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UNQUALIFIED TEACHERS

STORY ON
PAGE 3

*...Global report on
child rights in Eswatini
raises critical issues*

PM once a naughty boy

Page 3



Ramaphosa here March 3

Page 2

COOLING OFF:
Umbutfo taking a
sip of buganu
from the tradition-
al clay pot
(Ludziwo). This
was during the
Buganu Ummemo
hosted by Chief
Ndialuhlaza
Ndwandwe, also
Minister of Public
Works and
Transport. The
event was held at
Etfuntini Royal
Kraal in
Nkambeni on
Saturday.
(Pic: Simon
Shabangu) **MORE
PICTURES INSIDE**



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RAMAPHOSA HERE MARCH 3

BY SABELO MAJOLA
Mbabane

SOUTH Africa's fifth democratically elected President Cyril Ramaphosa is expected to jet into the country on March 3 for a brief visit.

Ramaphosa is the president of the Africa National Congress (ANC), the ruling party in the neighbouring country. Although it is not confirmed yet, Ramaphosa, who will be coming into the country for the first time since he became president of South Africa after the resignation of then president Jacob Zuma in February 2018, will have a brief visit to the country to meet His Majesty King Mswati III, among other things.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Principal Secretary Joel Nhleko said Ramaphosa's visit was not yet confirmed, but did not dispute the news when sought for comment yesterday.

"As soon as it is confirmed, you will be notified,"

he said briefly. Highly-placed sources in South African media confirmed March 3, as per presidential schedules, this being easily accessible information in the neighbouring country.

The South African president recently met with Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini at the 32nd African Union Summit, which kicked off on February 10, 2019 at Addis Ababa in Ethiopia.

Apart from being members of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU), the two countries have

strong bilateral relations that date back to the apartheid era in South Africa.

Formal relations between South Africa and Eswatini were established on December 27, 1984 at Trade Representative level. On October 1, 1993 relations were upgraded to ambassadorial level.

Upon South Africa's re-entry to the Commonwealth, relations have been conducted at High Commissioner level.

In June 1993, South Africa and Eswatini signed a judicial agreement providing for South African judges, magistrates and prosecutors to serve in Eswatini's courts.

South Africa also agreed to provide training for Swazi court personnel.

In August 1995, the two countries signed an agreement to cooperate in anti-crime and anti-smuggling efforts along their common borders.



COMING: South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa.

'USE OF MUTI IN CHURCHES ON THE RISE'

BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI
SITEKI

THE use of muti and other forms of hipnosis is reportedly gaining momentum in many churches.

As a result, a certain level of enmity amongst some church leaders fighting for membership is said to be prevalent. This was revealed during the Lubombo regional prayer service, which was held at Matseta School for the Deaf last Friday. The prayer service was attended by leaders of communities and Christians from various denominations.

Simunye-based FEA Pastor Themba Malangwane led the main sermon of the day. As per norm, Malangwane

based his sermon on the scriptures, reading from the Book of 2 Samuel chapter 14. It was during this sermon that Malangwane expressed his concern about the rampant use of muti and evil spirits by some church leaders who would perform magic under the guise of miracles.

Malangwane said it was evident that Christians were steadily being led astray by individuals who have refashioned the Gospel and centred it on money. "We cannot run away from the fact that some church leaders get their powers from witch-doctors. This is something which is steadily shaming the Church, and Christians have a duty to pray that such things come to an end," said Pastor Malangwane. The long-serving pastor said it was now an open secret that some

individuals established churches solely for the purpose of generating money through offerings.

Malangwane further expressed his concern on church leaders who constantly make headlines in the media for all the wrong reasons. He said for instance, the Christian fraternity felt ashamed each time a pastor would be reported to have been arrested for breaking the law. Malangwane implored Christians to utilise gatherings such as regional prayers to pray fervently against all the ills which were out to tarnish the image of the Christian faith. Meanwhile, the gathering prayed for a number of things which were listed as factors affecting the region. They prayed for a decline in crime rate, decline in road accidents and decline in domestic violence cases.

