-breaking and the infamous Landela gang, whose modus operandi is to waylay members of the public carrying large sums of money.

The police have a tough task to police the nation and prevent such crimes, in addition to the more serious crimes such as rape, murder and armed robberies. Eswatini police are anticipating a hard time as usual dealing with the scammers, and have pleaded with the public to be on the lookout.

Pretences

While promising that law enforcement officers will be out in full force, Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati urged members of the public to protect themselves against crime.

According to Vilakati, the most reported crimes during the festive season are armed robberies, assault, theft, theft by false pretences, rape, road accidents, house breaking and murder.

One of the first tips Supt. Vilakati has given is for customers to be careful what they buy and from whom, as cases of theft under false pretences are on the rise during this time of the year.

Murder and road accidents are also on the upsurge because people imbibe heavily on alcohol during this time. However, Vilakati said statistics on prioritised crimes reported in the last three years showed an overall decrease of 1.4 per cent.

Crimes that saw a decrease are murder by five per cent, armed robbery by 27 per cent, house breaking and theft at four per cent.

Cooperation

"We are asking the nation to be on guard; be on the lookout; be more cautious in transactions when you handle cash when they go to the bank," said Vilakati.

She also warned citizens to be cautious in the use of their mobile telephones while using public transportation.

"Do not give out information that may make you a target of criminal activity," stated Vilakati.

She declared that police would be out in 'large numbers' and pleaded with the public to also work with the community police officers in identifying any possible crimes that could be taking place.

"We are asking for the cooperation of the public and to especially be patient because sometimes they will suffer inconveniences," she said.

However she noted that a little inconvenience is a small price to pay for one's safety.

She also urged any business owners that carry huge amounts of money to consider other options, including making use of cellphone banking and internet transfer to pay accounts, or ATMs to conduct banking. She said the police were concerned after recent incidents where people were robbed of their cash or even injured in the process.

"We would also like to warn all stokvel members to take extra precautions when dealing with large amounts of cash as these types of cases are prevalent during the festive season when members are sharing money," she said.

Supt. Vilakati advised stokvel members to arrange with their banks to deposit cash into their accounts instead of meeting and making these transactions at home.

Magnetic

Locals and tourists should be wary of commercial crimes over the festive season, particularly when paying for goods and services through credit and bank cards.

"Anywhere your card is presented, your card can be skimmed," said Vilakati.

Skimming, most ATMs and restaurants, involves the recording of all information using any card's magnetic strip. The card's data would be stolen and transferred onto another card.

Vilakati also urged Emaswati to make online purchases and payments on secure sites, and those accepting packages from courier companies were advised to be wary of fraudsters requesting card payments on delivery.

People who enjoy going out at night on drinking sprees are also asked not to carry any weapons with them, as they may find themselves in predicaments that will cause them to use these weapons seeing that they are intoxicated.

Vilakati also warned that police will be stationed all over the country's roads looking for drink-drivers, pleading with motorists to refrain from driving when they have been drinking to reduce the number accidents resulting from this.

Taking note of identifying features such as the number plate and colour of a suspicious looking vehicle could assist the police in tracking criminals down. "Take note of the details when you see suspicious activity," she said.

BEGINS AT HOME



ture every moment of their children's performances on stage.

Speaking after the event, the principal explained that the aim of the event was to showcase the young pupils' talent.

"We take this opportunity to unleash the different talents children possess and also show parents what their children have learnt all year long. We encourage parents to let children play and explore as this contributes immensely to their growth," said Mngometulu.

Meanwhile, on the issue of discipline,

Mngometulu said it is important for parents to be exemplary and conduct themselves accordingly because children learn by seeing.

She said their approach as a school is a Christian-based foundation, hence most of the plays and songs performed were biblically oriented. She encouraged parents to instill values from home.

"We encourage parents to cooperate with the school on positive discipline. Children end up confused because of the different forms of discipline used at school



Proud mother Maggie Ginindza and son Saneliswa Mahlindza. Right and left - The various performance from the children.

and at home," she emphasised.

A teacher at the school, Thabsile Magagula urged parents to meet teachers halfway in teaching the children discipline.

She encouraged parents to enforce discipline when children misbehave and also to speak positively about education to the children so they love school.



Some of the parents watch the proceedings.



SUNDAY PODIUM

'MADZE' HAS LET THE YOUTH DOWN

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

On Wednesday, I attended a press conference where Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga reinstated the Youth Enterprise Fund Board. The board's term had come to an end following their taking over of the then defunct fund in 2016.

I shuddered from the moment the board members walked in the boardroom, as I noticed that there was nothing youthful about them.

When the minister justified the reasoning behind reinstating the board, he mentioned that he was 'impressed with their work of reviving the fund'.

With all due respect, we thank the board for their work, but it's time for new blood.

The fund struggles with being relatable to young people, so how are they looking to change this when the people at the top have no idea of what young people want or do?

That's the main problem in our country – young people are never given positions of authority – even though His Majesty has led the way by appointing a fairly young Cabinet when we compare with previous times.

Unfortunately, there is no quick-fix to the current lack of representation, but what we need is to intentionally and thoughtfully recruit and select young board members for these youth-serving organisations who are qualified, responsible, and ready to bring a new perspective to the table. Just like any member, youth board members should be made aware of their fiduciary duties and be held accountable.

I understand that it may take time to change the board nomination culture, but I promise that the results would come quicker than progress traditionalists believe.

The bottom line is, in order to keep up with the ever-changing market trends, Eswatini needs to diversify their leadership, not only by increasing the percentage of women, but also by aiding and listening to more young people.

Offering young people the chance to serve in a board can position them to be better leaders later in life, and we know that building a strong crop of future leaders is a clear win for the country.

Not having young people in the Youth Fund board deprives the entity of the energy and new ideas that the youth can bring to it, and makes it look hypocritical or – worse – contemptuous or afraid of the ideas that youth members might express.

If the Youth Enterprise Fund is attempting to attract and/or serve youth, the last thing the minister wants is for the fund to be viewed as nothing but another bunch of hypocritical, clueless adults who try to gain youth support through insincere and self-serving actions.

Young people are even more alert than

most adults to being slighted or conned. If you're trying to pretend you take them seriously without actually doing so, they'll know it immediately, and they won't be receptive.

The youth can bring new and creative ideas. Whilst the inexperience of young people can be a minus, it can also be a plus, depending on one's perspective. Because we welcome problems and issues without a lot of preconceptions, young people are able to look at them in new ways and with new ideas. We are again often better at 'thinking out of the box' than old people are, because our box is so much less well-defined – remember we're not as strongly influenced by what we 'know'.

Another point is that young people are idealistic and energetic, and their freshness can bring passion and direction to a board that's gone stale, or that has ceased to be (or never has been) excited or innovative.

Board membership can make our youth more conscious of and knowledgeable about political and economic issues and the many factors that affect their – and others' – lives.

This therefore means that by including the youth

on boards, we are already planning for the future as we are helping to build community capacity for the

future by making young people more inclusive and participatory.

I don't know when we will ever comprehend in this country that having a mix of ages, genders, backgrounds, etc. that reflect the whole society in boards leads to better decisions. The organisation becomes more strongly grounded.

If the Youth Fund board had young people, it would make the CEO's job much easier as the board on its own is likely to convince other young people to participate or support whatever direction the fund wants to take because they know that they're honestly represented and that their concerns are considered, and this then makes them much more apt to buy into and support the fund's decisions than if decisions are made for them without their input.

By including the youth into positions of authority, our minister of youth affairs would be making a statement to the country on

the importance of young people and about their ability to contribute – particularly because the Youth Fund is an organisation that serves the youth and addresses youthful issues!

This was an opportunity for the minister to prove to the whole country that he does indeed believe in young people – and what better way could he have done that than giving them responsibility, a great one at that.

If the minister didn't want to have an all youthful board, he could have at least just had two or three young members then – and as a result of their interactions with youth board members, the older members may develop more positive attitudes toward young people.

On the very note, seeing young people performing well when they're given responsibility will make the older board members, who may have been sceptical initially, stronger advocates for youth.

In conclusion, the gist of today's piece was that the minister has let young people down by reinstating the board with no youth in it because this suggests that there aren't capable young people in this country or that the minister does not trust young people enough to put them on the ultimate oversight role.

Not only has he missed an opportunity to demonstrate his integrity, but the minister has proved that he's not any different from the rest who just pay lip service to the idea of youth capacity. How sad?

Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga.





BY BONGEKILE MATSENJWA

COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

military, hospitals, schools, laws firms, banks and just about any major company.”

What she mainly enjoys about her work is using software to develop different products.

“There is always something new to learn.

Either in the application, the customer requirements or the engineering technology,” she says. Her job also comes with pit-falls. “The process of developing software is actually closer to the process of art. If you look at how a fashion designer works, they start with rough sketches and progressively add in more details. Because to add into that, the requirements could change, the design you are drawing could change. So understanding the process is very important,” states Cebile.

ABOUT CEBILE MASEKO

Cebile is the co-founder of a software development company called McTech Systems where she is the director. Her role is to design, execute, utilise and maintain software engineering applications.

In addition, she prepares all required

technical proposal required for software engineering and administers support for business development and systems engineering.

Just like all female engineers, Cebile has encountered a number of challenges in her career.

“Traditionally, engineering has been a man’s world.

Women have been socially conditioned from a childhood to feel that it is not ‘lady-

like’ to be interested in the technical field. So, as a woman you have to work harder.

In a working environment, I think you have to work harder or put yourself out there for people to take you seriously,” states Cebile.

However, despite these challenges, she continues to strive in her career. As a software developer, there are a number of social problems that she is addressing.

Developers of software products are accountable to their customers to provide solutions that are reliable, are of high quality, are virus free and above all, they perform their stated tasks correctly and efficiently.

Responsible developers will provide systems that allow them to respond to problems encountered by users.

Achieve

Cebile is an example that with dedication and hard work, one can achieve anything.

Computer systems analysts work with computer programmers, information systems and software vendors to create the best computer networks and information systems. They study computer systems and procedures to carry out tasks that are necessary to

organisation functioning.

Computer systems analysts are important in that they help organisations or companies to use their computer technology efficiently and effectively.

There are mainly three types of computer systems analysts and these are: system designers or architects, software quality assurance analysts and programmer analysts.

Programmer analysts develop and write codes for software to meet the needs of their clients or employers. System designers find technical solutions that match the long-term goals of organisations or companies.

Software quality assurance (QA) analysts test and diagnose problems in computer systems.

Typically, the everyday responsibilities of a computer system analyst include interacting with computer system users and customers, making plans for system, deploying a system once its design has been completed, testing systems, writing technical requirements and instructions and working system designers to overcome.

Those aspiring to become computer system analysts should enjoy working with computers and have a curiosity for new technologies, critical thinkers and problem solving abilities, must be able to communicate effectively with others regarding technical subjects and have a basic understanding of programming language and computer hardware.

Computer systems analysts are typically required to hold a bachelor’s degree in an application field such as information or computer science, engineering or management information systems (MIS).



ASPIRE EDUCATION

WITH MUKELO TEMBE

Live with an open heart, unexpected, joyful things happen

Leadership potential is everywhere in the world today! Those fit to lead revolution; spark transformation and pioneer innovation are present in every sphere of influence. You may just fit this description! The problem?

Most people are not trained to think like leaders. In order to think like a leader, you need to think at the next level. This is one of your key objectives as a leader: getting to the next level and then taking other people with you.

If you don’t heal the wounds of your childhood, you bleed into the future. Do the one thing you think you cannot do. Be thankful for what you have; you’ll end up having more.

There is no greater gift you can give or receive than to honour your calling. Know that everybody has a story. Create the highest, grandest vision

possible for your life, because you become what you believe. If you are still breathing, you have a second chance no matter where you are on your journey, that’s exactly where you need to be. The next road is always ahead. The greatest discovery of all time is that a person can change his future by merely changing his attitude, move with the flow, don’t fight the current, and resist nothing. Let life carry you; don’t try to carry it.

You are responsible for your life so you can’t keep blaming somebody else for your dysfunction: life is really about moving on.

Fail at it. Try again. Do better the second time. The only people who never tumble are those who never mount the high wire this is your moment, own it. If you concentrate on what you don’t have, you will

never, ever have enough; you define your own life. Don’t let other people write your script. There is no greater gift you can give or receive than to honour your calling. It’s why you were born and how you become most truly alive. And there is something to be learned from every experience, the miracle of your existence calls for celebration every day, turn your wounds into wisdom lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you want is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down, right?

Nobody’s journey is seamless or smooth. We all stumble. We all have setbacks. It’s just life’s way of saying ‘Time to change course.’ Learn from every mistake, because every experience, particularly your mistakes, are there to teach you and force you into being more who you are.

I trust that everything happens for a reason, even if we are not wise enough to see it follow your feelings if it feels right, move forward. If it doesn’t feel right, don’t do it. Anything you can imagine, you can create, when you have done everything that you can do, surrender. Give yourself up the power and energy that’s greater than yourself. If you’re sitting around waiting on somebody to save you, to fix you, to even help you, you are wasting your time because only you have the power to take responsibility to move your life forward. The biggest adventure you can take is to live the life of your dreams; the greatest lesson of life is that you are responsible for your life, knowing your deepest intention can be your guiding force in the creation of a better life. The key to realising a dream is to focus not on success but

significance. When you live with an open heart, unexpected, joyful things happen. The only courage you will need is the courage to live the life you are meant to, purpose is the thread that connects the dots to everything you do that leads you to an extraordinary life. The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate.

”

Learn from every mistake, because every experience, particularly your mistakes, are there to teach you and force you into being more who you are

**eswatini
MOBILE**

You Tube

YouTube Must Watch List

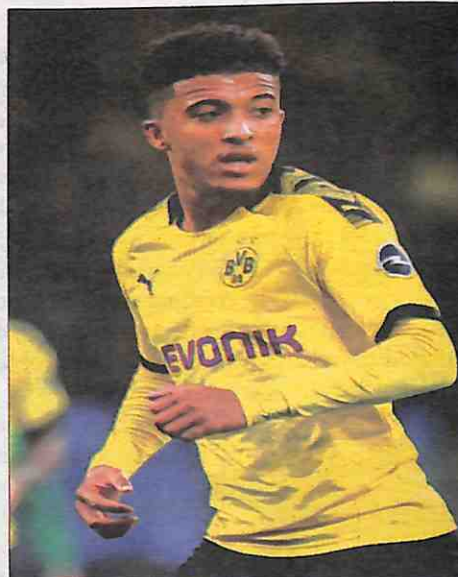
**LIVE
STREAMING**

This week's must see videos revolve around the world of football. It's almost the end of the first round of the first season and to keep up you need to be informed with everything football.

So this week we bring you fun videos that ladies can also enjoy. From Top 10 Richest Football players currently in the world to the story behind Jose Mourinho replacing Mauricio Pochettino as Tottenham manager, its new football news you never knew.

From as little as two minutes, you can enjoy explore a whole new different side of football. Do the right thing and scan the bar code, get to know some of the coolest facts about football players such as the 20 best young soccer players on the planet right now.

The award was established by Italian sports newspaper Tuttosport in 2003 and voted for by journalists and the public. It is presented to the player under the age of 21 adjudged to have



had the most impressive calendar year.



Previous winners include Lionel Messi, Wayne

Rooney, and most recently, Dutch defender Matthijs de Ligt, who scooped the award in 2018. Did you know that Lionel Messi is the best soccer player in the world this year? Am sure you do but I bet you did not know that Cristiano Ronaldo still the fastest player.

All these exciting yet short news are waiting for you to explore right here in a click of a button. These videos will not only help you brag amongst your peers with the amount of information you will learn but it will also keep you updated on all things football.

With Eswatini Mobile you will be forever be connected to the internet and to the world. Your Sundays will never be the same.

With your smart phone and your Eswatini Mobile network data, it's easy for you to stream your favourite shows, series or documentaries on YouTube. All you have to do is to scan the bar code next to your interesting documentary or series we have on our page.

Watching YouTube Videos with Mobile Data is Cheaper on Eswatini Mobile



Top 10 Richest
Football players
currently in the
world



The Best soccer
Player in the
World for 2019



Highest Paid Foot
ball players at club
Per week in
2018/2019



Unforgettable 30
goals in football
History



Top Ten Legendary
Goalkeepers in Football



Sports
Current
Affairs for
2019



Premier
League
Matchday 4



Inter Milan
vs Juventus
4-7
Highlights
and goals



1994 - 2019
All
Champions
League
Finals



2012 Euro
Cup Semi
Finals Spain
vs Portugal



REMEMBERING MIKE TEMPLE

**THE
ARTS**

**THE
MUSIC**

**THE
FOOD**



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Greetings dear readers, hoping people are geared for the Black Friday this coming week where you shop till you drop.

Coming to today's piece, I would like to refer to events of last Wednesday where there was a bitter-sweet moment when the MTN Bushfire team announced the replacement of the late Senator Mike Temple by MP Marwick Khumalo as Chairman.

Khumalo replaces the late Temple who passed on in June. Temple was loved by many.

I was lucky to have met him a week before his death. We had brief conversation with my colleagues while we attended the Bushfire Aftermath. He spoke highly of the arts industry as he gave us an assignment to go and find the loopholes of the industry and report back to the stakeholders.

Unfortunately a week later he passed on. From the 20 minute conversation I had with Temple, I could tell that he was the man who lived and dreamt art.

According to the Bushfire team, Temple managed the Golden Lounge. As a staunch traditionalist, he understood protocol and to many he was the face of the festival. He was always one of the first to arrive and one of the last to leave after each event.

It was an obvious decision for the team to appoint MP Marwick as the Chairman of the biggest festival as they were very close friends with Temple and the fact that Khumalo is the current Lobamba Lomdzala Member of Parliament. Actually the event happens in an area within his jurisdiction.

Khumalo has always demonstrated immense passion for the Eswatini community by investing in and committing himself to various developmental programmes.

His devotion to empowering Emaswati aligns perfectly with the festival's ethos.

Making his inaugural speech as the incoming chairman of the festival, Khumalo said Temple was a very active leader and a best friend.

With that said, today we have decided to pay a very special tribute to Temple; a man who changed the arts industry in Eswatini for the better.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Till next week

Enjoy

Ayanda.

MDZIMBA VIEW SHISANYAMA



MIKE TEMPLE: BIRTH THE FIRST HOME OF ARTS:

Mike Temple was known as a passionate and huge contributor towards the development of the arts industry in the kingdom and he was the man behind Mdzimba View Shisanyama (known as Whispers); the home of arts.

Mdzimba View Shisanyama became the local Man United hangout spot as it was his favourite team. Watching games has become a tradition as all the supporters gather around during a match. Mike had an uncanny ability to bring people together, that's his legacy. The rebirth of Mr Eswatini was hosted at this spot. It became popular, even today it is still the home entertainment for all.

So here's an insider's tip for one of the most favourite place to be; Mdzimba View Shisanyama. Shisanyama is a siSwati term for roasting meat – and establishments of this nature range from roadside braai or barbeque stands, to rough drinking holes, and as in this case to pretty sophisticated outdoor restaurants. Mdzimba View Shisanyama is one of the best places to have a proper Swazi inspired meal. The restaurant is situated in Ezulwini, but it's so "local" that it doesn't even have a sign outside.

It's a fully licensed venue with a well stocked



bar and its set-up to satisfy the tastes of its predominantly local patrons. There are a few big screen TV's in the covered area near the bar, either belting out some popular local music videos or showing soccer – certainly the most

popular local sport viewership.

Whilst it is a licensed venue they are relaxed about patronage from families and on most days when we've visited (which is often) there is a friendly and cosmopolitan crowd that is



HE LEFT A LEGACY OF LOVE, HUMILITY, PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING...

“

Michael John Terence 'Mkhanyakudze' Temple also fondly known to me as my 'Haha',

was a loving husband and father.

A love so abundant it extended to my entire family and friends.

To know him was to love him, a hard worker, he believed in empowering not just himself but the youth and all who sought to seek his counsel. Mike was what you would call a problem solver, even if he couldn't help at that moment he would keep trying until he could.

From the highest offices in the kingdom to interacting with the regiments, Mike fit in every level of society.

Mike was the true essence and spirit of 'Liswati'. He embraced who he was and what it meant daily. He was more likely to be found in his traditional attire than in a suit. For the King and the nation at large there was nothing he wouldn't do. His humility and quiet strength were his most endearing qualities, he had time for everyone.

Extremely patriotic and hard working he always

managed to bring out the best in people.

He had a unique ability to unite people and make them comfortable all at the same time.

His passion for sports cannot go unmentioned. As an avid Manchester United supporter, Mdzimba View Shisanyama became the local Manchester United hangout spot. Watching games became tradition as all the supporters would gather around. Mike had an uncanny ability to bring people together.

A man of many interests and passions, he was also very involved with local artists and their development. Velemseni, Bholoja and Sands to name a few, were some of the artists he worked with. Everything he did he gave his all.

"Last, but certainly not least and probably what he was most known for was his involvement in politics. My husband was very interested in the development and prosperity of the Kingdom of Eswatini. He worked tirelessly in his capacity to facilitate the country's agendas.

He left a legacy of love, humility, patience and understanding. We all miss him so much. Too loved to ever be forgotten. Mhlonhlo! Mkhanyakudze! Wena obabela izinkomo zikaPewula!!!"



certainly more family-friendly than you'd find at a less distinguished shebeen or drinking tavern – so feel free to visit as a family. Sunday is often the most popular day, with a substantial turnout from young local professionals and music lovers.

Apart from the covered area near the bar, the venue is mostly open with green grass lawns and bench tables dotted here and there. It's an enclosed and walled in area, which blocks out the immediate neighbourhood, the MR3 Highway and the Satellite Police Station, but



allows unrestricted views of the Mdzimba Mountain range, which towers above the Ezulwini Valley. This is obviously the background to the restaurant's name... and what a beautiful backdrop it is.

The restaurant is well-serviced with clean toi-

let facilities, and there is also a swimming pool that can keep kids entertained on a hot day. When the place is busy with summer fever the local ladies in bikini tops will also keep most red-blooded men entertained as well. Temple left a home of Arts.

MIKE

TEMPLE

THE FATHER OF ARTISTRY



Five months later, Mike's passing has greatly affected the whole MTN Bushfire Festival family.

Mike was fiercely proud of being Liswati, and was an ambassador of our rich culture.

According to Jiggs Thorne, he helped to initiate the MTN title sponsorship of the Bushfire Festival, in 2012, and remained a vital part of the team, serving as Chairman of the Bushfire Festival Committee until his untimely death in June.

"As Chairman of the Bushfire committee, Mike had the opportunity to profoundly affect arts development in Eswatini. His interest in supporting the arts went far beyond his chairmanship.

Mike played a mentorship and managerial role to many Eswatini artists, including helping to put Bholoja on the map. Mike's main support for artists was practical; he concentrated on helping them on the business side, to enable them to make a living

from their talent," shares Thorne.

This selfless side of Mike was a hallmark characteristic.

Thorne continued to say, "He was available to everybody, and always ready to give of his energy, time and expertise. He had a wide variety of interests but was inspired by the arts because it was a vehicle that allowed us to celebrate our cultural landscape; to support our stories as Swazis.

It allowed us to celebrate who and where we are.

At the Bushfire Festival, Mike managed the Golden Lounge. A staunch traditionalist, he understood protocol and to many he was the face of the festival. He was always one of the first to arrive and one of the last to leave – he had amazing dedication.

His avid support for Mandela's and House on Fire's activities—and his support for the Thorne family—is deeply appreciated. Mike will be greatly missed by us all. He was a mentor to us, as well as a patron of the arts.

He leaves a big vacuum in people's lives because he was something to everybody. He always had a kind word or a greeting, no matter who he was speaking to. We offer our heartfelt condolences to his family.

The whole Bushfire team feels his loss and we are determined to take his dream forward and fulfill his vision.

Hamba Kahle Mike, Hamba Kahle Makhanyakudze! We celebrate you!

"HE WAS A DEDICATED FOOT SOLDIER TO THE SUCCESS OF BUSHFIRE"

Lobamba Lomdzala Member of Parliament Marwick Khumalo now MTN Bushfire Chairman was a very good friend of the late Mike Temple.

As we are paying a special tribute to the man who changed the world of art, one of Temple's close friends, Marwick Khumalo shares his fondest moments about Temple.

"One time, Mike and I were driving to Mozambique and as we were approaching Siteki town enroute to Mhlumeni Border, he pointed at the very old Siteki Nazarene Hospital as the place he was born in 1955. His father, was a regional police commander at the time.

Michael John Terrence Temple, had been through the highs and lows of life. A very strong willed and resilient character who had to face his own challenges in life, particularly in the rough terrain of business.

He was sent to hell and back for believing

in the entrepreneurship capacity of the indigenous Swazi. Temple had seen it all in business, soccer, politics, artists' promoter and socialite.

Temple was a staunch supporter of Manchester United as much as he was a strong promoter of local musicians.

Artists like Bholoja, Sands, would attest to this fact.

That kind of passion was instrumental in getting him closely associated with the Thorne family of Mandela, House on Fire and, by extension, Bushfire.

He and Jiggs Thorne's father, affectionately known to Emaswati as Mandela, were on opposite ends when it came to their soccer clubs favourites.

Thorne was a staunch Arsenal supporter who would give a round to everyone in the bar, after

a Arsenal win.

A loss, would normally result in his unceremonious departure from the rendezvous. In essence, Temple was more of a family member at Mandelas hence his involvement with

House on Fire and

Bushfire, became automatic.

As Chairman of Bushfire, he would sometimes be involved in negotiations with artists promoters together with Jiggs.

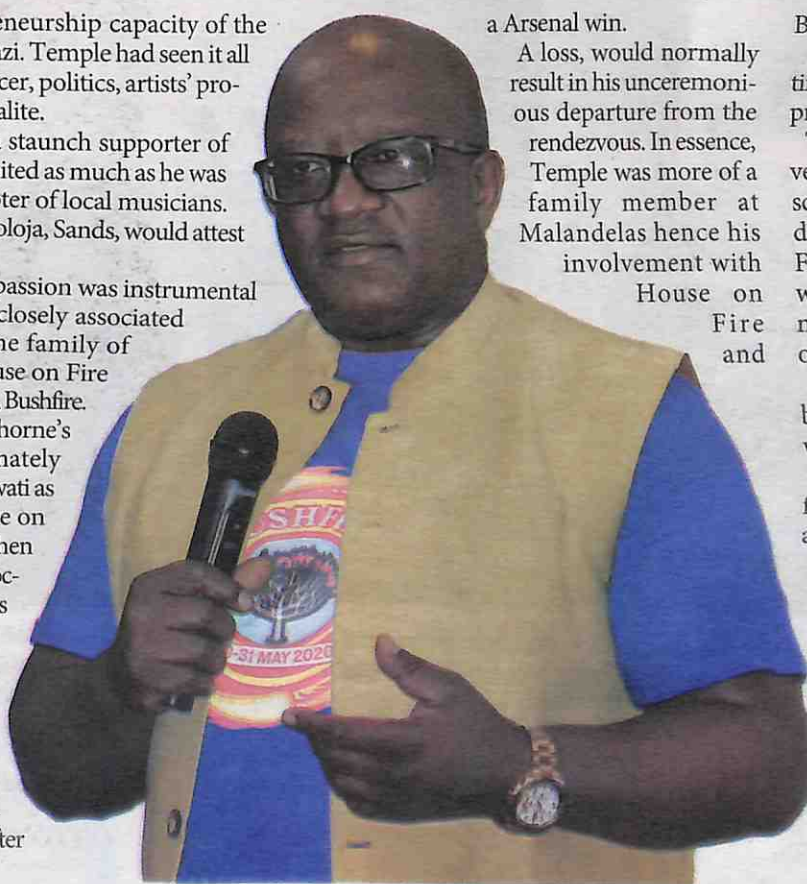
Temple would literally reside at the Bushfire venue from its preparatory sessions, to the schools festival up to the main three super days of Bushfire. In each of the three days, Friday to Sunday, morning to morning, he would clock no less than 20 hours on site and no less than 10km in distance, moving all over the place, with his walkie talkie.

He would, from time to time, take a short break at a small corner, where his dear wife would be chilling with friends.

He was a highly committed and dedicated foot soldier to the success of Bushfire. Over and above that, protocol demanded that he played host to the high and mighty, from members of the Royal family, to the prime minister and ministers; to captains of the corporate sector.

As Bushfire Chairman, Temple went beyond his administrative responsibilities. We will never have another, gentle soul like him.

We shall forever miss until we are united with him again. May his soul rest in eternal peace."



A patron of the arts - Jiggs Thorne

Mike's passing has greatly affected the whole MTN Bushfire Festival family.

Mike was fiercely proud of being Swazi, and was an ambassador of our rich culture. He helped to initiate the MTN title sponsorship of the Bushfire Festival, in 2012, and remained a vital part of the team, serving as Chairman of the Bushfire Festival Committee until his untimely death last Friday.

As Chairman of the Bushfire committee, Mike had the opportunity to profoundly affect arts development in eSwatini. His interest in supporting the arts went far beyond his chairmanship; Mike played a mentorship and managerial role to many Swazi artists, including helping to put Bholoja on the map.



Mike's main support for Swazi artists was practical; he concentrated on helping them on the business side, to enable them to make a living

from their talent.

This selfless side of Mike was a hallmark characteristic. He was available to everybody, and always ready to give of his energy, time and expertise. He had a wide variety of interests but was inspired by the arts because it was a vehicle that allowed us to celebrate our cultural landscape; to support our stories as Swazis. It allowed us to celebrate who and where we are.

At the Bushfire Festival, Mike managed the Golden Lounge. A staunch traditionalist, he understood protocol and to many he was the face of the festival. He was always one of the first to arrive and one of the last to leave – he had amazing dedication.

His avid support for Mandela's and House on Fire's activities—and his support for the Thorne family—is deeply appreciated. Mike will be greatly missed by us all. He was a mentor to us, as well as a patron of the arts.

He leaves a big vacuum in people's lives because he was something to everybody. He always had a kind word or a greeting, no matter who he was speaking to. We offer our heart-felt condolences to his family.

The whole Bushfire team feel his loss and we are determined to take his dream forward and fulfill his vision.

Hamba Kahle Mike,
Hamba Kahle
Makhanyakudze! we
celebrate you!



SWAMA HONOURS MIKE TEMPLE

This year the Eswatini Arts and Music Awards have honoured the late Senator

Mike Temple.

The President's Special Recognition Award has been renamed The Mkhanyakudze Special Recognition Award in special honour of the late Senator Mike Temple a passionate and huge contributor towards the development of the arts industry in the Kingdom. This special award, according to SWAMA President Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini is not voted for by the public.

"It is a Special Recognition Award and awarded by the sitting President of SWAMA to any individual who is not a practicing musician but has contributed immensely towards the development and recognition of music as an art form in Eswatini and beyond our borders.

This award was introduced in 2018 and the one and only recipient of this honour is Metro FM Radio Legend Wilson B Nkosi.

I worked very closely with Mkhanyakudze for three years. We created an establishment called Whispers and he taught

me all there is to know about business, protocol, politics, relationships and life in general," Dlamini shares with SCENE.

"I remember very well he always used to tell me how important I am to this country, and that I must always avoid taking pictures with the artists I host, instead work so hard that they want to take pictures with me.

Blessing

One day a South African politician Fikile Mbalule came to Whispers and asked for me, he actually took a picture with me and I will never forget that. This had the full blessing of his wife and children."

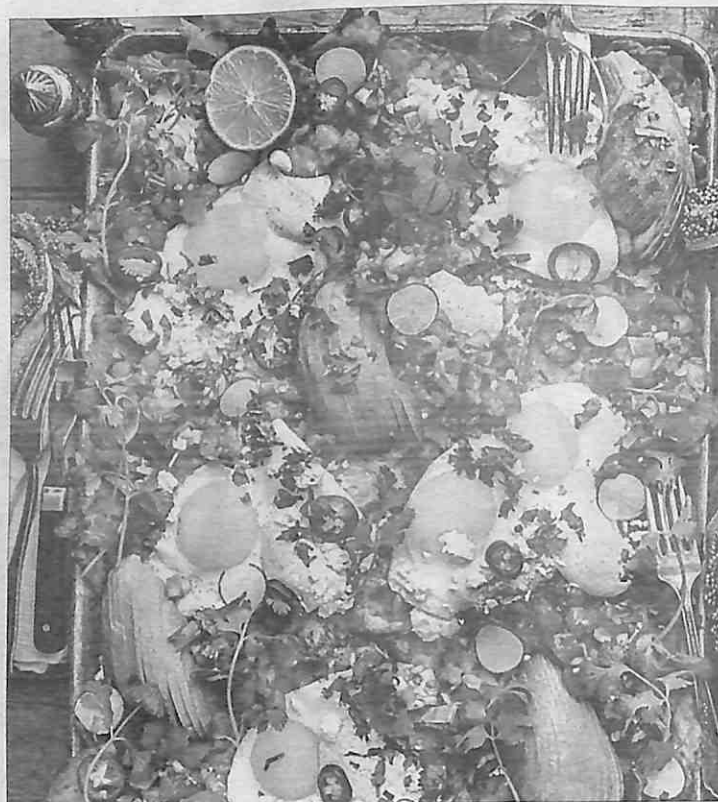
He was great leader- Sands

Afro-Pop artist Sands has said that Mike Temple was one of the leaders in the entertainment industry through his chairmanship in the MTN Bushfire committee. He was also a leader through Mzimba View, which was a platform that hosted artists.

"I was one of the artists that were blessed enough to perform on that stage including Bushfire. He really helped in terms of the growth of the entertainment industry. Of course, he also gave us words of encouragement and words of confidence, especially after our performances.

His advice gave me a lot of confidence to carry on with my musical career. May his soul Rest in Eternal Peace."

IT'S ON AGAIN!



SECOND SUNDAY CULINARY SERIES WITH SA RENOWNED CHEF, DYLAN MGOBHOZI

F

oodies are you ready for an exclusive lunch session

with SA's renowned Private Chef, Dylan Mgoobhozi?

Red Note Africa is set with plans underway to host foodies at the second Sunday Culinary Experience series.

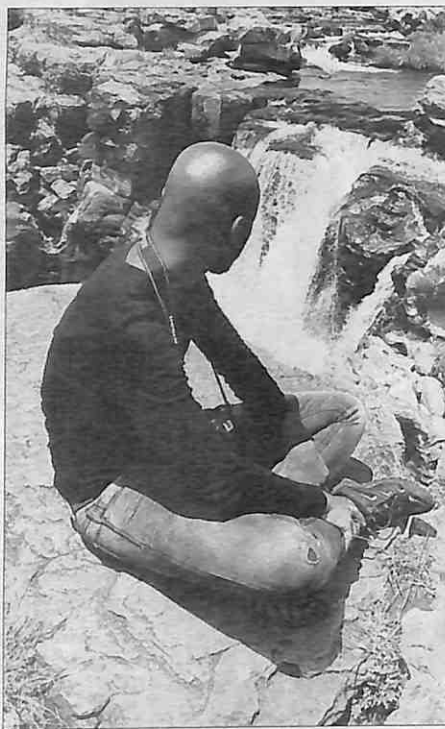
Treat yourself to an event with succulent, mouth-watering meals paired with the finest beverages, hosted on the backdrop of Eswatini's hidden Gems.

The series will once again kick-off with the Corporate Saturday experience on December 14 which will set the tone for the main culinary experience dubbed, 'The Tasting Room' on Sunday (the following).

Red Note Africa Chief Disruptor Khetsiwe Dlamini said with Christmas lunch plans underway there was no better way to treat local foodies to an experience where they can get ideas on how to prepare a Christmas lunch that would keep you on the family's good books as we draw closer to year end.

Dlamini mentioned that bookings were already open with seats selling at E1 250. The event only caters for intimate sessions capped at 40 guests.

To secure a seat on the table you simply send an email to info@rednoteafrica.com and look forward to enjoying a laid-back afternoon with guests and opportunity to personally interact with the chef whilst net-



working with other guests on the day.

Dlamini further encouraged Emaswati not to miss out on the series following the successful debut which kicked off on a high note and was hosted at The Silverstone Lodge. She lastly mentioned that there were a series of giveaways which would be run on Facebook and Twitter.

She urged people to like and share the Red Note Africa page on Facebook to get more details about the Sunday Culinary Experience and what to expect at the 2nd series.

Get to know Dylan Mgoobhozi

Dylan is a blogger, travel agent, private chef, content creator and digital strategist.

He eats his way around sharing both his adventures and delicious recipes.

The vibrant chef has amassed an impressive combined following of more than 8 000 on his social media with plans underway for 2020 where he aspires to branch into the YouTube space with his own cooking channel.

Dylan has been described by most as a pioneer in being a storyteller through food and his mannerism.

Over the years he kept up on new developments, learning as much as he possibly can about what he considers the future of social media and the best way to reach out

to an audience.

Beyond his experience in the food sector, travel and television appearances, Dylan empowers thousands of people each day to take on a bigger role in their eating habits.

He is an advocate for health and through sharing his culinary skills he advises people to eat more home cooked meals as that's the best way to control the calories you take in – he is putting the 'fun' back in the kitchen, one home cooked meal at a time.

Get your taste buds ready and treat your friends to the ideal culinary experience in preparation for Christmas Lunch. See you at the table.



BEAT ON BEATS WITH MDUBASA



lonsundvu@gmail.com
7946 0367/7613 9858

Scene

WHAT'S
IN A
NAME?

What's in a name?

Plying their craft under a pseudonym is a popular practice among DJs and producers in the country.

Unusual aliases have ironically become the norm, with established names in the dance world.

Artists' reasons for using stage names vary; some simply like the way the word sounds, others have stranger or more complex backstories.

We've compiled the origin of a few DJs' names; read on to find out more:

Propper_Ganda

My childhood name has always been Gandaganda, given to me by my late grandmother. When I got to social circles like primary/high school I decided to shorten it up to just Ganda because the kids were getting too excited about my name.

When I eventually decided on a stage name, I figured it had to resonate to where I'm from and who I am as a person, so I decided to make it more interesting by adding the word 'proper' but poetically spelling it wrong, with the underscore uniting the two words. Thus Propper_Ganda



SLOTTA

My nickname, now stage name came about from a 90's television series titled "Tropical Heat" where the lead actor was Nick Slaughter, who was a good fighter.

In that regard, as young boys we would play karate games and jump about during our lunch breaks and by virtue of my original name being Nicholas or Nick in short a friend by the name of Muzi Langwenya started calling me "Slaughter".

The name caught on (since the 6th grade) and with a little spelling change, here we are today



ANDRE J RELEASES KWENDA UMBALI EP



Mncendis Matsebula, famously known in the music scene as Andre J is a multi-genre music producer from Mahwalala in Mbabane.

Born in a church oriented family, Andre J fell in love with the sounds of music during his Sunday school days, which later led him to learning more about the art of creating music.

Influenced by a variety of music genres such as tech-house, trance, nu disco, deep house, reggae, hip-hop and nu soul, his unique production creativity and ability is limitless and range between various genres as he believes that music is one language and should not be contained.

Andre J started music production during his freshman year in university using a demo version of FL studio. He later took classes to learn piano and started using other production softwares such as Ableton, Pro tools and Reason. Andre J has been featured on Summer 17 and 18 EPs, a deep house EP series released year-

Andre J presents his unique approach to house music in this three piece EP, which is inspired by the beautifully nightmarish writings of German writer Franz Kafka.

Melodic oscillators, heavy filtering, layered piano chords & sequences, punchy bass lines & contrasting tones create the overall spine chilling feel yet amazingly relaxing tone of the EP.

Kafkaesque is both dreamy and groovy, with influences from not only the writer to which it owes its name but also world music and classical deep house.



ly under Frantic Media Group. Nearly half a decade into the music industry comes his first official release, titled Kwenda Umbali, licensed and released on +268 Recordings on January 18th 2019. Kwenda Umbali was entirely produced by Andre J, mixed and mastered by Ziyawa. The single, which is available on Bandcamp and Soundcloud for download and streaming, has won the hearts of a vast number of hip hop jazz music fans, DJs, label heads, producers and promoters across the Kingdom of Eswatini and beyond borders.

Currently working on his Hip Hop Jazz EP, Andre J is determined to release one of the best musical projects the kingdom has ever had and even competed in the international market.

WHY ARTISTS NEED SOCIAL MEDIA

Samukelisiwe
Nkambule
Guest Writer



Artists that have been on the road for a while shy away from social media and its controversy, understandably so. For them air play on the radio, magazine covers and television interviews is media coverage enough, these new cats though understand the power of sharing their content online. In this article we will look into why artists need to be active on social media platforms.

Let people discover you! The biggest artists

of our time were discovered on social media by posting their music online consistently. Major stars such as Justin Bieber, Calvin Harris, and The Weekend did not wait for a contract, they kept on producing music until they were discovered. The exposure isn't only directed to your next major gig but it could also introduce you to your idols. Something that has been trending lately is the moment our African princess Sho Madjozi, met John Cena while performing her song of the same title on The Kelly Clarkson show.

Gaps

Traveling is expensive and needs to be of purpose, and social media tries to close the geographical gaps by connecting the artist and listener at a click of a button if your network connection is good. This works wonders for artists with international collaborations, take WizKid for example, he has worked with Drake in the past and recently is featured on Beyoncé's hit single Brown Skin girl which hit 19 million views in three months on YouTube.

Social media managers know how vital online data is for the growth of the artist when putting together social media campaigns. Media giants Facebook and streaming services such as YouTube, Spotify all provide metrics that give insight into

how the market is responding to the artists' craft, which songs are the most popular and some followers are kind enough to share their thoughts through comments.

Traditional advertising requires funds that most artists cannot sway in their pocket sized budgets in order for their messages to reach the desired audience. With the assistance of Instagram, Google ads and Facebook ads, artists can select their target audience and address a specific group of people for more effective marketing and advertising. Social media can also be used as an unorthodox electronic press kit. At events artists need a team dedicated to recording live performances and taking snaps of people who came to support and be entertained. This point is also relevant when booking agents go through your profile, they can deduce where you've performed and the crowd suited to your style of artistry. The images and videos from events and rehearsals become content for the page.

The more followers an artist has the more likely they will attract sponsors from big companies which are crucial in creating a sustainable brand. Well established companies sponsor artists with a large following (not always) to fulfil their corporate responsibility while reaching millions of people.

GLAM, CHIC, STYLE AT ST MARKS HIGH SCHOOL PROM

S

t Marks
High
School

pupils looked amazing in their prom dresses and suits at their farewell prom held at the Royal Swazi, Convention Centre on Thursday night.

The pupils seemed happy as it was their last gathering together as the Class of 2018.

They were all dressed for the night, from long silky dresses to well fitted tuxedos. Their teachers too, went all out for the event by wearing beautiful gowns and great tuxedos.

Most of the gents were well suited-up with most of them wearing three piece suits which seemed to be the biggest trend of the night.



Nokukhanya Msibi looking good in her navy blue dress.



Unathi Tembe looking good in her yellow dress.



Rosemary Andam dressed in a beautiful sky blue dress.



Natalie Samuel in an off the shoulders stylish green dress.



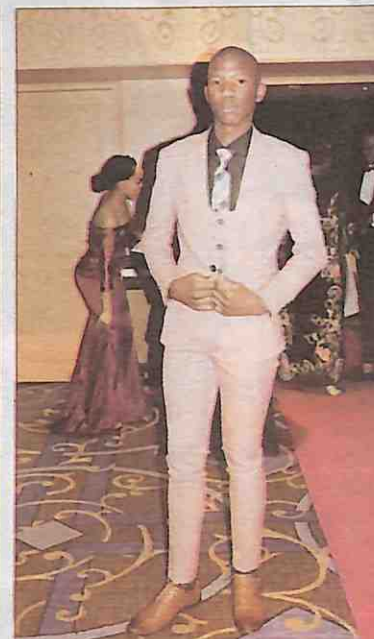
Karabo Simelane looking beautiful in her all white dress.



Phiwayinkhosi Langa looked divine in her royal blue dress that cost her E3 500.



Simphiwe Nhleko looking gorgeous in her yellow dress.



Wanele Dlamini looked good in his tuxedo.



Luyandza Dlamini smiling while he poses for a picture dressed in a royal blue suit.

Bridget Elliot looked gorgeous in her stylish dress.



Ziyanda Mohammed looking good in her all black lace dress.



Makaziwe Motsa looking stunning in her rose gold shimmery dress.



Lwetfu Dlamini slaying in a gold dress designed by her mother.



Shiba Samkelo looking elegant in her maroon fishtail dress.



Todwa Dlamini looking amazing in her stylish dress.

Analysis & opinion

SHARKS WAITING FOR THAT E2 BILLION LOAN



With Mbongeni Mbingo



There is a sense that the E2 billion loan that we are on the verge of acquiring is the modern day Manna for Eswatini. It can't come soon enough.

How desperate this country is to inject some life into the economy is well documented, and perhaps the decision to go out and borrow to service a debt is a statement on its own. We are also bereft of any other creative ideas to solve this problem of the fiscal crisis, and so we are now doing exactly what they always warn us never to do – never borrow to service a debt.

It is in that context that we have to understand why this makes sense for government. There really aren't that

many options left, and so that there is someone out there willing to loan us E2bn to settle outstanding arrears may not be the smartest trick in the book, but it is something of a short term solution.

Perhaps, this explains the enthusiasm from, firstly, the minister for finance who has been talking positively about what the loan will achieve, especially for the small and medium enterprises who have been knocking on government's door for payment for years now.

The other set of very excited people about this decision is our Members of Parliament, who have not stopped talking about what a relief this brings to many aspects of our economy. It

was reported how the bill to acquire this loan from the African Export-Import Bank was rushed through at the lower house, and we all know why.

MPs will use any available opportunity to score political brownies, especially where it concerns money to be 'given' to the people. To them this represents good work, and it also somehow is used to show 'they are working'. I always find this curious, how MPs claiming sitting allowances for a quick-fire decision as this should be viewed as evidence of a hard-working Parliament. But there we are.

Because of this posture, MPs were never going to probe this decision by demanding answers to why govern-

ment was borrowing to settle arrears. To them this short cut is what makes sense, because by the way, they are also business people and they are suffering – although they would never agree to put their interests first.

And, I am certain, a lot of them are wetting their lips over how this money is going to be spent, hence their instruction to the finance minister to give them the list of owed government suppliers.

Neal Rijkenberg must never submit that list to Parliament. Government must do what it can to make sure that MPs don't get to know who is on that list, period!

Stimulates

Anyway, I must admit, the loan acquisition by government itself concerns me. However, I have tried to find some positives around this decision to acquire the loan, and how this will improve our economy, which we all know is now in that ICU state.

We can possibly agree that it makes sense in the short term; it injects some much needed cash into the private sector; it stimulates the economy where it is largely needed, and it frees up the debt arrears.

To that end, this is brilliant. It is

much needed. Except of course, that we have accumulated debt and the interest is just too much.

However, what is probably a bigger concern is whether or not the money will find its way into the right pockets, especially given how rife corruption is in this country. For instance, there is a very high chance that a large percentage of this money will pay rogue suppliers – and not those who really are desperate for the money to do business.

This money must not pay those people who are sitting and waiting with their briefcases to throw their weight around and steal from the taxpayer. That is one of the few reasons why this country's economy is in this state – corrupt individuals have milked this government dry.

Government must not borrow at such a high cost to give this money to the wolves who have destroyed our economy. This money needs to be injected into the economy, or else we have made a very suicidal decision by acquiring this loan.

Disbursement

In addition to this, I hope that by the time the loan is secured, government will have devised a disbursement plan; that is, are the suppliers paid still active, will they resuscitate the businesses once paid and what if suppliers are themselves just waiting to pay their own suppliers? How far does that help solve the problem?

But, the major issue is of course that the loan will need to be used strictly for what it has been secured for. We all know government liabilities and its propensity to misprioritise or use whatever funds it has to settle its bills.

In this instance, of course, the decision to prioritise this payment of outstanding arrears is really noble. It really must be applauded that government has identified this as needing to be addressed, thereby arriving at the decision to borrow money from elsewhere because it surely has failed to settle most of these bills.

However, it would be a scandal if once the money was in the government account it would then grow legs to other 'priority arrears'. That must never happen. Now that we have committed the taxpayer to this cost, it must, at the very least be used for what it is intended for.

It must not be used to plug any holes. This E2bn must find its way to suppliers, finish and *klaar*. Anything else, then it would be a worse decision than it really is. Hopefully, Cabinet has got that plan in place to ensure that it is not looted, and is kept away from the sharks. We know they are now sharpening their teeth.

OPINION

BY CURTIS SINGO

Acting South African High Commissioner

During the 39th Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government held in Tanzania on August 18, 2019, President Cyril Ramaphosa reinvigorated the economic direction needed for South Africa and the SADC region to prosper.

The president highlighted the importance of working towards the advancement of economic integration as envisaged by the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and for the promotion and advancement of the Public-Private sector partnerships.

Worth noting against this background is that, when South Africa attained democracy in 1994, expectations were that the country would play a needed economic role in SADC countries through bilateral economic relations as an entry to the global affairs. It is a fact that problems devastating countries in the region are economically and are as equal to those South Africans are going through, thus the Post-Apartheid Government's Policy choices mirror SADC's challenges and developmental aspirations.

So the president's assertion during the 39th SADC Summit was uttered at the time ours was attracting attention like during the political transition in 1994, wherein international and domestic observers glanced cautiously. However, this time around the country's economy is on the

spotlight with expectations for pragmatic approaches to counter challenges frightening the self-worth of our people.

It is thus evident that President Ramaphosa is aware of these challenges, hence he is preoccupied with stabilising the economy to attract investment as without inwards and outwards investments, our economic base and that of the SADC region will be worthless. With that insight, the President's preoccupation with the revival of the economy should be viewed synonymously with the proverbial captain of the ship that is cruising in bad sea weather yet making progress.

Therefore, investment summits in November 2018-19 respectively hosted by the president are undoubtedly a reflection of President Ramaphosa's desirability and commitments to address challenges that are inevitably instigating high level of unemployment, poverty and inequalities.

These summits, supplemented government efforts to ignite economic growth through the introduction of the stimulus packages, revival of the institutions of governance and revolution in the visas regime exhibited by the decision to relax the unabridged birth certificate requirements for all foreign tourists visiting South Africa with minor children.

It is worth refreshing that President Ramaphosa's ascendancy came at the time our country needed much deeper introspection as the triple chal-

lenges enormously increase their strength impacting badly to our people. At this juncture, as the captain, the president is diligently steering the economic ship cautiously and sensibly towards much-needed solutions, thus investment summits he convened were compelling.

As the dominant economic hub in the region, we are considerate that these positive developments from the investment summits are in a sense for the entire region as our economic trajectories are not isolated, but inextricably linked with the countries of the region.

As the major trading partner with the countries in the region, our economic challenges replicate to the latter in particular closed-in countries as their well-being depends on our economy, thus President Ramaphosa's economic vision is a model worth imitation in the region and rallied behind.

Our advantage of being the most developed and technologically advanced economy, the key manufacturing hub, destination of a leading service in the continent, should be a motivation for countries in the region. This will in essence, ensure that the region confronts challenges that are similar together since there is no economic war that can be won in isolation.

With an understanding that economic growth cannot take place in an environment full of fresh imprints of corruption activities visible for the

key investors to see, the president committed that the sixth administration will confront corruption head-on.

To this effect, noticeable efforts are being made to fight corruption with impunity through the appointment of right people in critical positions and also restoring the justice system to recover the country's stolen monies through corruption with an allocation of R1.3 billion allocated to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) to strengthen its capacity to deal with cases of corruption successfully.

Equally so, the establishment of the Special Investigating Unit's (SIU) Special Tribunal aimed at recovering stolen government monies gave impetus to the President's vision and are complementary in the country's investment image. These developments are worth noticing as our country has improved its World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index for 2019 and now ranks 60th out of 141 countries, an improvement from 67th, a position the country held in 2018 out of 140 countries.

It is therefore essential that fellow countries in the SADC region read our economic resolve in particular our reform agenda, our pragmatic manifestation in doing more with lesser and also to be conscious that respective countries' prosperity is determined by the high level of openness, transparency and accountability.

Ramaphosa's economic vision shaping-up, worth replication across SADC



By Comfort Mabuza

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IS HUMAN RIGHTS TOO

Let me declare my beliefs right from the outset. I am a Christian and indeed a follower of Jesus Christ.

Those who have known me will attest to the fact that I belong to the Evangelical Church, and as such we believe that it is our Christian mission to reach out to others with the Good News of the Gospel Message as part of the Great Commission found in the last words and instruction of Jesus Christ that we are to Make people and nations His Disciples. In layman understanding, it is the Christian duty to proclaim the Gospel message to the world. We do this with the knowledge that people have their own traditional religions and faith, hence we reach out to them with love and compassion and hopefully we engage them with respect. It is that very respect of other religions and people convictions, that we must be respectful and tolerant, which most of us as followers of Jesus Christ must work hard in order to be effective though. We should never forget then that religious tolerance is human rights for all.

REALITY IN THE WORLD

In much scholarly writing on religion it is taken for granted that different world religions constitute separate traditions with their own authoritative discourses and practices. The scholarly practice of dividing the domains

of expertise in religion to correspond to different religious traditions such as "anthropology of Islam" or "anthropology of Christianity" ends up posing the issue of religious pluralism in terms of two or more fully constituted religious traditions encountering each other. The issue then gets rendered as that of promoting understanding between comprehensive world-views that are incommensurate with each other and finding ways of "tolerating" differences.

The issue of religious difference, when posed in these terms, suffers from a particular form of presentism by taking the anxieties articulated in Europe about the increasing presence of Muslims within its own boundaries to be equivalent to the experience of religious difference itself.

This clash of civilizations perspective, first popularised by Samuel Huntington in the 1990s, has been refined in later writings but nevertheless forms an underlying assumption behind prescriptions on how to promote religious tolerance. Instead, paying attention to other contexts (both historical and contemporary) in which the presence of an interreligious milieu was taken to be the normal condition of life can help us broaden our conceptual repertoire for thinking about ways of being in the world that are both singular and multiple.

These ways of being, in which the life of the other was engaged at different scales of social life, did not eliminate conflict across followers of different religions, but these conflicts were part of a more complex understanding of what it was to live in and inherit a multi-religious milieu.

A paradigmatic way of positing the issue of religious difference in contemporary societies starts with the assumption of clear fault lines

in which a modern sensibility that is flexible and open to multiplicity confronts a more rigid sensibility encompassed by the word "fundamentalism." Consider this diagnostic statement by David Held and Henrietta Moore:

"[Fundamentalism] has no time for multiple identities, complex allegiances, and cultural ambiguity. The fault lines running through contemporary society divides those who call themselves guardians of tradition to reassert themselves and those who accept and welcome cultural diversity and seek dialogue and minimum rules of coexistence so that all can live peacefully without resorting to violence and coercion."

In this formulation, there are no conceptual challenges either with regard to the collapse of such categories as "fundamentalism" and "guardians of tradition" or to the subjectivities that are assigned to these categories.

But if these are the kind of subjectivities encountered in the contemporary world, then a theory of the subject that does not take it as fully formed must ask: what are the historical conditions that might account for the continuities or ruptures produced under new conditions of modernity? Pious intentions notwithstanding, one might ask along with Talal Asad and Saba Mahmood whether a secular mode of regulating differences might have unintended consequences in producing the very subjectivities signaled by such terms as "traditional" or "fundamentalist" within the discourse of modernity.

How might the direction of "solutions" offered to the challenge of religious diversity within modern polities, such as the cultivation of "workable cosmopolitanism" or "civic inclusion" be altered if we were to take alternate modes of engagement with the other into

account?

We might be able to expand our understanding of religious diversity by looking at "tradition" and "modernity" through a different lens than that provided by these dominant discourses. The first example is from a letter—Zafar-namah (The Epistle of Victory) that Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru of the Sikhs and the founder of the Khalsa order, wrote to the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb after the evacuation of his warriors from Andanpur fort in the foothills of the Himalayas, and the subsequent battle of Chamkaur in Punjab in which a large number of Sikh warriors were massacred. Why call his letter an Epistle of Victory at precisely the moment of defeat? The key to the text is what Guru Gobind Singh isolates as the moment of defeat for the Mughal emperor, alluding to the fact that Aurangzeb had betrayed an oath, duly recorded on a copy of the holy Qur'an with his signature and sent to the Guru, promising free passage to his band of warriors if he evacuated the Anandpur fort.

The letter read: "I don't have trust even equal to a drop (of water) in your Generals. They were all telling lies. (...) You neither follow the teachings of Islam nor do you understand its meaning. You do not know the ways of the Lord nor you have any faith in the Prophet Mohammed."

Particularly fascinating here is the ability of a Sikh leader to fault an emperor not because the emperor is a Muslim, but because he is not a good Muslim.

The expressions of sorrow, complaint, and betrayal come from criteria honed in a shared world, in which the ability to cohabit comes not from contractual agreements and rules of cohabitation, but from the assumption that another religion allows possibilities for a fol-

JOY
NDWANDWE'S
LEADERSHIP
ZONE

INDIGENOUS FEMININE POWER, QUEEN GWAMILE'S LEGACY

I congratulate Mbabane City Council for preserving the legacy of Queen Gwamile, naming a street after her and recent unveiling of her statue.

This investment in heritage, which previously raised contentions, indicates how our society is slowly transcending from oral tradition to preservation. As storytelling has been the dominate paradigm of protecting heritage, thus, heritage investment unsettles the nation.

Yet, heritage investment creates the fundamental base for collective memory, such that future generation can access knowledge on a daily basis. This statue is symbolic to the collective memory of indigenous feminine power and gender inclusivity within indigenous leadership, whilst preserving the role of women who spoke truth

to power during colonial invasion.

My gratitude to last Saturday Observer, the article on how her family is shunned and living in poverty, however, Queen Gwamile's legacy, created leadership position for the Mdluli family within the royal family. I do not need to mention names of Mdluli families for strategic reasons. I also wish to thank this sister publication for raising awareness of the feminine power mentoring that Queen Gwamile accessed.

I quote "Following the death of her father she moved with her uncle Mvelase Mdluli to the royal homestead at Ludzidzini in the Ezulwini Valley, central Eswatini. It is there that she received some training in statecraft from the old queen mother, Thandile ('LaZidze'), widow of King Sobhuza I and mother of King Mswati II." This acknowledgement of the feminine power mentoring on statecraft, by LaZidze, solidifies my case for indigenous feminine power within indigenous leadership.

QUEEN GWAMILE'S QUEST FOR INCLUSIVITY

When reading, The History of Swaziland, Studies in Political History by D. Hugh Gills, quoting a certain Martins 'I don't like being kept down. I want to rise to the top.'

These words were said by Queen Gwamile, then widow of King Mbandzeni, after her son King Bhunu was named crown prince, within

Queen Regent Tibati leading the country. This indigenous feminine power, taking into consideration she was preparing to be Queen Mother, after the installation of her son King Bhunu. She raised her voice sitting on a grass mat, indicating that she would not be kept down, and was ready to rise into leadership with all the contentious issues that prevailed. As King Mbandzeni was embroiled in serious land concession issues, precipitated by the cold war between the British and Boers invading the kingdom.

Gills further states: "Her (Queen Gwamile) prejudices were undisguised. She resented some of the coterie surrounding the Queen Regent, Tibati.

She had a strong aversion for the Boers and threatened to kill herself if the Republic took control of the Kingdom." Queen Gwamile's feminine power stood in midst of the cold war with its divide and rule strategy infiltrating the royal household. As this book explicates that Queen Regent Tibati and the royal council were for the kingdom being annexed into the Republic of South Africa.

Queen Gwamile's indigenous feminine power, embedded within insights and gut feeling on how this kingdom citizens would have been landless, as land concessions by the Boers were severely brutal.

Indigenous feminine power with no education encouraged her quest for gender inclusivity, most importantly she and her son would inherit a landless nation as land concessions had engulfed the kingdom.

Gender inclusivity prevailed and impelled her with strong aversion for the Boers, hence, her preparedness to die for this country in the event of the annexure into the Republic of South Africa.

Recorded history informs us that the British were also divided as they were battling for land concessions amongst themselves, disunity is dangerous.

Thus, preparedness to die for her country indicates commitment towards ensuring future citizens do not blame her in the future, being on the right-side of history.

Today we celebrate Gogo Gwamile with a statue in Mbabane capital city of the Kingdom of Eswatini, she saved us from being part of Mpumalanga Province of the Republic of South Africa. Thus, a landless nation like our fellow compatriots experienced, subjected to colonialism and apartheid.

INDIGENOUS FEMININE POWER IN LEADERSHIP

Queen Gwamile's indigenous feminine power was resisting the organic proclamation that had divided the royal family into being annexed into

lower to be a good or bad Muslim. Judgment here is premised on criteria that have come to be shared by the process of living together.

The ability to project words across different religions comes from drawing upon a shared vocabulary, but one neither infinitely stretchable nor immune from being misunderstood or deliberately misrepresented. For instance, though Guru Gobind Singh starts with verses of praise for the one god, all the words used are adjectives that would be recognised in both Muslim and Sikh (or Hindu) forms of speech—such as *paravardigar* (sustainer) or *rahim* (merciful) or words for scripture such as *ahle-kitab* (the divine tablet). There is an avoidance of specific proper names in this text—so god is not referred to as Allah.

All these examples raise fascinating issues of translation across religions and how absorption of categories or genres from a neighbouring religion expands the potential of one's own religious experience. These issues arise within a milieu of cohabitation of different religions in which both antagonism and attraction form the texture of relationships.

Another example illuminated the waxing and waning of solidarities and antagonism that marked the relations between religious experiences of different communities rather than standing enmities or alliances between them.

Distinguished historian Shaid Amin provides a marvellous account of such nomadic forms of solidarities by stitching together various narratives through which Ghazi Miyan, a warrior-saint of North India, finds a footing among both Hindus and Muslims. Ghazi Miyan is actually absent from the historical record, though he is popularly believed to have been a nephew of the well-known Sultan Mahmud, who invaded India 17 times. What substitutes for the historical record, Amin shows, is a hagiography by the Sufi saint Abdur Rahman Chishti, entitled *Mirat-i-Masudi*—purporting to be the life story of Salar Masud, later also known by the epithets of Ghazi Miyan or the more affectionate Balle Miyan (diminutive form), Dulhe Bhai (the bridegroom).

The latter, names of endearment, appear in the popular culture of North India as the story of his exploits gets absorbed in a variety of forms such as children's ditties and women's songs

and forms of devotional worship, especially by women seeking his blessings or making votive offerings for the birth of a son. Amin shows how the figure of Ghazi Miyan encompasses within itself many contradictory attributes. He is seen as the killer of *kafirs* (infidels) who wages a war against idolatry. Perversely, it seems, he embraces the company of a dog, considered impure in Islam. He is also the protector of cows and dies on the way to his wedding because he heeds the call for help by village women against cow rustlers. Amin's work beautifully weaves together the contradictory impulses of speaking of Muslims as invaders and destroyers of temples, as well as protectors of cows and brothers to women. Amin shows the ability in these stories to distinguish those who combined conquest with an attraction and attachment to local cultural milieus and those who were simply marauders.

The work of popular culture here creates figures through which a contradictory history of the relation between Hindus and Muslims might be inherited. Instead of the idea of syncretism, which would imagine mixtures between elements of two fully constituted bounded entities, Amin suggests that a kind of consent was given to the presence of the other. In doing so, even antagonisms could be absorbed within more fundamental agreements about openness to the experience of the local milieu by those who came as warriors and conquerors as well as by the original settlers who recognized a certain kinship of affects across religions.

These complex renderings of what it was to inhabit a milieu composed of different religious traditions cannot provide the kind of policy prescriptions through which religious differences are sought to be contained and regulated, in the public sphere in modern politics. They do, however, point to different regions of the imaginary through which the life of the other might be engaged in everyday life, such that the inevitable conflicts and betrayals within a cultural milieu might yet be contained not through a cultivated "tolerance" but by allowing these unhappy moments to be absorbed in the everyday, acknowledging the diverse ways in which "life" knits disparate "lives" together in mutual attraction and antagonism.

the Republic of South Africa.

The legendary Queen Gwamile was for the British protectorate, when she stated in according to Gills: "I will still go to England, as a woman alone, to lay down my case before Her Majesty (Queen Victoria), and seek her protection." Indigenous feminine power, rising to the leadership challenge that prevailed, willing to travel alone to plea for protection, as she was anti-Boer annexation, and stood firmly against the divide and rule strategy that prevailed. Queen Gwamile further stated: "You, see I have this skin, it is knotted across my chest here, and you observe I am now undoing it, I take it off."

These are profound words emanating from indigenous feminine power, her act of defiance was immeasurable to none, as Gills states: "There, it is off. Do you understand my child, do you understand what I mean? I see you do not." Intriguing act of defiance in the removal of her royal symbol, the skin that she took off, as her feminine power at this point could not be defined by skins.

It was her profound soul speaking as she continued according to Gills: "Well, this skin is to me what this coat you have on is to you, it covers my body, and it surrounds my heart. I love it because it protects me, it keeps me warm, just as you love your coat."

This symbolism of indigenous feminine power embedded within the royal regalia that signifies her as queen, was the embodiment of her protection, love and warmth.

Yet her feminine power was beyond these symbols as it was embedded within her soul, protecting the nation from landlessness the primed by annexation by Boers. Queen Gwamile further states: "Do you thinking I am going to throw this skin off and put on another that I

do not care for.

No, I cannot throw it off. This skin is the Queen (Victoria) the other skin is the Boers. But see here, I tie this skin over me again as it was before. There, it is tied up as it ought to be, and as it ought to remain." Indigenous feminine power unshakably defiant during the recorded most dangerous era of this kingdom, hence, we celebrate Queen Gwamile in the Main Street and statue of Mbabane capital city of this country.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to personify half of the indigenous feminine power embodied within Queen LaZidze and Gwamile in statecraft, rooted within indigenous knowledge and dignity. This indigenous feminine power that is desperately required will form part of the indigenous knowledge hub.

We need indigenous feminine power to be integrated with modernity, which has subjugated women through patriarchy such that they are fighting patriarchy through feminist movements.

I remain resolute that indigenous feminine power must be integrated with modernity, such that the defiance, selflessness and sacrifice of Queen Gwamile's legacy lives on within the women of Africa.

Hence, I am grateful to my sister and friend Bongiwé Dlamini, fellow researcher and journalist for providing me with this book written by Gills.

When I am searching for indigenous feminine power models for the indigenous knowledge hub, as many books have silenced their voices. This is part one, as I will share the Queen Regent Gwamile legacy next.

THE JOURNEY TO FORGIVENESS



By Lisa Mongelli

Releasing a traumatic hurtful past is one of the most difficult and challenging things that anyone can do.

This is especially true when those closest to you have deliberately and maliciously hurt you. The subconscious mind has an uncanny way of holding on to unpleasant memories and recalling them when anything similar transpires. It can be like riding a psychological merry-go-round; one just keeps going round recalling the same dreadful memories over and over again. Traumatic recurring memories can make it very difficult to forgive, because with the memory comes all the painful emotion flooding back in and it is like reliving the past; yet if someone really wants to get on with life, and resolve the past it is absolutely imperative that they embark on the journey to forgiveness. Forgiving someone who really hurt you is never easy but it is the only way to become free of a negative hurtful back story. The past is always our gateway to the future; for only in truly understanding where we come from are we able to shape the destiny we desire.

The problem with trauma is that the emotional charge behind a traumatic event is so strong that unless we are able to heal and release it we tend to vibrationally attract similar circumstances, events and people into our lives. In other words we attract back to us the very thing that traumatised us in the first place; a similar partner or job, a nasty boss whatever we are resisting will persist like an unsolved riddle that needs to be answered. Until the subconscious is satisfied that past issues have been settled we will revisit similar circumstances and people time and again whether we consciously want it or not. Why you ask, because this is a universe that works through vibration and attraction will always attract like. If you are depressed and resentful you will attract it back to you every time no exceptions.

Whenever we stay connected to the past in a negative way it energetically keeps us tied. This is especially so when we are caught up in resentment toward another individual with whom we share an especially negative past. These events, words and happenings go into memory and memory holds energy whether that energy is positive or negative we respond

to it in accordance with our feelings. When memory is highly charged we can react to it like it happened yesterday; and when that remembrance is particularly negative it can be shattering. No matter who has hurt you in the past in order to be rid of them it is necessary to rid yourself of the anger and resentment you harbour toward them. Cooking your anger too hot and projecting it onto someone else takes a great deal of power. This is power you can best spend creating a better life for yourself. Giving refuge to negative emotions only robs you of your joy and leads to unhappiness. Be it an ex-spouse, family member or ex-friend it is necessary to leave judgement to God. Whoever hurt you in the past bless them and dismiss them allow that destructive memory to go into light, and get on with your Life.

Choosing to move on from a hurtful past can be really difficult especially for those of us who have a tendency to hold onto things. To want justice for past injuries I believe is a normal reaction for most of us. This world is made up of human beings not Saints. When someone kicks you your first reaction is to kick them back. However, when one has injured your emotions badly especially over a longer period of time it gets a lot more complicated and much harder to resolve within the psyche. This is where Psychotherapy, Life Coaching or Guidance Counselling can help. If you have a past dispute with someone make peace with that person if at all possible for your own sake not for theirs. Forgiveness is all about you and releasing yourself from the chains of negativity that shackle you to an unhealthy past. The person who benefits from forgiveness is always you. To forgive someone fully who has really hurt you is to enjoy the freedom of never again feeling angry or reactive when you think of them. To forgive is understanding that what they did to you can never rob you of your vital force ever again. True forgiveness or detachment is to forego and release all that no longer serves you. When we can realise that letting go of a grudge, bitterness and revenge is no sacrifice it is in fact a blessing that is when we make huge strides toward healing a traumatic past.

Healing always has to do with self healing. Releasing resentment and anger can be a long process depending on the depth of the injury. This is where the willingness to let go and heal comes in. Why do bad things happen to good people that I really can't answer I only know they do.

I do, however, know this it is in your hands how you process reactions and ultimately release your past. Prayer and meditation can be of great assistance in the process of forgiveness. Remember what Jesus said, "love those who despitely use you." Every great master who ever lived advises us to love and forgive our enemies? Why, because when we love ourselves enough to forgive our enemies we set ourselves free of any darkness that abuse and cruelty can bring into our lives. To take the Higher Road isn't easy. The road to forgiveness is a narrow path and it first requires self exploration and self forgiveness; but when you can pass through the shadow of anger and resentment at the end of that road is the limitless blessings of Divine Light.

God bless you and enjoy your Sunday.

Please share your thoughts with me you can write me at lisamongelli30@gmail.com

LET'S START THE JOURNEY



TOURISM & TRAVEL

Chunky Mdluli – Acting Marketing Manager
Email: mo@tourismauthority.org.sz

VAKASHA NGWANE LOMUHLE, TAKE PICTURES AND WIN!

Let me start with the good news.

As part of its festive domestic travel campaign, Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA) has lined up an exciting photography competition that should get everyone itching to go out and experience the best the kingdom has to offer this festive season. Announced alongside 13 top social influencers, who have dedicated time and resources as tourism

ambassadors, the photography competition will see Emaswati who post stunning pictures that tell 'My Eswatini Story' win weekly prizes.

Here is how it works; Emaswati are encouraged to post domestic travel pictures of themselves and the places they visit to the following ETA social media platforms: Instagram- swazilandtourism, Facebook- swazilandtourism and on Twitter @travelswaziland. Participants are encouraged to use the following hashtags when posting their pictures:

- #Discover Eswatini
- #NoExit
- #VakashaNgwane

- #EswatiniFunTimes
- #MyEswatiniStory
- #LonelyPlanetBestInTravel2020

Now that's just a tip of the iceberg. ETA is pulling all stops to convert the camaraderie and celebratory fervour that came with the recent top five rating of the country as one of the best places to visit in 2020 into bodies in beds. Of course, as the Minister for Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Moses Vilakati, aptly pointed out as he launched the new festive campaign earlier this week, this rating does put the kingdom in pole position, indeed a position of strength, and Eswatini is determined to strike the ham-



mer while the iron is hot. Whoever coined the wise words 'fortune favours the prepared mind' would have had destination Eswatini in mind. The Lonely Planet rating, itself a reward for many years of hard work by those tasked with developing and marketing the kingdom's tourism product, comes at a time when ETA is in the process of implementing cutting-edge strategies to impact both international and domestic tourism source markets.

Between June and July this year, ETA commissioned a research that sought to establish why the domestic tourism market remained inactive, with a view to determining a scientific prescription to improve domestic travel. The research has given birth to the exciting and innovative campaign: 'Vakasha Ngwane

Lomuhle – Explore your own kingdom and discover our unparalleled culture, landscape, adventure, flora and fauna'. Targeted at Emaswati here and those working in the region, as well as expatriates resident in the kingdom, the festive campaign primarily seeks to speak to the travel and recreational needs of xennials or the so-called Generation X, that is people aged between 35 and 54, who were born into an analogue age but grew into a digital age; as well as millennials – aged between 18 and 35 years, the much younger, tech savvy generation whose everyday life is influenced by social media.

The campaign also embraces baby boomers, largely characterised by pensioners who may have both time and enough financial resources to travel as couples and, or with grandchildren. Launched earlier this week,

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILDREN DO ALL DAY?



Children who were writing external examinations have already started their end of the year holidays.

They are at home while other children are still completing their internal examinations and wind-

ing up the academic year.

Whereas the Form Fives, Threes and Grade Sevens had several hours of supervision in the form of teachers during the school year, they are now at home and most probably either alone or under the care of a helper or relative.

They have nearly three months of being at home to contend with.

This might seem like a lot of time for those without any plans, however, it may be a very short time for those who know what they will be doing and when.

Planning what children will be doing for the holidays is a very important part of their upbringing. It helps reduce the number of days when children will be idle in both mind and body. An idle mind is, after all, the devil's workshop.

Keeping children busy with well supervised activities and chores also helps in keeping them away from lurking danger.

Sexual violence incidences are the most prevalent when schools are closed. This is when predators pick out the most vulnerable children who remain or move around unsupervised.

It does not take long for a child to be violated, all that predators look for is an opportunity. It may sound hard to believe, but children are hunted and preyed on, even within the safety of

their homes. This is because the people most likely to violate our children are our own family members. This is because we either trust them or refuse to believe them capable of violating their own blood. Unfortunately, according to statistics most children get violated by people they know. These are people who were trusted to look after the child. Despite the trust, most sexual violators are usually repeat offenders. By the time they get arrested, they usually have several unreported alleged crimes behind them. This means there could be raving suspicions about their paedophilic behaviour which people ignore and only bring up past incidences when a harrowing one is being discussed.

This is the comfort which perpetra-

tors could have been operating under for some time, that no one willingly talks about their dirty deeds out loud and no one admonishes them. By the time they are arrested, what is shocking to some could have been excused by many more over the years.

These are the people who are a danger to your children as they stay at home for the holidays.

Another danger is the custom of having children visit relatives unsupervised.

Often, in the spirit of promoting relations, a child will be taken to relatives where logistics of what they will eat will be talked about without any discomfort. However, the most important aspect of their lives is never discussed. Parents neglect to talk to the



UNITED GENERAL INSURANCE LEGAL PROTECTION



None of us can ever claim to be fully prepared for death. It is a part of life that no one ever wishes to go through, yet it has, now more than ever, become a big part of our

lives. This, then, compels us to do all in our power to prepare for the inevitable by taking out funeral policies. The question lies therein – have we done all we can to ensure that when met with the unfortu-

nate circumstances brought about by death, we can stand firm and meet all the funeral demands?

FORESEE

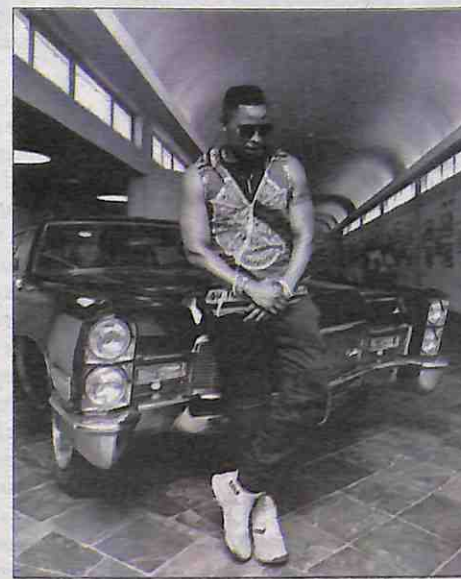
This is a question that should be

at the back of many of Emaswati's minds, including those who have made the necessary arrangements to ensure smooth funeral preparations. The truth is that we can never in our individual capacities

entirely foresee all of life's oncoming challenges. Luckily United Life Assurance (ULA) has, along with her team of professional insurers, provided an array of funeral insurance products that cater to every need. ULA offers the Dignified Funeral Insurance Plan, Dignified Family Support Insurance Plan, the Dignified Homelink Insurance Plan, the Dignified Comprehensive Insurance Plan, Senior Citizen Insurance Plan and the Tribute Insurance Plan.

INDIVIDUAL COVER

Emaswati can choose from any of the above-mentioned products



the campaign employs modern strategies to enhance focus on domestic tourism and motivate Emaswati to dare to travel. As the Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs launched the campaign, it was stated clearly that it would be driven by celebrity personalities, who would play the role of influencers as they sample various attractions across the length and breadth of the country and post their experiences on the social media accounts with the same hashtags as those used in the photography competition. Influencer marketing is a fast-growing market-

ing strategy that identifies people who have a strong influence on a target audience, and where it has been used, it has yielded positive outcomes. ETA has identified 13 influencers who have agreed to be used as tourism ambassadors. These have a combined following of over 700 000, and we are confident of success with their involvement.

In his speech as he launched the festive, the minister said Emaswati constituted 30 per cent of the 394,709 tourists who visited accommodation establishments. A simple deduction pre-

sents a clear picture as to what can be achieved with the involvement of the influencers with as large a following as they boast.

The research, which informs the ongoing campaign, had revealed some very interesting findings, which we believe will be addressed by the festive campaign. Among the many findings, the following stand out:

- A perception that the local tourism product is expensive

- Limited knowledge on tourism products and their affordability.

- Poor packaging of tourism products in terms of pricing to accommodate Emaswati

As the influencers post their experiences on their various social media platforms, we believe this will go a long way towards changing some of the above perceptions, and Emaswati will be inspired to explore their own country. What's uniquely exciting with this campaign is that everyone has a role to play. Get out there and have a blast. Remember to share your experiences with us at ETA, and if your images make the grade, you will be the winner.

host family about sexual violence and the expectation that a child should be protected is never articulated. There is never a meeting about sexual violence and how males in the family should behave themselves and avoid exposing children to anything that resonates sexual abuse.

In the event the visiting child breaks a window or is delinquent, the host family might have no qualms either disciplining the child or reporting this incident to the parent.

However, in the event something wrong happens to the child, the usual reaction is the have this hidden from the parents, protecting the perpetrators.

Yes, not reporting sexual violence is protecting sexual violence perpetrators because this does not assist that child in any way.

As much as sexual violence sounds as horrible as it is, this feature is not intended to cause alarm.

It is intended to have parents take a reflective look at where their children will spend the holidays. Are they safe?



Is the host family providing a safe and conducive environment for the child? Who is looking after the child while playing?

Is the sleeping area a safe one where the child will not be bothered by nocturnal sexual violence assault visits? Is sexual violence a subject talked about by the host family and admonished as the crime it is or is it tolerated in the spirit of keeping the peace and ignoring the plight of the child?

Where is your child spending the holidays? Is it a safe space? Holidays are not a time to get rid of children. Nor is the festive season. It is supposed to be a time of happiness, of being care free and meeting with family members who live in distant areas. Let us

ensure that the sense of adventure that children have over the holidays remains untainted by sexual violent incidences. Let us protect them while they play, as they travel and while they sleep.

There is still a lot more that can be done to protect children. To play your part, please contact the Campaign Manager. It Takes Eswatini To End Sexual Violence Against Children Campaign Is A National Campaign led by World Vision Eswatini, to part and play a role contact, **nontobeko_mbuyane@wvi.org**

Report Sexual Violence Today On, **Police: 999**

SWAGAA: 951

MOET: 9664

SMS U-REPORT: 8500



and get individual covers from E11 to up to E110 in monthly premiums. In return, they stand to get a pay out of a lump sum ranging between E5 000 and E50 000 in funeral insurance.

New applicants need to submit a certified copy of their IDs and a certified copy of their dependants' IDs or birth certificates. They should also provide a certified copy of their marriage certificate (should one wishes

to add their spouse as a beneficiary) and also a certified copy of the nominated beneficiary's ID.

GROWN UP CHILDREN

The funeral cover policy holders are also encouraged to urge their children who have exceeded the beneficiary age to open their own funeral cover to ensure that they, too, can enjoy peace of mind.

This can also be done by visiting

the nearest United Holdings' branch, where an efficient consultant will assist them with the application process. The new policy-holder will need to produce a copy of their national ID. If they have dependants that would need funeral cover, a certified copy of proof of relationship in the form of a birth or marriage certificate will be needed.

HONEST DECLARATION

Should you wish to know more about the funeral policies and products being offered by United Life Assurance please visit **www.unitedholdings-waziland.com** or call **800 10 10** to find out more.

You may also send your enquiry via email to **info@united.co.sz** or visit our Facebook page on **@Unitedhdsd**.

ANDRE DE RUYTER AND THE CORRUPTION OF TRANSFORMATION

Under ideal circumstances, the race of a person appointed to a position of influence at a state-owned enterprise (SOE) shouldn't really matter.

In this era of globalisation, where sought-after, skilled people circulate globally, even the nationality of the appointee shouldn't be a big deal. It should only be about whether the appointee has the right skill, know-how and attitude to do the work.

But we are not yet the ideal society envisaged in our Constitution. We are struggling along. It sometimes feels like we are moving one step forward and three back. We are a society characterised by race-based inequalities - a product of our painful history. It's unfortunate that some political leaders in our country are colonial/apartheid denialists.

Because of our past, the appointment of André de Ruyter as Eskom's chief executive officer inevitably triggered a debate, not only about his qualification, but also about transformation. Opponents of the appointment have argued that the government has betrayed its own transformation agenda. The government, they say, has no faith in the many black people who have the qualifications and experience to run Eskom.

The debate has also moved to the arena of speculation: Will De Ruyter succeed? If he does, would it confirm the racist stereotype that black people, who have been unsuccessful in the same position in the last few years, are incapable of running a complex company like Eskom?

Neglected in the debate so far are the circumstances under which black executives failed in the past. The transformation debate is often incorrectly located in a black vs white binary. The truth, however, is that a black-led government has presided over the destruction of a number of black executives in state entities.

The executors of the destruction have been appointing/supervisory authorities in all spheres of government. During the ruinous state capture presidency of Jacob Zuma, the scheme, which was not new, was elevated to the president himself.

The destruction happens at many levels: directors general, boards of SOEs (non-executives) and executive directors. How it is executed makes for a sad observation.

Wherever black people are appointed to high positions they get two contracts: the formal, written contract and the informal, unwritten one. The latter is about being amenable to undue influence by the appointing/supervisory authority (MMC, MEC or minister) to do what he/she wants.

Illegal instructions include giving contracts to people preferred by the appointing/supervisory authority and giving jobs to certain people with political, family, regional and ethnic links. Usually, it is a combination of these links.

Some differences of opinion, typically about tenders and appointments between the appointing/supervisory authority and the appointee at national level, would be mediated in political circles, including by Luthuli House.



By Nokwanda Dlamini
Marketing and Communications
Manager
National Maize Corporation
Email: marketing@nmc.co.sz
www.nmc.co.sz

LAND PREPARATION AND PLANTING OF MAIZE

logging. Consequently, poorly drained soils should be avoided for best yields.

IMPORTANCE

As the rain has started falling, the popular Swazi saying "Phezukomkhono" is the season's buzz word. It signifies that farmers must get ready and work on their fields. Farmers must understand that good yields starts from good soil preparation. Poorly prepared land leads to low yields. It is very important to do proper land preparation for growing maize.

Properly prepared soil ensures good germination of the maize. Secondly, it ensures free root penetration in search for water and nutrients. Maize as a free-rooting plant, its root can grow up to 1.5m deep. Subsequently there need to be no restriction on root development. Soil compaction creates a physical barrier between germinating maize seed and their ideal roots and shoots development. This development is required to promote adequate growth, collect available nutrients, and produce desired/optimum yields.

Seedbed preparation should begin with a major tillage operation performed at least a month before planting. This helps to incorporate residues into the soil before planting, allowing residue decomposition. The common tendency across Eswatini farmers is to prepare the soil when it's time to plant.

Most often at that time there are overgrown weeds that the implements will fail to bury. It is very useful also as it breaks pest cycles. In addition, proper tillage helps to kill weeds.

Proper land preparation exposes harmful pests and diseases to the heat of the sun and breaking their cycles; it is also part of weed management in the field. This will effectively help a farmer reduce pesticides and weeding cost. Finally, land preparation for growing maize improves water and

air movement, and loosens the soil for easy root growth. In contrast poorly prepared soil makes planting a hectic and difficult operation as well as affecting germination and plant population. Poorly germinated and sparsely populated fields mean poor harvest at the end. Therefore a farmer must make sure the field is properly prepared before planting for improved production and productivity.

HOW TO PREPARE THE LAND FOR MAIZE PLANTING

Seedbed preparation should begin with a major tillage operation performed at least a month before planting. This operation can be done in several methods. Most popular for Eswatini is the tractor usage. Tractor hire service is available across Eswatini, at RDA's. Government through NMC also collaborate with private tractor owners to improve efficiency and ensuring timely land preparation.

Implements available range from mouldboard plough, disc plough, and disc harrows. No-till/minimum tillage implements are also available. Farmers are therefore encouraged to utilise these services and implements in preparing their fields. Maize farmers in the country most often only use mouldboard plough and do not use disc harrows. This makes germination problematic due to big clods and encourages weed germination even before the crop emerges. This will increase operational costs and reduced profits. Depending on the condition of the ground, it is advisable to till the soil to a depth of at least 30 cm when using ploughs. Farmers must avoid tilling the soil when too wet.

HARROWING

Then harrowing follows to break clods making a suitable field and ready for planting. Avoid tilling or harrowing the soil when it is too wet because this can cause big lumps espe-

cially in clay soils. This also destroys the soil structure. Harrowing involves breaking up large lumps of soil to get a good seedbed. A good seedbed makes planting easier and ensures maize germinates well. Planting should start a few days after the start of the rains when the soil moisture is enough.

PLANTING

Maize requires more rainfall to perform well. Therefore time of planting and rainfall is important in maize production. It requires about 450-750mm rainfall depending on the variety planted. Short season varieties require minimal rainfall, the opposite is true for long season varieties. Eswatini maize farmers use almost all varieties. Due to climate change effects, it is not simple as it has been to determine planting time. This means farmers should always be ready to adjust their planting times and variety selection to ensure maximum harvest.

Therefore a maize producer must always be on the alert and ready. There must be enough moisture in the soil when planting otherwise germination will be poor. The seed should not be in direct contact with fertilizers as most farmers do, especially when using free-hand planting method, to avoid seed damage, which can cause poor germination. Cover seed with loose soil, not with big clods and too deep, to ensure good germination. Early land preparing, using right depth, and right spacing results in higher maize yields.

POPULATION

Maize yield is closely related to plant population. More plants mean higher yield. However, there are limitations to increasing plant population under dry or humid hot conditions. Maize becomes more susceptible to pests and diseases when temperature, rainfall, and humidity are high. In

turn this results in decreased yields and loss to the farmer. Farmers need to understand that if they use high population, they need to increase fertilisation and there must be more rain or enough moisture for the crop. Otherwise this will result in low yield per hectare due to competition for moisture and nutrients. The wider the spacing the lower the population and the narrow the spacing the higher the population. Usually maize plant population ranges between 37 000 to 53 000 plants per ha depending on spacing. Wider spacing is recommended on low rainfall areas. High population can be done on high rainfall or irrigated areas.

Around the country farmer's plant using various means, Plant using free-hand, planters such as a jab planter, ox-drawn and tractor-drawn. A tractor-drawn planter is better to ensure uniform depth of planting and spacing. When using a planter, it must be well calibrated before planting to ensure uniformity.

SPACING AND DEPTH

Sowing depth is very important in maize production. Seeds planted too deeply will be slow or even fail to emerge, and seedlings will have immediate weed competition. A planting depth of just 2.5cm is sufficient on most soils and allows for rapid emergences. The depth of planting maize depends on how moist the soil is. If the soil is moist, plant at 2-3 cm depth and if the soil is dry, plant the seed at 5-10 cm deep so that it does not dry up. The depth of planting should be uniform to allow unvarying plant germination and growth.

For good growth and development, maize should be planted at the right spacing. Many farmers use hand free planting method which makes it very difficult to control spacing. This may affect plant population consequently lowering yield.

The popular Swati saying "Phezukomkhono" echoes all corners of the country. It is that season for maize and other crop growing and the expectation is that every farmer is up and working in the fields. This week, we will focus on land preparation and the planting of maize.

Maize is a staple food for the country and therefore we put more emphases on its increased production. As the minister has told Emaswati "Phezukomkhono" We also encouraged Emaswati farmers to go all out and plough their fields to achieve the country's food security requirements.

Maize can be grown in various soil types but grows best in loamy soils. It requires soil with good drainage, aeration, and good fertility. Therefore proper soil preparation is important for optimal yield. Across Eswatini, it has been realised that maize is very prone to both drought and water-

Evang. Wilton Mamba



WHEN YOU FEEL DOWN, CHRIST IS CLOSE

● *The walk with Jesus is fraught with challenges, most of which humans cannot control relying on their physical faculties. It is important to know that when we fall short of His standards and sin, we must run to Jesus and not away from Him.*

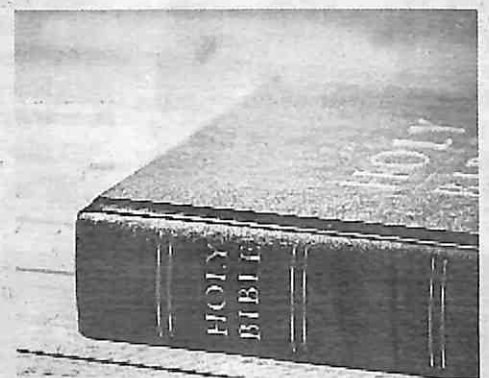
(Jeremiah 17:9). Man's immeasurable need for Jesus Christ is a reality that God urges humanity to believe and humbly respond to (John 8:24, Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8)."

Green says we need Jesus more than we can imagine. I believe born again Christian's like myself need Jesus more than those who have not crossed the Rubicon. I use the expression in reference to what is a forbidden transition to Christ side from the devil's kingdom of darkness. Students of history will be familiar with the origins of the idiom 'crossing the Rubicon' as it has an ancient origin.

It refers to a decision made by Julius Caesar, who was the governor of Gaul in 49BC, which meant he had to give up his power in Rome. He was not allowed by the Roman Senate to bring his troops back to Italy. We need Jesus to validate our belief system; without Him what we believe in is not solid. Contrary to generally accepted belief, I have realised that it is when

we are down and defeated that Jesus moves closer to us. I have seen many preachers speak with so much pomp, you would think everything rises and falls on their ability. When we are down, Christ moves closer; yet when we are pompous, danger lurks. It has taken great revelation for me to appreciate the advantage of being down, compared to the dangers of feeling righteous; yet this is among the first things Jesus spoke about in his sermon on the mount. In Matthew 5:4-5, Jesus says, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth."

Further in verses 10, 11 and 12, Jesus says, "Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven,



for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." It is very clear that the only thing that matters is righteousness, which put simpler means right-standing. Righteousness is not a feeling, but rather a position. When our position is secure with Jesus, we have nothing to worry about though the world may persecute us; though we may die in the flesh, we are made alive in the Spirit and Jesus re-assures us that we may fear not him who only destroys the flesh but cannot touch us beyond that. "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Instead, fear the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matthew

In recent weeks, I have faced an avalanche of challenges that made me appreciate just how much I need to rely on Jesus. Bible scholar Kyle Green says: "Most of us know that we need to eat our veggies. Do we know exhaustively why? Probably not, we just know it's important. Knowledge of how much we need Christ is on a far grander scale. The capacities needed for a complete comprehension of man's need for Christ far exceed our own; therefore, such understanding resides in the mind of God alone. Having all the right theological answers does not mean that you fully grasp how much you need Christ. Not only are God's thoughts and ways infinitely higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8-9), we can hardly understand our own hearts



Junior Achievement Eswatini
Impumelelo Building, Trelawney Park
P.O. Box 2187, Manzini
Tel: 2505 6504/8259/6045
Fax: 2505 8216
Mobile: 7605 2296
Email: siphesihle@jaswaziland.org

ESWATINI HOSTS A GREAT GEW 2019!



This year's Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) has seen a growth in activities and participation than last year and we are so excited with the results!

The country was among 170 countries that are commemorating GEW. This has been commemorated since 2008. The themes for the year are inclusion, ecosystems, education and policy.

Each of the four regions hosted an activity to ensure that no one was left out.

The week comes to an end today having started last week Monday on a high note as two of Eswatini's leading entrepreneurs shared advice to with the youth on how to succeed in business.

The gathering saw a full house attending the meeting at the Municipal Council of Mbabane made up mostly of the youth from various communities in Mbabane. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the council for partnering with us to host this successful and meaningful event.

The GEW talks were hosted by the Global Entrepreneurship Network Eswatini hosted under Junior Achievement Eswatini and went on until the end of the week.

The first speakers sharing their business journey were OnSwaziline Director Mfundo Mohammed who has established himself in the IT industry and Miliswa Mamba who is the Director of SiyaEswatini Transmagnifique.

Mamba shared on how to start a business, why to start one, how to sustain it as well as overcoming challenges.

Her inspirational journey in business equipped

the youth to be ready to start a business.

Mohammed on the other hand shared on raising the youth entrepreneurship profile. He encouraged the young people to believe in their dreams and invest time and effort into them.

Some of the topics in line with the themes hosted at the activities include the role of entrepreneurship in fighting unemployment, a Shiselweni Youth Expo which was graced by the Minister of Sports Youth and Culture Harries Bulunga, a business talk show as well as an event on fostering entrepreneurship

through education.

The GEW website gives the history of how this event grew from just 37 countries in 2008 to 170 participating in 2019! It states that like most—if not all—new ventures, Global Entrepreneurship Week started with an idea. What if there was a global movement to inspire people everywhere to unleash their ideas and take the next step in their entrepreneurial journey?

Representatives from 37 countries were on hand when GEW was announced in 2007 by Jonathan Ortman, president of GEW, Carl

Schramm, former president and CEO of the Kauffman Foundation and Gordon Brown, former prime minister of the United Kingdom. Included in those 37 countries were the first 18 host organizations to commit their countries to the campaign.

We thank all those who made GEW 2019 a resounding success, the partners, the venues, the technical team, the speakers, the people and organisations hosting events and most importantly the public for participating.

Today we share more of the various pictures from the successful GEW 2019!

10:28).

The walk with Jesus is fraught with challenges, most of which humans cannot control relying on their physical faculties. It is important to know that when we fall short of His standards and sin, we must run to Jesus and not away from Him. I have made this fatal mistake before, where I have felt unworthy of His presence after sinning. That was wrong. Other preachers have continued to preach the word after sinning, acting as if nothing ever happened.

That also is wrong. If we appreciate the consequences of sin, we should appreciate the importance of running into the Lord's arms each time we sin. When we are tempted to sin, Satan strikes the first blow that will lead to total destruction, ensuring that he throws us so deep into the dark kingdom that we would lose our bearings as to the way out. While the Bible wants us to concede that we are all sinners, we cannot walk with, hear from and act with Jesus while we are in sin. Sin is

deadly.

In health language they would recommend that you detect it early to arrest its deadly consequences. The cure for sin is total reliance on Jesus. Run to Jesus as soon as you realise your mistake.

This is what I have come to appreciate in the past few days. Jesus says in **Luke 17:1**, "It is impossible that no offenses should come, but woe to him through whom they do come!" Most importantly, the Bible says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (**1 John 1:9**). I have selected a few verses that show us the consequences of sin (below), and given the seriousness of these, it is wise to confess our sins each time we falter.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

James 1:15

Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings

forth death.

Romans 7:13

Therefore did that which is good become a cause of death for me? May it never be! Rather it was sin, in order that it might be shown to be sin by effecting my death through that which is good, so that through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.

Genesis 2:17

...but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

Psalms 34:21

Evil shall slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned--

Romans 5:14

Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is

Wilton Mamba is an Evangelist and founder of David Goliath Spiritual Solutions, a sanctuary that provides spiritual solutions to practical problems, counselling and life coaching, cutting-edge Bible study and spiritual exercises through works of faith.

If you have been blessed by reading this article, or seek clarification on some of the issues raised here, contact Evang. Wilton Mamba on 7677 9312 or 7977 0952 or 2404 5284.

You can send an email to mambawilton.multimedia@gmail.com. Fellowship with us today at 10am at Multimedia, Corner Somhlolo Road and Mhilibi Street in Mbabane opposite ICAP.

a type of Him who was to come.

Romans 5:15

But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many.

CLASSIFIEDS

2404 8699 / 2404 3807 / 2505 2320

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Clients are advised to please check their adverts on the first publication day, for we will not be held responsible for any errors after the first day of publication. If it happens that you note any errors, please call 2404 3807 / 8671 immediately and it will be corrected as soon as possible. Failure to adhere to these terms, we assume no financial responsibility. Thanking you in advance for we assure satisfactory services.

INDEX

1. NOTICES

General Notices
Legal Notices
Church Notices
Announcements
Change of Surname
Sales & Foreclosure
General Items
Auctions

2. BUSINESS SERVICES

Special Services
Business Opportunities
Restaurant, Catering & Office

3. JOBS or VACANCIES

Equipment
Garage sale
Other Business Items
Maintenance & Construction
Motoring and Transport

4. MISCELLANEOUS

Medical & Natural Healing
Tuition & Courses

5. HEALTH & BEAUTY

6. PETS & PET ACCESSORIES

Pets & Adoptions
Cats & Kittens
Dogs & Puppies
Birds & Poultry
Fish & Aquarium
Other Pet & Accessories

7. ELECTRONICS

TV's, DVD Players, Decoders &

Satellites
Household Appliances
Music Equipment, Amplifiers,
Equalizers & Speakers
Mobile Devices, Smart Phones

& Tablets
Computers, Laptops, Cameras
& Optics
Games, Gaming Consoles &

8. HOUSEHOLD

Domestic
Clothing
Baby and Kids
Furniture
Hobbies, Model Toys,

9. HANDCRAFT

10. BUILDING, GARDENING & DIY

Woodworking
Machinery & Tools
Plumbing & Electrical
Other Building & DIY
Plants, Trees & Flowers
Garden Furniture & Appliances
Other Gardening

11. FARMING EQUIPMENT

12. SPARES

Car Spares or Parts
Bike Spares
Truck, Bus and Trailer Spares
Stripping for Spares
Farming Equipment &
Machinery
Livestock
Other Farming

13. LEISURE, SPORT & EVENTS

Fitness
Tennis & squash
Watersport
Karate, Boxing & Judo
Angling & Cycling
Other Sport
Caravans, Campers and Trailers
Leisure, Community and
Events
Music and Instruments
Camping and Outdoor

14. PROPERTY

Residential
Commercial
Farms and Vacant Plots
Holiday & Accommodation
Apartments / Flats / Houses to

15. RENT

16. VEHICLES

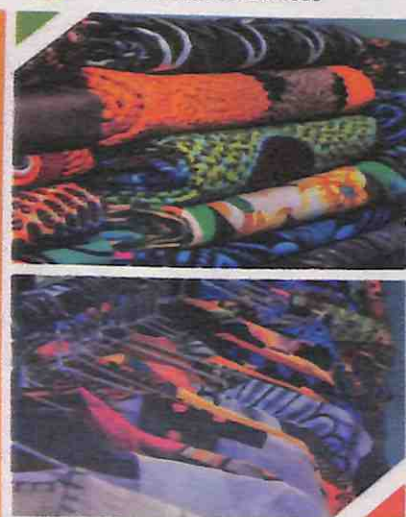
Cars
Bikes
Classics and Custom Builds
Trucks
Buses Farming
Trailers
Aircraft

17. DEATH NOTICES

uwemi

Fabrics & Tailors

WE HAVE THE PERFECT MATERIAL AND ATTIRE FOR YOU.



Cell: +268 7602 0032
Email: uwemi@gmail.com
Woodlands Shopping
Complex 1st Floor Mbabane

OPEN Mon to Sat 08:30am to 6:30pm

B Training Centre

Learn by Doing

APPROVED BY EHEC

2020 - REGISTRATION

Still Open | 4 weeks | 6 months | 1 year Courses

Electrical Wiring
Plumbing
Motor Mechanics
Auto Electrical
Panel Beating & Spray Painting
Diesel Mechanics
Air Conditioning & Refrigeration
Health & Safety
Catering & Hotel Management
TLB Lessons

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
-Previous experience in the relevant course
-Mature talent or passion
-Form 5 minimum education
Deadline: 31st December 2019

>>>Free driving lessons for one year courses<<<
NB: Grand Graduation 2013-2019 still on the 6/12/19.

Contact Details:

Mbabane | Manzini | Ngwenya
24040639 | 2505 7476 | 24424944
Email: bstrainingcentre@gmail.com

R/N 173057 Dx 09/12/19

BOSCH MOTOR SPARES



SERVICE KITS SPECIALS WITH EXCITING OFFERS:

• Mazda 3/ Demio	E900.00
• Honda Fit	E760.00
• Toyota VVTi/ Run X	E575.00
• Quantum Petrol	E600.00
• D4D/Quantum Diesel	E830.00
• Polo Round Light	E1065.00
• Siyaya	E610.00
• BMW E46	E1488.00

For any service kit you buy, get a free dashboard spray!

MANZINI

Next to Khuba Traders
Tel: 7602 3376

MATSAPHA

Shop No. 4 Bona
Centre Next to Nandos
Tel: 7602 3374

MBABANE

OPP. Mbabane
Panel Beaters
Tel: 7602 3375



EKHAYA FUNERAL (COMBO)



FOR JUST E160/E135 PER MONTH YOU GET THE FOLLOWING:

E20 000 / E15 000 Funeral Benefit

Plus
A Cow
Plus
Groceries
Plus

Double Funeral for Principal Member on accidental death

Plus

E1000 per month family support for 5 months on death of principal member.

Visit our office or call us to your workplace for details & joining.

7693 6002 / 2431 5328

BOSCH MOTOR SPARES



BATTERY SPECIALS:

• 636W	E954 excl V.A.T
• 622W	E954 excl V.A.T
• 646W	E1100 excl V.A.T
• 657W	E1270 excl V.A.T
• 674W	E1665 excl V.A.T
• 658W	E1780 excl V.A.T

FREE Christmas gift with every purchase in all branches!

MANZINI

Next to Khuba Traders
Tel: 7602 3376

MATSAPHA

Shop No. 4 Bona
Centre Next to Nandos
Tel: 7602 3374

MBABANE

OPP. Mbabane
Panel Beaters
Tel: 7602 3375

NGWANE PARK

Shop No. 1
South Gate
Tel: 3502 0995

MALKERNS

Next to Phakama
Tel: 3402 7628

SITEKI

Shop 23
Lubombo Mall
Tel: 7970 9127

PATIT DRILLING BOREHOLE

- SURVEY
- DRILLING
- PUMP INSTALLATION
- SOLAR PUMP INSTALLATION
- TANK STANS
- WATER TANK

CALL:
7602 6444/
7644 6293/
2505 2138

JN Electrical & Electronics (Pty) Ltd

We Repair:

TV's, Hi-Fi's, DVD's
Fridges, W/machines, M/waves

We Install:

Satellite dishes, Alarms, CCTV surveillance

We sell spares for:

TV, Stove, Fridge, M/wave

Contact: 2404 7449 / 7621 6784
CARTER's Mall Building Behind Hi-Fi Corp. Mbabane

CHAINSAW CENTRE



CHAINSAWS & BRUSHCUTTERS ON SALE NOW!

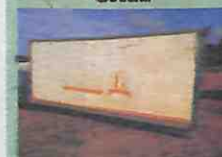
SUMMER SPECIALS!!!

STIHL FS 450 Crank Shaft E1350.00
STIHL FS 450 Piston & Cylinder E1255.00
CARBURETOR HUSQ 61 E684.00
STIHL MS 381 Crank Shaft E1385.00

LM Building Opposite Buy&Save SPAR, Next to Hyundai, MBABANE Call: 7606 7641 / 76557306

FOR SALE

CONTAINER FOR SALE



White Container
5x2m, price negotiable. Contact
7625 0865 for more information.

R/N 173166 Dx 26 November

SERVICES



HERBS FOR:

- Diabetic Patients
- BP
- Ulcers
- Sexual Problems
- Mvusa Nkunzi

Call: 7611 0334
(next to Fire Station, Mbabane)

R/N 173103 DX DEC 8

MISCELLANEOUS



Trouble finding a job, you are sick, 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 N d w a n d w e, Mbabane PTS Ethangeni. God can heal you now. Contact: 7614 2654.

R/N 173074 DX 14 DEC 2019.

Eswatini Observer
Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 3807 / 2404 8699

Advertiser

Observer

ESWATINI
Observer



FUTURE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Registration for 2020 NOW OPEN, places are available from, Pre School, Grade 1 to 6, Form 1 to Form 5

TOP 5: 100% pass rate on Grade 7 results in 2018

Our School Offers the best of the following:

- Qualified and Motivated Teachers
- Inclusive and friendly learning environment
- Transport available to all neighbouring places in Mankayane
- Excellent Sporting facilities: Football, Tennis & Volleyball
- Practical subjects ie: Computer (IT) and French
- Boarding facilities for both boys and girls
- 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.

* Places available up to Form 5 *

Find us in Mankayane, Along Ngweni Road, next to Zimeen Tel: 2530 1101 / Cell: 7614 4117 / 7672 8616 / 7612 0647



COMFORT 4 REAL

Manzini Caravan Centre Behind Total Filling Station Shop no. 16A

CONTACT: (+268) 2505 9433 / (+268) 7644 9668 / (+268) 7902 8693

CROWD1

IMPOSSIBLE IS NOTHING
My Phone is my ATM

crowd1.com/signup/koshini10

More information
42687605 55917641 2059

DD (25/10/19) Dx 07/12/19

KUSILE KITCHEN HOSPITALITY SCHOOL

REGISTRATION FOR 2019 ON-GOING DAY, EVENING & WEEKEND CLASSES

- FULL CATERING COURSE (Now with Deaf Interpreter) (Include Waiting & Décor)
- DÉCOR AND VENUE SET-UP
- GENERAL OFFICE CLEANING
- HOUSE HELPERS AND NANNIES
- HOUSE KEEPING FOR HOTELS
- GARDENERS & JANITORS
- KIDDIES COURSE (Basic Cooking & House Cleaning)

MBABANE

2404 7750/1
2404 2832

MANZINI

2505 9689
7614 8564

ESWATINI
Observer

SATURDAY
Observer

SUNDAY
Observer

Book Your
Classified
Advert Now!

MAHLE EMANTUNGWA TRANSPORT

AVAILABLE
FOR HIRE
ACROSS SADC REGION



15, 16, 22 Seater

DD (25/10/19) Dx 30/12/19

FOR BOOKINGS

CALL KHUMALO @ 76034157

email: mahleemantungwa13@gmail.com



WE HAVE BEEF, PORK, CHICKEN AND GOAT MEAT.

Hot wings + pap + salad @ E39

Umgcwembe for one @ E90

Umgcwembe for two @ E150

Umgcwembe for four @ E255

Daily special Meal @ E30

Steak, pap + salad @ E39

All meals come with 2 salads



5KG
PORK
E270

5KG
BEEF
E280

Meat combo E200

Place an order
at 24171839/76244499

DD (25/10/19) Dx 23/11/19

For Advertising

your business,

Call our office @

2404 3807 /

2404 8699

FRIDGE MASTERS & ELECTRICAL

Keeping you cool and bright
WE DO

- Car Aircon Service & Repair.
- Electrical Installation and Maintenance.
- Cold Rooms & Fridge Repairs.

Find us on **f**

Call: 78267750 / 79267751 / 79170299

DD (24/10/19) Dx 24/12/19

YADAH TECHNOLOGIES

LM Building Mbabane
Tel: +268-34020462
78333589/76675123
Email: info@yadatechnologies.com
www.yadatechnologies.com

CCTV Installation & Maintenance

R5000.00

Kit includes
4m steel rack, 12v 7AH battery,
2x 4 button remote, oil

Christmas Comes Early!

DD (24/10/19) Dx 10/12/19

DEAF UPHOLSTERY EXPERT

Trained in South Africa
CHEAP, FAST & VERY NEAT

7844 5984 - whatsapp / 7655 6850 - voice

VEHICLES FOR SALE



2010 Toyota Quantum -
10 seater -
E150 000.00

2015 IVECO -
E350 000.00

Vehicles well serviced and in good condition

Call: 76 11 5288 for viewing

R/N 173 048 DX: 27 NOVEMBER 2019

MIRACLE JOINTS BOOSTER



1-Litre
E250

Strengthens Tendons and Ligaments. Heals knee pain fast. Rebuilds Bones and Joints immediately!

Too many people live with unbearable bone pain! They suffer night and day. The agony keeps them awake at night and prevents them from enjoying a healthy lifestyle. A natural and powerful MIRACLE JOINTS BOOSTER to bring blessed relief is now available.

MIRACLE JOINTS BOOSTER for enhanced overall flexibility and mobility, not only alleviates aches and surgery pain, but also aid in the repair of joints damaged by arthritis, injury, inflammation, muscle spasm, etc.

Tel: 76052877

Dx 5 Dec mm

CLASSIFIEDS ADS

TO ADVERTISE ON
THE CLASSIFIEDS
FOR ANY PRODUCT

CONTACT 2404 8688/3807



Observer Observer Observer

CLASSIFIEDS

LET US HELP YOU INCREASE
YOUR BUSINESS PROFITS

Tel: 24048671 For more DEALS!



ESWATINI
Observer

SATURDAY
Observer

SUNDAY
Observer

Eswatini Observer

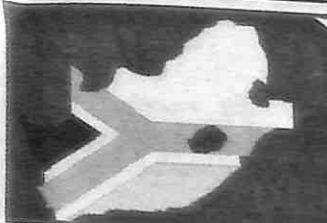
Tel: 24048671

www.observer.org.sz

advertising@observer.org.sz

Classifieds

Advertiser



Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

'ANC IS RACIST, TRIBALISTIC'

JOHANNESBURG - ANC Deputy Secretary General Jessie Duarte has delivered a stinging rebuke of the governing party, describing it as 'tribalistic and racist' for marginalising members and voters who are not black Africans.

In a hard-hitting address to ANC members at the Naledi Community Hall in Soweto this week during the Albertina Sisulu Memorial Lecture, Duarte said her comrades might not like what she told them but the party was 'tribally chauvinistic'.

"We have almost become tribalists in the way we present ourselves. We are racist in the ANC because we marginalise people who are not black African people; keep them out of the ANC at all costs. Put one or two there as tokens so that we can say *mara ja*, you know, there is uJessie apha (here) representing," she said.

Duarte continued: "We won't accept the fact that non-racialism is a core value of the ANC. We don't want to accept that, we even go as far as creating myths. I don't like the term coloured people, I never refer to myself as a coloured, ever in my life and I never will."

She said some ANC members say so-called coloured people benefited from apartheid.

"Then I ask those who say that: 'Have



ANC Deputy Secretary General Jessie Duarte.

they ever been to Westbury? I doubt. Have they ever been to Riverlea Extension or Newclare? I would very much doubt that," said Duarte, adding that ANC members had the habit of speaking without knowledge and the benefit of real information.

According to Duarte, ANC members often asked who marginalised 'coloured' people under apartheid and

that they do not need anything from the democratic state.

"So today what you have is a national group of people in this country who don't vote ANC, they just don't vote, they stay at home. They don't see the ANC as their home and yet in the 1980s and even some time before the 1980s we all worked together," Duarte said.

News24

Mkhwebane 'targeted specific people for political gain'

JOHANNESBURG - Why did Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane prioritise and rush investigations into President Cyril Ramaphosa and Minister Pravin Gordhan over investigations into Jacob Zuma, David Mabuza, Bathabile Dlamini and Ace Magashule?

This is the question posed by the dismissed COO in the office of the public protector, Basani Baloyi, who has told the North Gauteng High Court that Mkhwebane targeted specific people for political gain.

In a replying affidavit, Baloyi dismissed Mkhwebane's assertion that she prioritised the contentious Bosasa and 'rogue unit' reports because the law stipulated that she had to finalise them within 30 days.

Examples

"There were other Executive Ethics Act cases which were not finalised within 30 days. Some of these cases came well before the Bosasa and Pravin Gordhan investigations," Baloyi said in her papers.

She listed eight examples of cases that dated back to 2013 and 2014, involving Zuma and his allies, that were not prioritised. The list included former ministers Faith Muthambi, Tina Joemat-Pieterston, Mildred Oliphant and former North West premier Supra Mahumapelo.

Baloyi noted that Mkhwebane had since not found against any of



Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane.

these people, besides Magashule, because the investigations, which began in March 2013, were still ongoing.

"There were at least eight such cases, they date back to 2013 and 2014. No steps were taken to expedite them or to prioritise them. No explanation is given whatsoever by the public protector how the cases of Bosasa and Pravin Gordhan, which came after these cases, received priority," Baloyi argued.

Baloyi believed Mkhwebane manipulated the timing and contents of her reports "for reasons other than lawfully accepted reasons".

"I repeat the statement made that there was manipulation of timing and contents of the report of the public protector," she said.

eNCA

Where govt get money to pay SAA salary increases - Zille

CAPE TOWN - A task team has been appointed to find the money, and NUMSA has announced that retrenchments meant to begin last week have been pushed forward to January.

Democratic Alliance (DA) Federal Council Chairperson Helen Zille expressed some scepticism following the end of the crippling unprotected strike which saw an estimated 3 000 South African Airways (SAA) employees down tools for a full week from Friday November 15.

Zille wants to know where government, who agreed to pay backdated 5.9 per cent salary increases in February next year, is going to get the money from.

Backdated

"Is anyone else puzzled? One minute, SAA has no money to pay November salaries; the next minute they are able to pay backdated salary increases. How does that work?"

And where will the money come from? Education? Health? Social Grants?" she tweeted.

The National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA) and South African Cabin Crew Association (SACCA) said on Friday that government had offered to pay the remaining 5.9 per cent wage



DA Federal Council Chairperson Helen Zille.

increment back pay from April this year in February next year.

SAA workers will be returning to work this weekend.

NUMSA Spokesperson Phakamile Hlubi Majola also said on Friday that the retrenchment of SAA workers, which were meant to start last week and along with wages was one of the reasons for the strike, have been pushed back to this coming January, but only for members of NUMSA or SACCA.

Pravin Gordhan told Parliament on Wednesday that SAA didn't have money to 'possibly even pay salaries at the end of the month'.

Citizen

NPA WANTS ZUMA TO PAY UP

DURBAN - The National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) says while it notes an apology for the disrespectful tone in former president Jacob Zuma's appeal notice to the Pietermaritzburg High Court, it insists he must be financially penalized by the court.

Ahead of Friday's session, Zuma's lawyers filed papers in which they lashed out at the high court - saying it failed to consider the prejudicial nature of charges against him.

They also accused the court of violating sections of the Criminal Procedure Act.

Zuma's lawyers have since apol-

ogised unconditionally, but still insist that the court erred when it denied him a permanent stay of prosecution.

The former president faces charges of fraud, corruption and racketeering linked to the multi-billion-rand arms deal.

He allegedly received 783 illegal payments.

His lawyer, Muzi Sikhakhane, has repeated arguments to the

Pietermaritzburg High Court that Zuma is victimised by his political enemies through the case, and that he will be prejudiced if the matter proceeds.

Sikhakhane insists that the Supreme Court of Appeal may arrive at a different conclusion to the high court.

However, the NPA's Andrew Breytenbrach says Zuma has no rational or sound reason not to stand trial.

Breytenbrach has accused the former president of employing delay tactics and says he must pay for insulting the court in his appeal notice.

Times Live



Former SA president Jacob Zuma.

DA wants answers on Bathabile Dlamini's appointment

JOHANNESBURG - The DA will also explore challenging the legality of this appointment on the basis of its reasonableness, DA MP Emma Powell said.

The DA has penned several parliamentary questions for Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation Lindiwe Sisulu about the appointment of former social development minister Bathabile Dlamini to the interim board of the Social Housing Regulatory Authority

(SHRA).

"My first objective is to understand the full facts of Bathabile Dlamini's appointment as chairperson of the interim board of the SHRA.

"To this end, I submitted eight parliamentary questions to the Minister on Tuesday, which she is obliged, by law, to answer within 10 days," DA MP Emma Powell told News24 on Friday.

The SHRA is the regulatory body responsible for regulating, capacitating,

and investing in the social housing sector. The authority administers the subsidies available to social housing and associated norms and standards.

The authority was established in August 2010 by the minister of human settlements as per the social housing Act, No 16 of 2008. The SHRA is a public entity in terms of Schedule 3A of the Public Finance Management Act, No 29 of 1999 (PFMA), News24 reported.

Citizen



SUNDAYOBSERVER AFRICA NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

MOZA OPPOSITION WANTS PRESIDENT NYUSI TO RESIGN

MAPUTO - Mozambique's largest opposition party called on President Filipe Nyusi to resign after allegations in a US court that he benefited from proceeds of a US\$2-billion debt scandal. The loans were acquired at a time when Nyusi was defence minister and preparing to run in presidential elections in 2014, but were not disclosed until 2016.

"We demand Filipe Jacinto Nyusi resign immediately as President of the Republic of Mozambique," Jose Manteigas, Spokesman for the opposition party Renamo, told a news conference in Maputo.

He also urged the attorney general's office to "investigate the truth and consequent civil and criminal liability of all involved in financial fraud".

Between 2013 and 2014, state-owned security companies borrowed about US\$2-billion from Credit Suisse and Russia's VTB Bank to buy military and fishing vessels from an Abu Dhabi based ship-building company, Prininvest.

But government only disclosed the debt in 2016, a development that plunged the poor, donor-dependent country into its worst-ever financial crisis.

The United States also alleges that at least US\$200-million of the loans was spent on bribes and kickbacks to politicians and top officials.



Mozambique President Filipe Nyusi.

A Lebanese businessman Jean Boustani, accused of helping coordinate the alleged fraud, is on trial in New York.

Investigations

In testimony on Wednesday, he alleged that part of money went to fund the 2014 election campaign on behalf of Nyusi.

According to investigations by the FBI, a million Dollars went towards the campaign. Nyusi is referred to as 'NUY' in email documents produced

in court.

"This is the current President Filipe Nyusi and this was for his political campaign," Boustani was quoted as saying in official court transcripts from Wednesday's hearing.

Nyusi was re-elected to office last month in disputed polls. Boustani was arrested in January in the Dominican Republic and sent to the US.

Nyusi has not responded to the allegations.

AFP

Outrage erupts as Mnangagwa names 10 streets after himself

HARARE - There's uproar over Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa's decision to rename ten roads in eight urban centres after himself.

Following a Cabinet meeting on Thursday, it was announced that numerous roads countrywide would be renamed after liberation heroes — most of whom had died. But it is the number of roads named after the sitting president that has rubbed many up the wrong way.

Former deputy prime minister in the inclusive government of 2009 to 2013, Prof Arthur Mutambara, told TimesLIVE that the renaming of the roads in Mnangagwa's name was a move by a failed leader who was hell-bent on paving over his shortcomings. "An incompetent Mnangagwa wants to immortalise himself. All the other name changes are to cover up this wicked ambition. Whether he falls or prevails, he wants immortality. Zimbabweans will be calling his name in eight cities

every day, forever. That is the 'big idea' while the country degenerates into unprecedented political and economic mayhem," he said.

Some local authorities run by the MDC Alliance are mooting the possibility of blocking the name changes. An MDC Alliance councillor from Harare said that changes to road names were the responsibility of local government. As such, they would try to block the decision.

"According to the Urban Councils Act passed in 2018 section 212(1) signed by the minister of local government, renaming streets or numbering of structures is a prerogative of the local authority. So if we don't endorse it, by law it shouldn't go through," he said.

In a move taken from the Robert Mugabe playbook, earlier this month Mnangagwa unveiled his own statue at Masvingo Airport. Mugabe once received his own statue at State House.

Times Live



Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

Zim's vice president returns from medical treatment

HARARE - Zimbabwean Vice President Constantino Chiwenga returned home on yesterday after spending four months in China receiving medical treatment for an unknown illness, State-owned media reported.

Chiwenga, the 63-year-old former general who led a coup against the late Robert Mugabe two years ago, has spent a large part of the year away from work, also receiving treatment in South

Africa and India.

His health is of great interest to Zimbabweans, as he is widely seen as the driving force behind the country's President Emmerson Mnangagwa and the front-runner to succeed him.

Absence

His absence from public duties had stoked speculation about the gravity of his illness, which authorities have sought to play down.

The Herald, a government-owned

newspaper, showed images of Chiwenga arriving at Harare's airport in the early hours of Saturday, looking healthier than when he was last seen in public in June.

He was welcomed by relatives and China's Deputy Ambassador to Zimbabwe Zhao Baogang, the newspaper said.

Local private media have report-

ed that Chiwenga's health deteriorated in July and that he underwent two operations following a suspected poisoning.

Treatment

Chiwenga and government officials were not available to comment yesterday.

Government officials in Zimbabwe routinely seek medical treatment

abroad while the country's public health system has collapsed and hospitals struggle to provide medicines to patients.

Angry

Many Zimbabweans are angry that top government officials continue to travel abroad for treatment while state hospitals are turning away patients because doctors have been on a pay strike since September.

The government has so far fired 435 doctors for participating in the strike.

Reuters

Zim Vice President Constantino Chiwenga.

BRIEFS

Tanzania to hold local elections amid boycott

DAR ES SALAAM - Tanzanians will head to the polls today to vote in local elections which have been boycotted by the country's top opposition parties over allegations of cheating. Although the boycott has complicated matters, observers will be keen to take stock of public sentiment before 2020's presidential, parliamentary and council elections, in a country where reliable and independent political data is scarce and space for critical media is rapidly shrinking. There are 333 555 seats to be contested in today's vote, the vast majority of which were due to have candidates from across Tanzania's political spectrum. On November 7, however, the leading opposition party Chadema said it would not participate over allegations of government interference. Six other parties have since joined the boycott.

Al Jazeera

Algeria's protesters keep up the pressure

ALGIERS - Protesters thronged the Algerian capital for the 40th consecutive week Friday as they railed against next month's presidential election they say will only keep the old guard in power. They allege the December 12 poll aims to cement the place of a political elite linked to former president Abdelaziz Bouteflika, who stepped down in April after popular pressure. Five candidates are contesting the election after the ailing Bouteflika, 82, was forced out after mass demonstrations erupted in February against his bid for a fifth term. Algeria has seen weekly protests since then demanding major reforms to a political system that has been in place since independence from France in 1962. "We demand freedom and will not take one step backwards!" protesters chanted in Algiers Friday before the crowd dispersed peacefully in the mid-afternoon. AFP

Botswana intelligence agent Maswabi granted bail

JOHANNESBURG - Botswana intelligence agent Welheminah Maswabi - who is accused of laundering US\$10 billion with former president Ian Khama and SA businessperson Bridgette Motsepe-Radebe was granted bail on Friday. This after South African banks denied holding accounts that she and Motsepe-Radebe allegedly co-signed. Prosecutors have deposed affidavits with documents that the banks say are fabricated. Maswabi, whose code name is now known as 'Butterfly', was initially denied bail as the court said she was a flight risk. Motsepe-Radebe's world has been rocked by allegations of illicit flows and terrorism from Botswana. The mining magnate - who is also former energy minister Jeff Radebe's wife, billionaire Patrice Motsepe's sister and President Ramaphosa's sister-in-law, has been slapped with a travel ban. Reuters

Ethiopia's ruling coalition unites to form one party

ADDIS ABABA - Ethiopia's ruling ethnic-based coalition has merged into a single party, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said, but a key faction boycotted the vote. Three out of four members of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) agreed on Thursday to form a single party ahead of general elections in May. The new party is called the Prosperity Party. But the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF), the once-dominant party of the late strongman Meles Zenawi, refused to take part in the vote. The vote to unify passed without objection from the three other parties. "The unanimous decision passed today (Thursday) to merge the party is a crucial step in harnessing our energy to work toward a shared vision," Abiy said in a statement.

Times Live



SUNDAY OBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump on Friday offered an explanation for the use of his personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani to work on Ukraine policy - a pivotal issue in the Democratic-led US House of Representatives impeachment inquiry - by citing Giuliani's crime fighting reputation and calling Ukraine a corrupt country.

Trump made his remarks the day after the fifth and final scheduled day of public impeachment hearings that put a spotlight on Trump's controversial decision to give Giuliani, a private citizen with no formal job in his administration, an outsized role to shape US policy toward Ukraine.

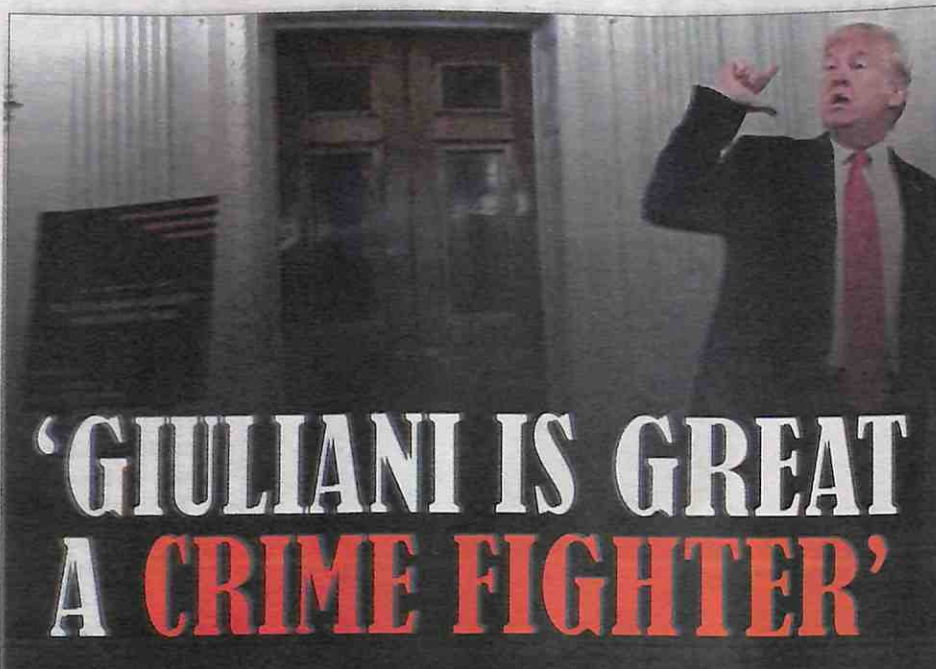
The impeachment inquiry threatens Trump's presidency even as he seeks re-election in November 2020.

A key question in the inquiry is why Trump used his personal lawyer in such a role and not the usual government channels. During the hearings, current and former White House officials and diplomats voiced alarm at Giuliani's activities such as trying to push Ukraine to carry out two investigations that could harm Trump's political adversaries.

Trump called Ukraine corrupt and said Giuliani was the right person for the job.

"He's like an iconic figure in this country for two reasons. He was the greatest mayor in the history of New York and he was the greatest crime fighter probably in the last 50 years," Trump said on Fox News Channel's 'Fox & Friends' programme of Giuliani, who previously served as the mayor of the largest US city and as a federal prosecutor.

"He's also a friend of mine. He's a great person," Trump added. "When you're dealing with a corrupt country - if Rudy Giuliani - he's



got credentials because of his reputation. ... When Rudy Giuliani goes there and you hear it's a corrupt country, I mean it means a lot." A focus of the inquiry is a July 25 telephone call in which Trump asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to open two investigations.

One involved Joe Biden, a top contender for the Democratic nomination to face Trump in the 2020 presidential election, and his son Hunter Biden, who had worked for Ukrainian energy company Burisma. The other involved a debunked conspiracy theory promoted by Trump's allies that Ukraine meddled in the 2016 US presidential election to hurt his candidacy and boost Democratic rival Hillary

Clinton.

US intelligence agencies and former Special Counsel Robert Mueller determined that Russia used a campaign of propaganda and hacking to interfere in the election to try to help Trump win.

Testimony in the impeachment inquiry has shown that Trump in May instructed top US officials to work with Giuliani on Ukraine policy. This came after the president removed Marie Yovanovitch as US Ambassador to Ukraine at Giuliani's urging even as the former mayor was pressing officials in Kiev to conduct the investigations that could benefit Trump.

Reuters

China wants US trade deal but 'not afraid' to fight - Xi

BEIJING - China wants to reach an initial trade deal with the United States, President Xi Jinping said on Friday but is 'not afraid' to fight back when necessary and will enact economic reforms at its own pace.

It is rare for Xi to speak so directly about the trade war and his comments come two days after US President Donald Trump complained that Beijing had not made sufficient concessions so far, making him reluctant to conclude a bargain.

The world's two biggest economies have been locked in a bruising trade conflict for more than a year, hitting each other with volleys of tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of goods.

"As we always said we don't want to start the trade war but we are not afraid," Xi told former US officials and other foreign dignitaries at a meeting at Beijing's Great Hall of the People.

"When necessary we will fight back but we have been working actively to try not to have a trade war," he told the group, which included former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Trump's former economic adviser Gary Cohn.

Pressure

In a freewheeling Fox News interview hours later, Trump said a deal was 'potentially very close' but quickly added that China was under greater pressure to reach a resolution.

"He wants to make a deal much more than I want to make it. I'm not anxious to make it."

Trump on October 11, announced a 'phase one' deal resolving important US grievances about Chinese trade and currency practices.

But the two sides have yet to ink the deal.

The Chinese commerce ministry said top trade negotiators had 'constructive' discussions on the phone on Saturday.

China has insisted on a rollback of existing tariffs, to which Trump has said he did not agree. American officials want large purchases of US farm exports. US lawmakers' approval this week of legislation supporting pro-democracy protesters in Hong Kong has also cast a shadow on the negotiations.

"We want to work for a phase-one agreement on the basis of mutual respect and equality," Xi told the foreign visitors, who were in town for the Bloomberg New Economy Forum.

The Chinese leader said the trade talks "may affect the future prospects of the world economy" and China holds a 'positive attitude'.

AFP

I would stay neutral in a second Brexit referendum - Corbyn

LONDON - The leader of Britain's opposition Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn, said on Friday he would remain neutral in any second Brexit referendum, so he could credibly carry out the result of the vote and unite the country. Corbyn, 70, is vying to become prime minister at a December 12 election called by his Conservative rival, the current Prime Minister Boris Johnson, to resolve a deadlock in Parliament over the right approach to leaving the European Union.

While Johnson wants to implement a deal he has already agreed

with Brussels and leave the EU in January, Labour is promising to negotiate a new exit deal and put it to the public at a second referendum next year.

Credibly

"I will adopt as prime minister, if I am, at the time, a neutral stance so that I can credibly carry out the results of that (referendum) to bring our communities and country together, rather than continuing an endless debate about the EU, and Brexit," Corbyn said during a televised question and answer session on BBC TV. Previously, Corbyn has said his party's position would be deter-

mined by a special party conference on the issue.

Brexit divides many within Labour, with some senior figures angering eurosceptic grassroots members by saying openly they would campaign to remain in the EU.

"I don't see how you can do a deal when you say you are going to be neutral or indifferent about the deal," Johnson said during a later appearance on the same show.

Voters face a stark choice at the election: Corbyn's socialist vision, including widespread nationalisation and free public services, or Johnson's drive to deliver Brexit



Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn.

within months and build a 'dynamic market economy'.

Reuters

BRIEFS

'End colonial administration of Chagos Islands'

LONDON - The African Union (AU) has demanded the United Kingdom end its 'continued colonial administration' over the Chagos Islands after London missed a United Nations deadline to return the territory to Mauritius. The islands have been at the centre of a decades-long dispute over Britain's decision to separate them from Mauritius in 1965 and set up a joint military base with the United Nations on Diego Garcia, the largest of the isles. In a statement on Friday, the AU said it was deeply concerned by 'the non-withdrawal of the United Kingdom from its colonial administration of the Chagos Archipelago'.

Al Jazeera

Former Trump advisor accuses White House

WASHINGTON - Former Trump National Security Advisor John Bolton said the White House denied him access to his Twitter account after his dismissal in early September, in a series of tweets that signal his return to the social media site. "Since resigning as National Security Advisor, the White House has refused to return access to my personal Twitter account. Out of fear of what I may say?" Bolton wrote on Friday. Prior to Friday's series of tweets, nothing had been published by Bolton since September 10, the day the US president announced his dismissal. "To those who speculated I went into hiding, I'm sorry to disappoint!" he added.

Reuters

Pope Francis carries anti-nuclear message to Japan

TOKYO - Pope Francis arrives in Japan on Saturday, where he is expected to deliver a robust anti-nuclear message of peace in the only country to have suffered an atomic bomb attack. The 82-year-old Argentine is fulfilling a long-cherished ambition to preach in Japan, where years ago he hoped to be a missionary. His four-day trip will take in visits to Nagasaki and Hiroshima, cities forever associated with the nuclear bombs dropped on them at the end of World War II, killing at least 74 000 people and 140 000 people respectively. In a video message to the Japanese people before he left the Vatican, Francis railed against the 'immoral' use of nuclear weapons.

AFP

Hong Kong's election is a key test

HONG KONG - Nearly six months of anti-government protests are set to thrust Hong Kong's lowest-tier of government onto the international stage today with elections that will be a test of support for the embattled administration of Chief Executive Carrie Lam. Pro-establishment parties dominate Hong Kong's 18 district councils, which function as advisory bodies and control local spending. With a record number of candidates, this year will be the first time that all 452 seats are contested. The rural district of Yuen Long near the Chinese border has traditionally been a pro-establishment stronghold.

Reuters

JOHANNESBURG - While Ernst Middendorp says that he's not yet ready to start for Kaizer Chiefs again, the club have revealed that he is 'medically fit' following the groin injury that he sustained in September.

The Amakhosi shot-stopper hasn't played since having to



KHUNE IS 'MEDICALLY FIT' AT CHIEFS

come off against Baroka earlier in the season, and has battled for fitness for almost a year now having also gone for shoulder surgery around late December 2018.

There had been some hope that, with the inter-

national break giving him time to recover further, Khune may be able to return in time to replace the suspended Daniel Akpeyi for today's Telkom Knockout semifinal, but Middendorp told the media that it will be Bruce Bvuma who starts between the sticks. It seems the 32-year-old is nearing his Amakhosi comeback though after he re-joined

the first team in full training recently, and he'll be eager to stake his claim for a starting berth before the year is out. A statement on the club's official website read, "Ahead of their trip to Nelspruit for the Telkom Knockout Cup on the weekend, Itumeleng Khune is medically fit and has joined the team in full training. Khune has been recovering

from a groin injury he picked up in the game against Baroka FC in September." Bvuma is set to start v Maritzburg United at 15h00, with Brylon Petersen on the bench, but Middendorp also has other decisions to make given suspensions for Willard Katsande and Erick Mathoho.

Soccer Laduma

Mayweather 'targeting TWO bouts in 2020'

LAS VEGAS - Floyd Mayweather is reportedly targeting two fights in 2020 after he announced earlier this week that he will be making his return to the ring.

The legendary boxer, who boasts a 50-win record with zero defeats, took to Instagram as he captioned a photo of himself in blue boxing shorts: 'Coming out of retirement in 2020'.

According to TMZ Sports, Mayweather will fight a professional boxer and a UFC star with both bouts set to take place inside the squared circle. It also suggests that the 42-year-old will fight in May and then again in September with both opponents yet to be decided.

TMZ also believe a highly-anticipated rematch with Manny Pacquiao is on the cards but Mayweather quelled talk of a fight with the Filipino boxer by suggesting his "health is wealth."



Floyd Mayweather.

He said: "I've got calls to get back into the ring, but my health is my wealth. Boxing is a very, very brutal sport. In the last few years a lot of fighters have died inside that squared circle. "You have got to know when to hang it up. I had a great career."

"I'll still travel and do exhibitions. I make great money doing exhibitions; between \$10 million and \$30m."

"I think I make more doing that than most fighters make fighting."

The last time Mayweather fought in a professional bout was in 2017 when he beat UFC star Conor McGregor in Las Vegas, making £7m from the fight. Mayweather and White worked together as part of that fight with McGregor two years ago and it proved a lucrative affair for all involved.

After that fight, Mayweather left the door open for future business in MMA.

Daily Mail

Neymar returns to help PSG extend lead

PARIS - Neymar made his latest comeback from injury for Paris Saint-Germain on Friday as first-half goals by Mauro Icardi and Angel Di Maria saw the Ligue 1 leaders ease to a 2-0 win over Lille at the Parc des Princes.

The in-form Icardi opened the scoring from close range in the 17th minute with his 10th goal in PSG's last nine games, and Di Maria doubled their lead just after the half-hour mark.

Despite not being near their best, Thomas Tuchel's side were too strong for the team who finished runners-up behind them last season.

After just 14 games, PSG are 11 points clear of second-placed Marseille, who play today. Neymar had not played for his club since October 5, having suffered a hamstring injury playing for Brazil against Nigeria a week later. It was just the latest spell on the sidelines for the world's most expensive player, who has featured in barely half of PSG's matches since signing from Barcelona in 2017. His decision to fly to Madrid to take part in the Davis Cup tennis this week did not go down well with Tuchel, but the German coach still handed Neymar a start here. On just his sixth appearance of the campaign, Neymar lasted 65 minutes before being replaced by Kylian Mbappe, who had been struggling with illness

in recent days. "I didn't expect too much from him because he has been out for six weeks. He lacked precision and his usual sense of timing but that is how it is," said Tuchel of Neymar.

The Brazilian only produced brief glimpses of his class and headed straight to the dressing room after being taken off, with some supporters jeering the 27-year-old as he departed.

"It's normal, lots of players do that," insisted Tuchel, dismissing any controversy. "Others go to the bench, but I didn't see it because I was focused on making changes on the field. There is no need to make a big thing about it." The main reason for Neymar's withdrawal, however, will have been to keep him fresh for next Tuesday's trip to Real Madrid when he will hope to make his first Champions League appearance this season. Lille had beaten PSG 5-1 when the sides last met in April, but they came here on a run of just one win in nine and without an away victory since March. They were without their top scorer, Nigerian striker Victor Osimhen, due to suspension, and coach Christophe Galtier had been left reeling when two of his assistants - Portuguese duo Joao Sacramento and Nuno Santos - left 48 hours before this game to team up with Jose Mourinho at Tottenham Hotspur. *AFP*



Flick cool over Pochettino to Bayern rumours

BERLIN - Interim coach Hansi Flick has brushed off rumours linking Bayern Munich to Mauricio Pochettino, but Schalke coach David Wagner insists the ex-Tottenham manager would be an asset for the Bundesliga. Flick has been appointed caretaker coach of Bayern Munich until at least the winter break, which starts on December 22. He stepped in after Niko Kovac was sacked in early November following a 5-1 thrashing at Eintracht Frankfurt - Bayern's heaviest league defeat for a decade.

Premier League side Spurs sacked Mauricio Pochettino in

mid-week and replaced him with Jose Mourinho on Wednesday. The German media has linked Pochettino to Bayern, but Flick dismissed the speculation on Friday.

"For me, it doesn't matter which name is in circulation," he said in a press conference ahead of Bayern's away match at Fortuna Dueseldorf yesterday. "I try to be successful with the team - the rest doesn't interest me." Spurs play Bayern in Munich on December 11 having been routed 7-2 at home by the German giants in the Champions League when Serge Gnabry scored four goals in early October. So far, Bayern

have won their two games under Flick, the assistant coach when Germany won the 2014 World Cup, including a 4-0 thrashing of Dortmund to go third in the Bundesliga. The 54-year-old insists he is "absolutely happy" with overseeing Bayern's eight games until Christmas. "The decisive thing is that the club has time to think about what is most important for it in the future," said Flick on Friday in Munich. However, up in Gelsenkirchen, Schalke boss Wagner, who coached Huddersfield in the Premier League, was enthusiastic about the mere possibility of Pochettino coming to Bayern. *Daily Mail*

I knew my time was over - Lukaku

MANCHESTER - Romelu Lukaku has revealed he knew his Manchester United career was over when Ole Gunnar Solskjaer decided to move him from his usual No. 9 position to the wing. Solskjaer chose to play Anthony Martial or Marcus Rashford as his main striker during periods of last season as Lukaku fell out of favour under the Manchester United boss.

Lukaku ended up joining Inter Milan in the summer for £73 million and the Belgian has revealed when he knew his time was up at Old Trafford.

The 26-year-old, speaking to Corriere dello Sport, said of his

United exit: "Once I learned that [Ole Gunnar] Solskjaer planned to put me on the wing, then I knew my time at Manchester United was over."

History

"I've dreamed of Inter for some time. I loved Ronaldo and Adriano, but it was Ibra [Zlatan Ibrahimovic] that taught me everything, especially in our talks on the team bus. I believe he will return to Serie A."

"I don't mind being the most expensive player in Inter's history, nor replacing [Mauro] Icardi, who gave a lot here in Milan. When I arrived, Mauro was very nice and kind to me. I wish him all the best at Paris

Saint-Germain and hope he wins there. We are two different forwards."

Lukaku is enjoying playing under Antonio Conte and believes the fiery Italian is of a similar calibre to former Chelsea and Manchester United boss Jose Mourinho.

He added: "Conte is unique. We know what to do in every situation. He and [Jose] Mourinho are the two best coaches of my career."

Lukaku has started his Serie A career off in fine form with the striker scoring nine goals in his first 12 league games in Italy.

Daily Mail

Mourinho off to flying start with Spurs in derby win

LONDON - Jose Mourinho got his Tottenham Hotspur reign off to a flying start as his side claimed a 3-2 victory over cross-town rivals West Ham United yesterday afternoon.

The Portuguese tactician went for Dele Alli, Lucas Moura and Heung-min Son behind Harry Kane as Christian Eriksen and Moussa Sissoko started on the bench.

There was a lively start to the encounter, but the first real opening arrived after 19 minutes when Son worked some space outside the box before unleashing powerful effort that was palmed away by Hammers shot-stopper Roberto.

However, Son was not to be denied on 36 minutes when as the South Korean got the first goal

of the Mourinho era with a finish from close range although Morena should have done better with his attempted save. The lead was doubled shortly before the half-time break as Son turned provider to pick out Lucas at the far post and the Brazilian had the simple task of slotting home.

Kane got in on the act four minutes after the half-time break with a neat header past Roberto from Serge Aurier's pinpoint cross on the right flank.

The Hammers did manage to pull a goal back with 15 minutes remaining in the stanza as substitute Michail Antonio sent a powerful past Paulo Gazzaniga after being played in by Mark Noble. The hosts had the ball in the back of the net on



90 minutes through Declan Rice, but the goal was ruled out by the Video Assistant Referee. West Ham were not denied in the final minute

of the game when Angelo Ogbonna fired home from close range to make it 3-2, but Spurs were able to hold on for the win. *Daily Mail*

Britain's richest man won't pay 'dumb money' for Man Utd team

MANCHESTER - Britain's richest man, Sir Jim Ratcliffe, has no intention of investing "dumb money" in Manchester United as the 13-time Premier League champions have "lost the plot" since Sir Alex Ferguson retired.

Having turned chemicals company Ineos into a £20 billion operation, Ratcliffe has previously explored the option of purchasing a leading side in England.

He grew up as a Manchester United fan, but has been linked with Chelsea, Newcastle and Leeds in the past. But no deal has of yet been finalised, with Ratcliffe instead opting to purchase Ligue 1 outfit Nice for €110m (£94m/\$121m) in August.

There are no regrets on his part at having passed up the chance to enter into discus-

sions with the Glazer family at Old Trafford, with his fortune having been built on the back of smart financial decisions.

Ratcliffe told The Times of his decision not to seek a takeover of United: "[Ineos] never wants to be the dumb money in town, never, never."

He added on the Red Devils: "They are in quite a big pickle as a business. They haven't got the manager selection right, haven't bought well. They have been the dumb money, which you see with players like Fred. We won't look elsewhere until we have had a good run here [at

Nice]. We need to find out how to be successful before you ever want to write a big cheque. It's quite difficult.

"United have spent an immense amount since Ferguson left and been poor, to put it mildly. Shockingly poor, to be honest. We have a different approach here to be moderately intelligent about it. Try to do it more grass roots, trying to locate young talent.

"Some clubs seem to have an ability to do that, Southampton, Lille. United have done it really poorly. They have lost the plot there somehow." Ratcliffe went

as far as visiting Chelsea's training ground when weighing up the merits of an offer to wrestle control from Roman Abramovich, but feels there is little value to be found in English football.

He said: "You quickly get into some pretty stratospheric numbers. And even though clubs have those valuations today, nobody has ever paid those amounts of money.

"How much did Abramovich pay for Chelsea, £100m? The Glazers [at United], what, £500m? You can say it's worth three, four billion but no one has ever paid those sums." *Goal*

Higuain, Dybala score late to keep Juve top of Serie A

BERGAMO - Gonzalo Higuain grabbed a second-half brace with Paulo Dybala adding a late third as Juventus rescued a 3-1 comeback win over Atalanta in the final quarter of an hour to stay top of Serie A yesterday.

Robin Gosens had nodded Atalanta ahead after 56 minutes as the Bergamo side chased their first Serie A win over Juventus since February 2001.

Higuain hit back with two goals in an eight-minute spell while Dybala marked his 200th Serie A appearance with the final goal two minutes into injury time.

Maurizio Sarri's side open up a four-point lead on second-placed Inter Milan, who travel to Torino later yesterday, as Atalanta drop to sixth place after their fourth league game without a win.

Cristiano Ronaldo missed the trip to Bergamo despite his four-goal spree for Portugal because of a slight knee problem ahead of Juventus's Champions League game against Atletico Madrid on Tuesday.

In the absence of the five-time Ballon d'Or winner, Argentine strike duo Dybala and Higuain ensured the eight-time reigning champions maintained their unbeaten run this season despite several controversial refereeing decisions.

Higuain had pulled Juventus level after 74 minutes with a ball that took a deflection off Rafael Toloi to beat Pierluigi Gollini in the Atalanta goal.

The Argentine completed his double when he picked up a cross from Juan Cuadrado on 82 where the Colombian put his hand on the ball during a sliding tackle at the start of the action.

Then Dybala broke through the Atalanta defence to finish off for his fourth Serie A goal this season. Atalanta had their chances with Musa Barrow missing an early penalty.

AFF

BRESCIA DROP BALOTELLI AFTER TRAINING GROUND BUST-UP

ROME - Mario Balotelli has been dropped for today's Serie A trip to AS Roma after a training ground bust-up with new Brescia coach Fabio Grosso.

Ex-World Cup winner Grosso, who took over the struggling northern side this month, was reported to be angered by the Italian forward's lazy attitude in training on Thursday. Balotelli stormed out of the session and has now been dropped and could face disciplinary action. "I demand great rhythm and intensity, when it doesn't happen I prefer to

change. He didn't do it and he was cast aside," Grosso told a pre-match press conference yesterday.

The 2006 World Cup winner's word echo those of Balotelli's former coaches which included Antonio Conte, Roberto Mancini and Jose Mourinho. "I don't want to minimise or blow it out of proportion. For me it will be crucial to use everyone at my disposal, but I can only do so much," continued Grosso. "I told Mario that I can only help him to a certain point. Then he has to help himself."

Balotelli, who was born in Sicily but adopted and raised just outside Brescia, agreed a three-year deal with the

Serie B champions after being released by Marseille last June. But it has been a difficult start to the campaign for the 29-year-old with two goals scored in seven matches. The former Inter Milan, Manchester City and Liverpool striker was also targeted by racist chanting in Verona where he threatened to walk off the pitch.

Balotelli, who has 36 caps for Italy, has not featured on the international stage in over a year as coach Mancini said he was not playing at a high enough standard.

Brescia are bottom of the Serie A table and travel to Roma looking for their first win in two months. *Goal*

STAR-STUDDED BARCA SCRAPE PAST LEGANES

BARCELONA - A star-studded FC Barcelona side produced a less than convincing display after rallying from behind to defeat struggling Leganes yesterday afternoon.

Ernesto Valverde went for a very attacking line-up as Messi was joined in the attack by Luis Suarez, Antoine Griezmann and Ousmane Dembele, while there was a first start for Senegal international Moussa Wague.

However, it was the home side who got the game's first goal thanks to Youssef En-Nesyri, who collected a pass from Roque Mesa before rifling the



Arturo Vidal was the hero for Barcelona scoring 10 minutes from time to help secure victory.

ball into the top corner, leaving Marc-Andre ter Stegen with no chance.

The Catalan giants upped the tempo in search of an equaliser, but were met by Leganes

shot-stopper Ivan Cuellar, who produced a couple of superb saves to keep out Suarez on two occasions after the 25-minute mark.

Leganes, meanwhile, did not sit back though

as they went in search of another goal, although En-Nesyri and Mesa went close in the final seven minutes of the first half.

Barca came out firing in the second half and were rewarded with the equaliser when Messi's free-kick found Suarez, who nodded past Cuellar from six-yards out.

With the visitors chasing the game, Ernesto Valverde surprisingly took off Griezmann for Arturo Vidal, while Sergio Busquets made way for Ivan Rakitic with 30 minutes remaining in the contest.

Leganes managed to carve out a couple openings against the run of play, with Silva going closest with a header that sailed inches wide of the upright while Perez produced a vital block at the other end to deny Rakitic on 71 minutes. *Daily Mail*

Mario Balotelli.



LIVERPOOL LEAVE IT LATE

LIVERPOOL - Mo Salah could only laugh. Then, the forward promptly turned to grab his coat once more.

For three minutes, it seemed Liverpool were in desperate need of another moment of inspiration from their Egyptian king. Having led through Sadio Mane's opener for most of the second half, Wilfried Zaha netted a late equaliser to put a dent in Liverpool's hunt for the Premier League title.

So Jurgen Klopp turned to Salah, not fit enough to start, as the visitors pushed for a winner. The forward was ready, the fourth official was ready. But then with five minutes to play Firmino spared his teammate the trouble.

This is now the Liverpool way, of course. Just ask Leicester, Aston Villa and Manchester United - this unbeaten title charge is being sustained by late goal after late goal.

So instead it was Joe Gomez who came off the bench as Liverpool held on for another

huge three points. The frightening thing for the rest of the Premier League is just how much more they have left to give.

Again at Selhurst Park, there were gaping holes in their performance - notably in the display of Trent Alexander-Arnold.

Again, though, they left with three points, their superiority atop the table maintained at the very least. Who, or what, is going to stop their progress? VAR, perhaps?

Here, for the second game running, Liverpool benefited from a tight decision as James Tomkins' first-half opener was ruled out for a push. Palace had other chances, too, but they ran out of steam at the end of this tough run of games.

Liverpool, meanwhile, now begin a ludicrous spell of fixtures, with up to 11 matches between now and the turn of the year. For now, though, they will savour yet another late victory.

Mane has now scored in each of Liverpool's last five games

against Palace but he could have stretched that run much earlier. Within 10 minutes he created and nearly converted the visitors' first shooting chance.

His neat turn on the touchline sent two Palace players down a blind alley, allowing Liverpool to work a crossing chance through Alexander-Arnold. The defender's pull-back found Mane in the box but his effort was well blocked. Then minutes later, Alexander-Arnold almost turned provider for the home side.

His crossfield pass went straight to Andros Townsend on the Palace right. Eventually, the ball came out to Cheikhou Kouyate, whose lovely ball was poked wide by Jordan Ayew.

It was a poor miss but one Palace thought they wouldn't rue for long. Shortly before the break Tomkins headed home after Gini Wijnaldum flicked on Luka Milivojevic's free-kick.

Soon the cheers turned to boos as VAR Chris Kavanagh decided the goal should be not stand because of a push by

Ayew on Dejan Lovren. It was a clear foul, but the decision still felt harsh on Palace. There was fury among the home supporters but during half-time Palace showed they still had a sense of humour, when the stadium announcer warned kids taking part in a penalty shootout to avoid any 'light pushes in the area'.

For Liverpool, it was certainly a let-off. Going forward their build-up had lacked the pace and precision fans have come to expect.

It seemed that had changed in an instant shortly after the break, when Jordan Henderson found Mane with a pinpoint pass on the counter. The forward took the ball in his stride and bore down on Palace's goal. But his effort was stroked wide.

Moments later, though, all was forgotten. Andy Robertson's limp cross was allowed to run all the way to Mane on the penalty spot. Tomkins somehow missed it and this time Palace were punished.

Perez, Vardy strike on the south coast again

LONDON - Leicester's previous visit to the South Coast ended in that 9-0 victory over Southampton, the record top flight away win. The score here never threatened to get anywhere near that, but in the end this was a convincing victory nevertheless. Brendan Rodgers' team remain second in the table thanks to goals from Ayoze Perez and Jamie Vardy's 12th of the season, a twice-taken penalty following another VAR farce.

Brighton had won their three previous home games and were hoping for four in a row for the first time in the top flight. But another imperious performance from the best defence in the Premier League meant that they seldom looked like scoring.

The first-half stats showing that Leicester had enjoyed 57 percent of

the possession barely told the story of the visitors' dominance.

The Foxes had clearly come to win and were nearly ahead in the first

minute. Brighton left wing-back Solly March wrongly assumed that a cross from Harvey Barnes was drifting harmlessly wide but Ayoze Perez refused to give up on it and ended up heading the ball on the bounce against the angle of post and crossbar. And after six minutes only a deft tip-over by Maty Ryan prevented Vardy from scoring with near-post header from a free-kick curled in by Ben Chilwell. Next it was Aaron Mooy's turn to rescue Brighton, clearing from two yards out as a corner-kick threatened to reach Perez.

Brighton, weakened by the absences of suspended captain Lewis Dunk and Ireland forward Aaron Connolly, could not get a foothold in the game and their best hope was that the early Leicester storm would blow itself out. But although they managed to get the ball into the Leicester half for a brief spell around the 20-minute mark, their backs were soon against the wall once again.

Their performance was resembling one of the Alamo-like rearguard actions for which they were criticised in the later days of Chris Hughton's reign last season, but with Leicester attacking with pace and energy, they had few other options.

Daily Mail



Lacazette scores injury-time equaliser to spare Gunners' blushes

LONDON - Things need to improve, Arsenal chiefs told a meeting of club staff during the international break.

Perhaps Unai Emery and his players did not get the message because little changed against Southampton.

Alexandre Lacazette rescued a dramatic point for Arsenal with a 96th minute equaliser, his second of the game, but that just papered over the cracks.

The deafening chorus of boos at the full-time whistle and lack of any celebration from Arsenal after the Frenchman scored told the story.

This was yet another major setback, both the result and nature of the performance as the hosts were out-fought and out-performed for most of the 97 minutes, heaping even more pressure on the under-fire Emery.

Arsenal's unprecedented statement of disappointment about the current state of play was a pointed warning at best for Emery and dreaded vote of confidence at worst.

Now sacking season is well and truly

here following events this week up the road at fierce rivals Tottenham this week, this was not far off exactly what Emery did not need.

The Spaniard and his side finished extremely lucky that things were not a whole lot worse at full-time.

Southampton were excellent for large parts, a far cry from the side who collapsed in such stunning fashion in their historic 9-0 humiliation against Leicester not so long ago.

Only their finishing at the death cost them. They had enough chances to put the game to bed before Lacazette pegged them back. Arsenal can take little for granted right now having not won a league game since the start of October and just once in their seven games in all competitions since then.

In Southampton, though, they could hardly have handpicked better opposition in the current circumstances.

The south coast club's form was even worse. They last enjoyed a league victory in mid-September and their 9-0 home hammering against Leicester is

not yet a distant memory.

They had also failed to win any of their previous 24 league visits to Arsenal, a run that goes all the way back to 1987.

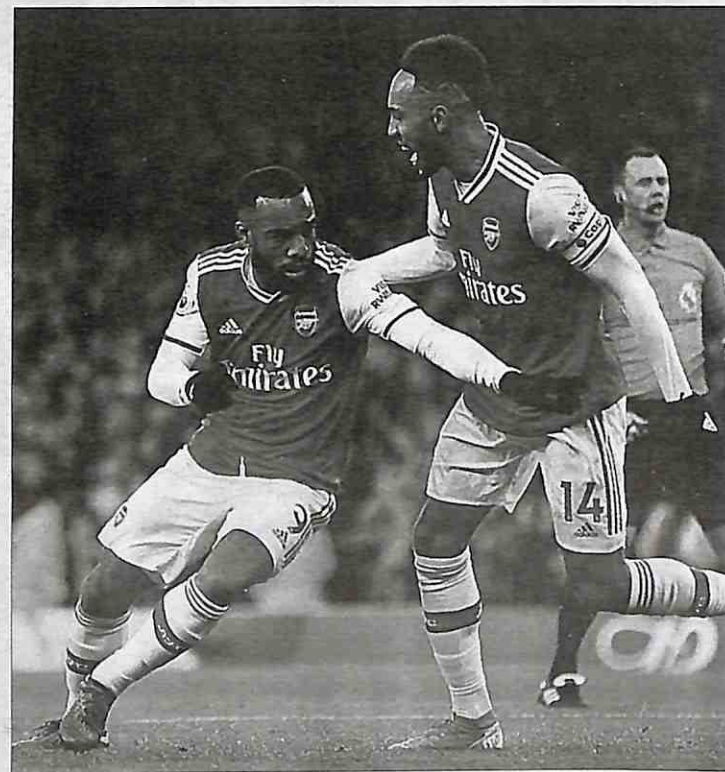
After eight minutes they were daring to believe. When Danny Ings' opener came it was little surprise.

Before that Arsenal had begun incredibly sloppily, five different players either needlessly conceding possession or misjudging the ball inside the first five minutes.

Three minutes later Calum Chambers blocked Nathan Redmond, Arsenal's defence were looking elsewhere when Ryan Bertrand took the free-kick quickly to put through Ings who whipped the opener cleverly past Bernd Leno off his near post.

For Southampton, Ings' eighth goal of the season was a deserved reward for their purposeful start, full of pressing and intensity.

It was followed by Emery's first nervous glance at the big screen and clock. There were 82 minutes to turn things around. Plenty of time. *Daily Mail*



Lacazette's equaliser on 18 minutes gave Arsenal and Emery some respite but their performance failed to improve.



INGWENYAMA CUP 2019/20



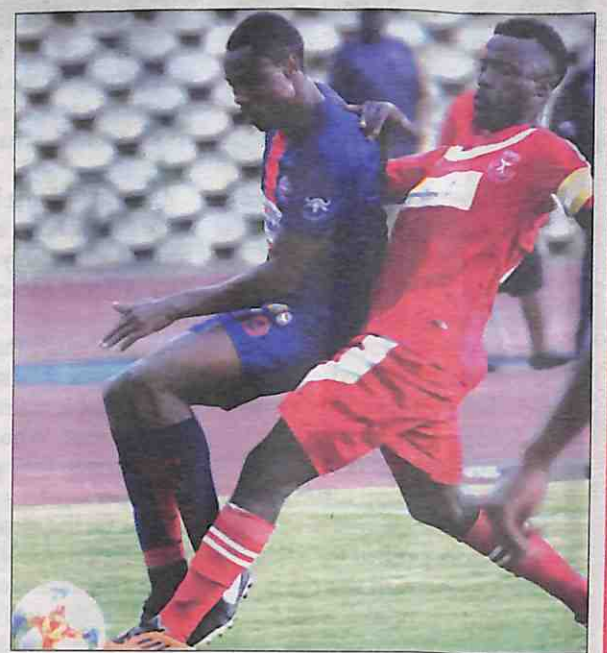
Mbabane Swallows' Sizolwethu 'Nunu' Shabalala controls the ball while Ludzeludze Young Brothers' Majaha Dlamini attempts to stop him during the Ingwenyama Cup last 32 games at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday. Swallows won 8-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



One of Swallows' goals scored by Sizolwethu Shabalala.



Swallows' Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko heads the ball away from his opponent.



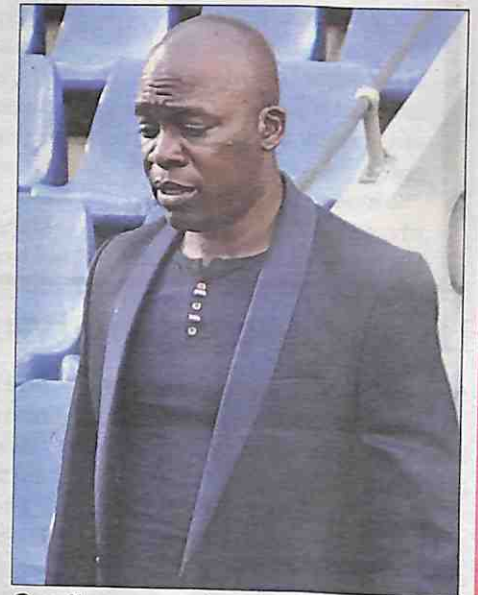
Swallows' Sandile Hlatjwako and Ludzeludze's Lusanda Mabuza in a battle for the ball.



Mbabane Swallows supporters celebrate one of their goals.



Ludzeludze Young Brothers players try to encourage each other.



Swallows coach Janza Honour.



Swallows captain Tony Tsabedze with Païto Dube and Sifiso Mabila on their way to the pitch.

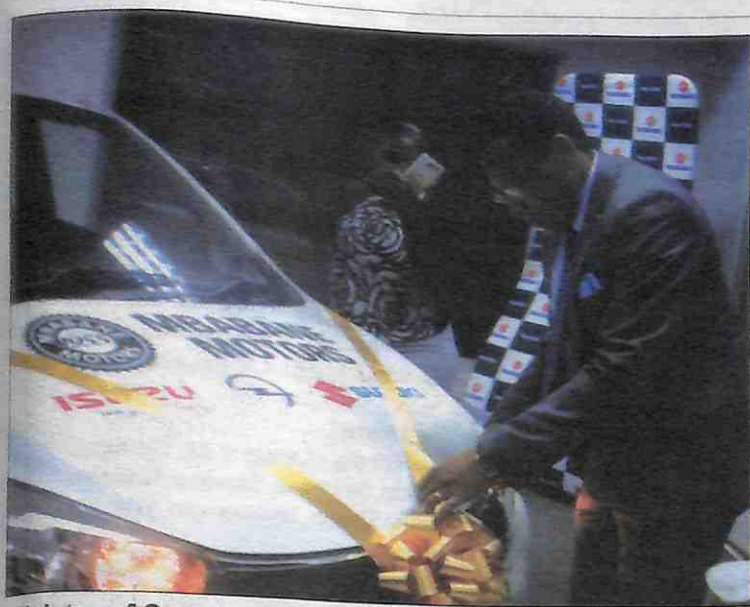


Injured Ludzeludze goalkeeper Mazwi Maseko being led out of the field.



Swallows supporters having fun.

MONENI PIRATES AND MBABANE MOTORS PARTNERSHIP LAUNCH



Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga cutting the ribbon during the launch of the partnership between Moneni Pirates and Mbabane Motors held at the company's offices on Friday night. To enter for the draw fans will have to purchase tickets from Mbabane Motors to win Suzuki the valued at E141 000.



Minister 'Madze,' MP Thandi Nxumalo and MP Macford Sibandze displaying their replicas.



Minister Bulunga accepts food parcels from Top Score's Constatine Ginindza and Moneni Pirates Head of Marketing Brian Magagula.



Mbabane Motors Director Brett Foss receives a replica from Moneni Pirates' Terence Matse.



Moneni Pirates Corporate Affairs Manager Mhlonishwa Motsa making his remarks. (Pics: Melusi Mlota)

Ingwenyama Cup 2019/20

READY — OR — NOT...

Always obey traffic safety laws

Grand Opening

SOMHLOLO NATIONAL STADIUM 24/11/19 SUNDAY

Manchester FC Vs Young Buffaloes FC - 1100hrs
Young Movers FC Vs Mbabane Highlanders FC - 1300hrs
Tinyosi FC Vs Manzini Wanderers FC - 1500hrs

Buckle up! It's Game ON.

Nkululeko wins Manzini Striders Marathon

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

SOCCEER - A stand-off finish by Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force's (UEDF) Nkululeko Gama earned him the Manzini Striders Marathon title after clocking 1:13:14 hours yesterday.

Gama crossed the line having outpaced his teammate in Andile Dlamini and Sifiso Ngcobo of Slojos.

Dlamini said he pushed hard in the first 18km as pretty much planned, stating that he used Gama to keep him on pace and where he wanted to be but only to find that they took the wrong direction and got lost during the race.

Ngcobo won the FSRA Marathon in August and the Imbembe Marathon where he got position two after he was outpaced by South Africa's Bonginkosi Mavuso in his debut in the marathon.

Despite being lost during the race, Gama was able to set a new record in the second edition of the Manzini Striders Marathon. This would be the fastest finish time

since its inception last year.

Gama appealed to the organisers of the marathon to place clear signs and marshals along the route.

"I am happy to be finishing the year on a high note and I am seeing a great improvement in my performance. I also wish to participate in international races and represent Eswatini," he said.

The champion further appealed for sponsorships as he believed he had the potential to represent the country during international races. For his achievement, Gama was presented with E2 000 by Athletics Association President Zakhele Dlamini and Manzini Striders member Bhekisisa Manyatsi. Meanwhile, Thwala Samkelisiwe took home the E2 000 after finishing first in the ladies category. She clocked 1:37:24 hours. The 10 km winner (males) is Dlamini Mduduzi while Simphiwe Dlamini won in the ladies category. Meanwhile, Nkosinathi Zwane won the 5km (males) and Nodumo Kunene won in the ladies category.

RESULTS:

2KM

MALE

Gama Nkululeko
Dlamini Andile
Ngcobo Sifiso

Veteran

MALE

Lukhele Bheki

Masters

Getrude Dlamini

10KM

MALE

Dlamini Mduduzi
Dlamini Bongumenzi
Shabangu Sibusiso

Veterans

MALE

Ngwenya Mcebo

Master

MALE

Ndlangamandla Eward

5KM

MALES

Zwane Nkosinathi
Mndzebele Siphiso
Sibandze Sifiso

Veterans

MALES

Sibandze Friday
Master

FEMALE

Thwala Samkelisiwe
Mthembu Gugu
Hlophe Beatrice

FEMALE

Hlophe Beatrice

FEMALE

Dlamini Simphiwe
Mnisi Winile
Bhembe Nobuhle

FEMALE

Simelane Gugu

FEMALE

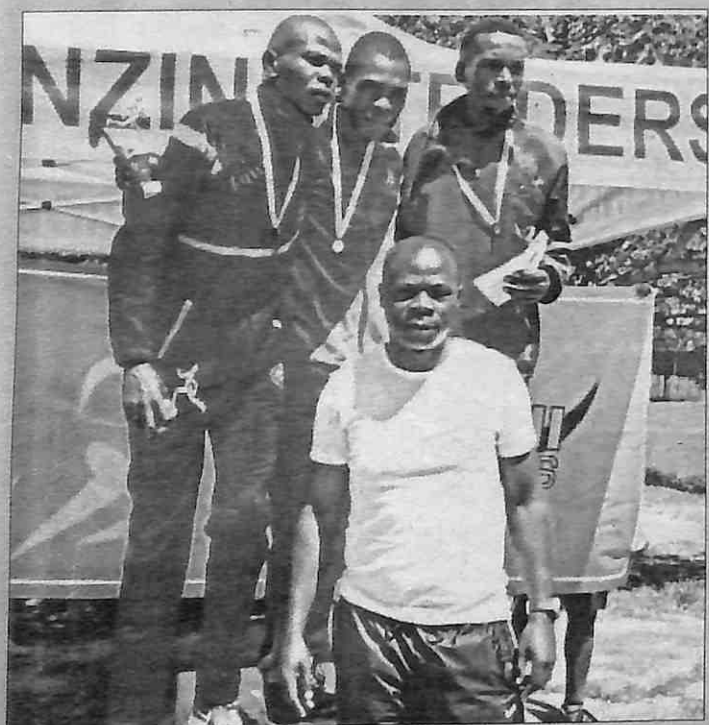
Zettberg Brutta

FEMALES

Kunene Nodumo
Gama Simphiwe
Sibandze Sincobile

FEMALES

Fakudze Sindi
Getrude Dlamini



Athletics Eswatini President Zakhele Dlamini with 21km winner Nkululeko Gama (c) flanked by his runners-up Andile Dlamini and Sifiso Ngcobo.

Sea Birds cruise into last 16

BY JONGILE XUBA

Sea Birds..... (1)5
Shooting Stars..... (0)0

SOCCEER - Manzini Sea Birds crushed Shooting Stars 5-0 at King Sobhuza II Stadium to advance to the Ingwenyama Cup last 16.

A hat-trick by Muzi Tsabedze and a brace from Wandile Nhleko was enough to ensure that the Manzini based outfit advances to the next round of the tournament.

Sea Birds made their intentions

clear from the onset scoring a goal in the first minute of play with Muzi Tsabedze opening the scorers chart just after 56 seconds.

Shooting Stars looked to regain composure after the goal but were unable to find the equaliser.

The match went to break with Sea Birds leading 1-0. The second half saw the hub based step up a notch as they looked to guarantee the win. Four goals came in the last 20 minutes as Muzi Tsabedze and Wandile Nhleko put the game to rest. Tsabedze scored his second in the 75th minute and third in the 81st to complete his

hat-trick. Nhleko scored his first goal in the 73rd before completing his brace in the 87th minute to round up a good display on the day. Sea Birds won the match with relative ease and advanced to the next round.

The teams:

Sea Birds - Lindani M, Gcinizwi, Mfundo, Siphelele, Sibusiso, Ndumiso, Xolani, Thabo, Bhekumuzi, Wandile, Muzi.

Shooting Stars - Mzwakhe, Sabelo, Mandla, Musawenkosi, Linda, Lindokuhle, Thabo, Msimisi, Senzo, Ayanda, Sambulo.



Some members of Hyena MCC display the sanitary pads donated during the walk. From left are Matewu, John, Teete, Freddy, Blade and Captain Aya.

'Sanitary pads to join cycling/walk race'

BY NOMALUNGELO PHIRI

SPORTS - Eswatini Cycling Association (ECA) President Sihlangu Nhlabatsi has appealed to cycling/walk organisers to include sanitary pads as part of joining requirements for every race.

Speaking during an interview with this publication, Nhlabatsi said this would benefit the girl child since they need sanitary pads every month. This was during the unique 20 km cycle and 10km walk activity hosted by Inyatsi Construction Group Holdings' Cycling Club in association with the Hyena Motorcycle Club yesterday. The event was attended by over 200 participants. This event aims to help meet the needs of the girl child with sanitary pads donation as some girls from less privileged communities struggle to purchase them. All these proceeds will be donated to the Mndobandoba community in Big-Bend. Since 2010, Inyatsi Cycling Club has been growing, while



A section of the ladies that took part in the 10km walk on their way to Mahlanya.

promoting health and fitness as well as contributing to the community through donations that include the Toy Ride. According to Inyatsi Group Holdings Marketing Manager Gugulethu Bennett, they have had over 50 members participating in both local and international races, the sport also contributes to improving the daily productivity of the employees as well as interpersonal skills. "It is also

a great team building activity as various departments unite for a common cause on the cycle tracks." Inyatsi has hosted some successful cycling events in the past with the recent one being the Inyatsi Swazi Frontier which included cyclists from outside of Eswatini. Inyatsi Group Holdings Chief Executive Officer John Hamilton said they were happy to be part of this initiative that supported the girl child.

MADLENYA EDGE HLATIKULU TYCOONS

BY COLISILE SACOLO

Madlenya..... (0)2
Tycoons..... (0)1

SOCCEER - Madlenya FC are through to the last 16 of the Ingwenyama Cup after beating Hlatikulu Tycoons 2-1 during a match played at King Sobhuza II Stadium yesterday.

Both teams looked determined to win the match as they came hard at each other soon after the referee blew his first whistle.

Scoring chances were few and far in the first 15 minutes of the match.

It was not until the 22nd minute when the Madlenya goal keeper made a great save to deny Tycoons midfielder Ayanda Mabuza, who took a hard shot but only to find that the goal minder was up for

the challenge.

The match went to the break with the teams locked at 0-0.

The second half was a replica of the first as the teams were all over each other as the match became entertaining.

Madlenya eventually broke the deadlock in the 66th minute via the boot of Bongwa Matsebula, who beat the keeper with ease to put his team in front.

Hlatikulu Tycoons pushed hard for an equaliser but Madlenya's defenders were able to thwart the opposition's efforts.

It became an entertaining affair in the last 20 minutes with the teams threatening to tear each other apart.

Madlenya FC scored their second goal in the 73rd minute through Ciniso Mamba.

Tycoons were able to find a consola-

tion goal in stoppage time through Ayanda Mabuza.

The match ended 2-1 in favour of Madlenya.

”

Madlenya eventually broke the deadlock in the 66th minute via the boot of Bongwa Matsebula, who beat the keeper with ease to put his team in front

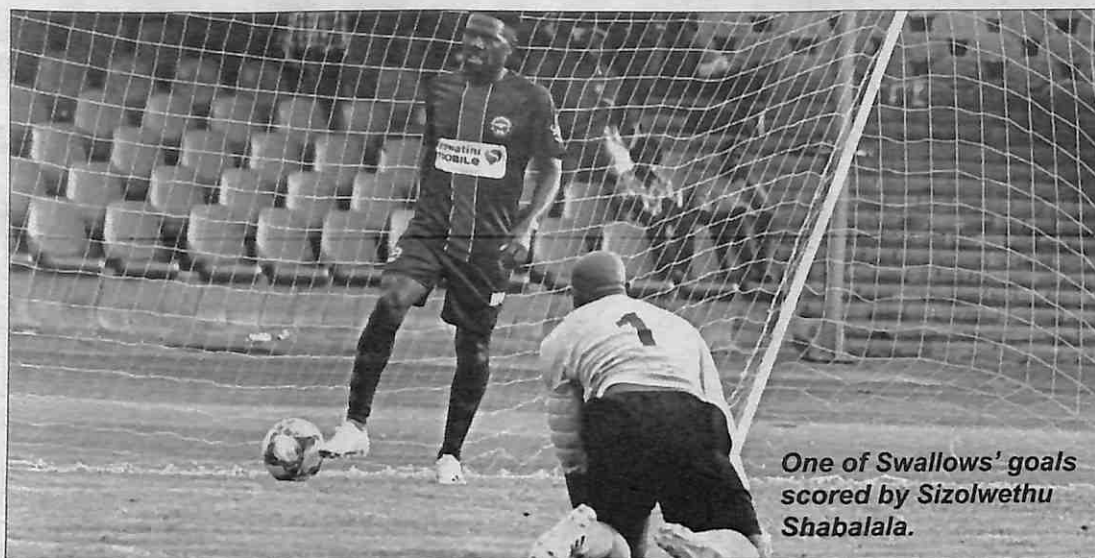
BIRDS FLY TO LAST 16

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

Mbabane Swallows.....(3)8
Ludzeludze Brothers...(0)0

SOCCER - BOYS were separated from men when capital city giants Mbabane Swallows beat Super League side Ludzeludze Brothers 8-0 to book their place in the last 16 of the Ingwenyama Cup. This was during a match played at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday. Honour Janza's men made their intentions known as early as four minutes when lanky striker Sandile Hlatshwako scored the first goal after Ludzeludze Brothers' defence was caught napping.

Sizolwethu Shabalala scored the team's second goal a minute later after receiving a cross from Sandile Hlatshwako. The red and white glamour side nearly scored a third goal in the 28th minute but Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko's shot wide with an acres of space in front of him. The Super League side was dealt a blow in 29 minutes when their goal keeper Mazwi Maseko



One of Swallows' goals scored by Sizolwethu Shabalala.

got injured and was replaced by Vuyiso Motsa.

Swallows midfielder Sizolwethu Shabalala completed his brace in the 41st minute after making a good run to beat the keeper.

The match went to the break with Swallows leading 3-0.

In the second half, Mbabane Swallows continued to pile more pressure on their opponents but

failed to utilise their chances. Shabalala was back to complete his hat-trick in the 51st minute.

Swallows coach Honour Janza brought in Siphamandla Dlamini for Wonder Nhleko in the 57th minute. Richard McCreesh who also came in the second half scored the team's fifth goal in the 61st minute. Mncedisi scored two goals towards the end of the second half

to make it 7-0. Substitute Siphamandla Dlamini scored the team's eighth goal in the 85th minute to wrap up the match.

Teams:

Mbabane Swallows - Sandanezwe, Colani, Mncedisi, Pemba, Sifiso, Paito, Wonder, Sibonginkosi, Sandile, Sizolwethu, Tony Ludzeludze Brothers - Mazwi, Celucolo, Machawe, Yaya, Lusanda, Sandile, Sandile, Neliswa, Ntokozi, Themba, Thubelihle, Majaha.

Callies through after penalties

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

Tambankulu Callies.....(0)0
Hub Sundowns.....(0)0
Tambankulu Callies won 5-4 after penalties

SOCCER - NATIONAL First Division side Tambankulu Callies are through to the last 16 of the Ingwenyama Cup. This was after the sugarbelt side beat Hub Sundowns 5-4 via penalty shootouts in a match played yesterday at Mavuso Sports Centre.

There was nothing to write home about in the first half as both sides failed to create scoring opportunities.

Callies' Sebenele Magagula's free-kick at the edge of the box was nearly spilled into the net by Hub Sundowns goalkeeper Thokozani Cindzi in the 16th minute. However, a quick reaction from Sundowns defence saved the situation. In the 24th minute, Neliso Myeni's shot was easily saved by the Hub Sundowns goalkeeper.

Hub Sundowns coach Christian Thwala introduced Bongani Sibandze for Thulani Sibandze towards the end of the first half. The match went for break with both sides locked in a stalemate.

The second half saw Callies enjoying more ball possession but poor decision making in the final third let them down.

Hub Sundowns goalkeeper was called to make a brilliant save from Simphiwe Gamedze in the 58th minute.

In fact, the goal-minder made countless saves until the referee ended the match in 90 minutes and ordered both sides to go for penalties.

Tambankulu Callies eventually won the match 5-4 via the penalty shootout.

Teams:
HUB SUNDOWNS - Thokozani, Nkosinathi, Njabulo, Mancoba, Nkosinathi, Tito, Linda, Thulani, Michael, Mavela, Daluxolo
TAMBAKULU - Ncanawe, Khulekani, Muhle, Sebenele, Zakhele, Vusi, Meshack, Sandziso, Neliso, Siphesihle, Mazwi.

It's the Ingwenyama Cup grand opening today

BY MELUSI MLOTSA

SOCCER - YOUNG Buffaloes begin their Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (SMVAF) Ingwenyama Cup title defence against Manchester United during the grand opening scheduled for Somhlolo National Stadium today.

'Buffs' will play first in the triple header that will also see Young Movers take on Mbabane Highlanders in the second match, while Tinyosi have a date with Wanderers in the last match of the day.

The three elite teams in Young Buffaloes, Mbabane Highlanders and Manzini Wanderers will be all out to avoid an upset as only one Premier League team has bitten the dust so far (Pigg's Peak Black Swallows).

Today at Somhlolo National Stadium:

Manchester FC	vs	Young Buffaloes	11am
Young Movers	vs	Mbabane Highlanders	1pm
Tinyosi FC	vs	Manzini Wanderers	3pm

Tinyosi coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntubane said preparations were going on well and the players were highly motivated since they would be playing against a big team.

On the other hand, Manzini Wanderers coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe admitted that they were under pressure going into this match but was hopeful his players would deliver the goods.

Meanwhile, Mbabane Highlanders head coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati said they would do everything to crush Young Movers and advance to the next round.

Young Movers new coach Mfundo Ginindza said they would enter the match as underdogs but would fight for positive results. Buckle Up, the game is on.

A total of 41 goals were scored in the opening games since Friday.

Ingwenyama Cup PRO happy with opening games

BY COLISILE SACOLO

SOCCER - INGWENYAMA Cup Public Relations Officer Nkosilenhle Masuku said he was happy with the last 32 games played at different venues yesterday.

Masuku said this after watching the triple header played at King Sobhuza Stadium yesterday.

"We witnessed great games here and it was good to see teams scoring so many goals. This is what the tournament is all about and I am sure the fans enjoyed watching the games."

He said all the three games were competitive and you could easily tell that the teams came prepared for the games. "The quality of the football is very impressive and I must say that the support was over-

whelming. Fans came out in their numbers and it was good to see them supporting their favourite teams", he said.

Masuku said he was also happy that there were no incidences of violence reported.

"I want to also thank the fans for behaving themselves. This is what we want to see throughout the tournament. It's good to note that fans do understand that it's either you win or you lose in a knockout tournament."

He said it was encouraging to see fans accepting results even though they were not favourable.

Masuku also said the condition of the King Sobhuza Stadium had improved. "The pitch in now fenced and I must say that it is commendable. I last time I was here it was not like this. This is also good



Ingwenyama Cup Public Relations Officer Nkosilenhle Masuku.

for the safety of the players."

He then invited fans to also come in their numbers to watch the grand opening at Somhlolo National Stadium today.

"There is a triple header at Somhlolo and mine is just to urge fans to come in their numbers to support their teams. They must come early so to enjoy all three games."

Malanti annihilate Rangers with eight goals

BY JONGILE XUBA

Rangers.....(0)1
Malanti Chiefs.....(5)8

SOCCER - MALANTI Chiefs made slight work of Rangers, beating them 8-1 in the Ingwenyama Cup round of 32 match played at King Sobhuza II Stadium yesterday.

A half hat-trick and second half brace from Charles Molopo, as well as goals from Lindokuhle Fakudze, Ayanda Ncube and Mxolisi Lukhele saw Malanti win the match with ease. Malanti were favourites going into the match and they showed proved this by scoring five goals in 10 minutes.

The first goal came from striker Charles Molopo in the 20th minute with the second one coming three minutes later. He completed his hat-trick in the 27th minute to demoralise Rangers. It went from bad to worse as Ayanda Ncube grabbed his goal in the 29th minute to make it 4-0. Lindokuhle Fakudze was also in the mix up a minute later to make it 5-0 for Malanti Chiefs.

The match went to the break with Malanti leading 5-0. Malanti continued from where the left off as they were all over the opposition and Rangers goalkeeper Samkeliso Dlamini was shown a straight red card for handling the ball outside box.

The 10-man Rangers failed to contain the opposition as danger -man Charles Molopo scored his fourth and the team's sixth goals in the 59th minute. Next it was substitute Mxolisi Lukhele, who got into the score sheet after 68 minutes of play. Molopo scored his fifth goal of the day and Malanti's eight of the match in the 69th minute. Rangers did manage to pull one back in stoppage time after being granted a penalty. Sicelo Simelane made sure to score from the spotkick as the match ended in a resounding victory for Malanti Chiefs.

TEAMS:

RANGERS - Samkeliso, Bongani, Mncedisi, Sibusiso, Sicelo, Nkosilenhle, Sibanenkosi, Mfanisibili, Zama, Xolani, Thanduxolo
MALANTI CHIEFS - Colani, Siyabonga, Bongane, Sandile, Innocent, Ayanda, Sithembiso, Lindokuhle, Charles, Mbongiseni, Zweli

Ingwenyama Cup last 32 results:

Seven Dreams	1-0	PIP Black Swallows
Ludzeludza Killers	1-3	Royal Leopard
Magwanyane FC	0-1	Mhlume Peacemakers
Ilovo FC	0-0	Tambuli
(Ilovo won 6-7 after penalties)		
Shooting Stars	0-5	Manzini Sea Birds
Hlatikulu Tycoons	1-2	Madienya
Rangers FC	1-8	Malanti Chiefs
Hub Sundowns	0-0	Tambankulu Callies
(Callies won 5-4 after penalties)		
Ludzeludze Brothers	0-8	Mbabane Swallows
Vovovo FC	1-1	Miling Hotspurs
(Vovovo won 5-4 after penalties)		
Lobamba Sunrise	0-2	Green Mamba
Umbelebele	0-2	Denver Sundowns
Mbabane Citizens	0-4	Moneni Pirates

Today's games

Somhlolo National Stadium

Manchester FC	vs	Young Buffaloes	11am
Young Movers	vs	Mbabane Highlanders	1pm
Tinyosi FC	vs	Manzini Wanderers	3pm

SundayObserver SPORTING

November 24, 2019



**NKULUKEKO WINS
MANZINI
STRIDERS
MARATHON**

P.38

**INGWENYAMA
CUP GRAND
OPENING
TODAY**



P.38

**'BRING SANITARY
PADS TO JOIN
CYCLING/WALK
RACE'**

P.39

It's raining goals in Ingwenyama Cup as ...



41 GOALS SCORED IN OPENING GAMES

Mahrez helps City recover from a sloppy start

LONDON - Riyad Mahrez proved an inspired replacement for the suspended Bernardo Silva by firing Manchester to victory in a pulsating evening game at The Etihad.

Mahrez was drafted in with Bernardo banned for one match for posting a racially-sensitive tweet and the Algerian completed a home comeback with a brilliant individual goal after 37 minutes.

Pep Guardiola's side leapfrog Chelsea into third place as a result of their victory but Frank Lampard, who played for both clubs, will feel proud of his side who took the lead through N'Golo Kante before man-of-the-match Kevin De Bruyne levelled.

City remain nine points behind leaders Liverpool in the title race but on this evidence the back-to-champions won't give up their crown without a fight, even though Sergio Aguero limped out in the latter stages and may be a doubt for their Champions League tie against Shakhtar on Tuesday.

Due to the international break, Pep Guardiola had been forced to brood over City's defeat at Anfield for a fortnight.

Chelsea weren't ideal opponents for a quick bounce back given the Londoners had won their previous seven away matches, but City started like a side highly motivated with Ederson back in goal following a calf injury.

De Bruyne was a whisker away from scoring with a shot from Sergio Aguero's intelligent pass and the home side spent the opening period camped in Chelsea's half, leaving Tammy Abraham an isolated figure upfront for the visitors.

Aguero has a formidable scoring record against Chelsea, nobody has more against them in the Premier League, and he looked at the races from the opening whistle, with one burst of acceleration into the Chelsea box spreading panic.

Frank Lampard, who played for both clubs but is more easily associated with Chelsea, knew if his side remained patient soaking up pressure they had the counter-attacking ability to trouble City's sus-



pect defence.

And that's how it worked to devastating effect that eventually gave Chelsea the lead after 21 minutes.

Abraham led the first charge before setting up Willian to shoot wide. N'Golo Kante then supplied Abraham whose curler was narrowly off-target.

When Fernandinho failed to clear a corner convincingly, Abraham put the ball back into the danger area and Fikayo Tomori was disappointed to miss the target from eight yards.

Rarely has Pep Guardiola's City been so vulnerable to breakaways. Willian released left-back Emerson whose drive was well held by Emerson as it flew into the pit of his stomach.

Daily Mail