UNTIDY



NOT IN THE CITY: The delay to collect refuse bins in the Mbabane City is forcing residents to dump rubbish on the ground, making the city untidy. (Pic: Mduzuzi Mngomezulu)

'English as a passing subject worrisome'

BY MELUSI MLOTSA
MBABANE

THE argument whether or not English language should be a passing subject in the country's schools will be a thing of the past, as this status quo shall soon be removed, according to Minister of Education Lady Howard Mabuza.

She was interviewed by this publication following complaints from private and government schools that the English language has been a stumbling block to academic progress. One of the complaints came from Ka-Shali PRO Learning High School management and directors, urging the minister of education to reconsider removing English as a passing subject. "We note with sadness the continued use of English Language as a stumbling block to the academic progress of many pupils. It is indeed an embracement that after 50 years of independence, we still have the former colonial language as an entry requirement in institutions of higher learning. This extends

to even in courses which have nothing to do with the mastery of the English Language.

The PRO Learning management went on to urge the ministry and other relevant stakeholders to put the interest of the country first and remove the unnecessary barrier with immediate effect. Minister Mabuza said the ministry was working towards the removal of English as a passing subject in response to many complaints. "It's true that English has destroyed the careers of many pupils. Some of them have decided to kill themselves, after failing, due to the mentioned subject," she said. The minister said, currently, the ministry was discussing with all the stakeholders involved regarding this issue.

"But I can assure you that the outcome will be positive, more especially because in the past the ministry also deliberated on it." She said the subject might soon apply to other courses using English as a medium and pleaded for patience to all concerned, while the ministry is working on finer details with all the relevant stakeholders.

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Shocker:

4 000 unqualified teachers

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Manzini

AFRICAN Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), has been informed that there are over 4 000 unqualified teachers in the education system.

In addition, the number of teachers is not adequate for the implementation of free primary education programme.

The committee also wants to know the teacher-to-pupil ratio in primary and secondary schools, and whether or not the teachers are capable to deliver quality education.

The committee was informed that even though free primary education is guaranteed in the constitution, top-up fees are required by a majority of public schools, thus excluding children who are economically disadvantaged, orphaned and those who are in vulnerable situations.

The committee was also informed

that measures taken by the government to remedy the challenge are not adequate, such as grants to schools to support orphaned and vulnerable children. The committee would like to know measures taken to ensure effective implementation of free primary education and the current enrolment rate of children in primary schools. Also, the committee wants to know whether or not the Free Primary Education Act makes primary education compulsory.

In a report submitted in 2017 about the Implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the government of Eswatini notified the African Union of the measures taken by the country in promoting child welfare.

In response, the Commission of the African Union forwarded a document containing observations made from the report and sought clarifications on a number of issues identified in the report on the Implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and welfare of the Child.

Last week Thursday and Friday, the deputy prime minister's office together with different ministerial representatives, attended a consultative meeting at The George Hotel in Manzini on comments regarding state party issues raised by the African ACERWC. The committee expects to receive the answers to the list of issues raised by Thursday.

The committee also invited the Kingdom of Eswatini to designate and send high level representatives to discuss the report with the committee on March 20 at the AUC headquarters in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.

“

In a report submitted in 2017 about the Implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the government of Eswatini notified the African Union of the measures taken by the country in promoting child welfare

”

PM once a naughty urchin

BY STARSKY MKHONTA
Nhlanguano

PRIME Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini has said like any other child, he recalled how naughty and troublesome he was when growing up.

The PM said some people he shared his background with and how he was a problematic child, did not believe his story. He said it never crossed his mind that one day he would be the country's PM. Even his appointment at the Ludzidzini Cattle Byre last year by His Majesty King Mswati III took him by complete surprise. He had gone there just like any other citizen anxious to know who the next PM would be.

Dlamini was addressing police officers during the familiarisation tour he undertook of various police stations under the Shiselweni region. He met with the Shiselweni police at Bethesda conference room before he was shown the dilapidated regional headquarters and the Nhlanguano Police Station buildings.

The PM said he was aware that God had plans for everyone, irrespective of their background.

“Growing up, I was a naughty person. Some people don't believe this when I share my story with them. However, my life was transformed when I was 16 as God took control of everything in my life after accepting Jesus as my Lord and personal Saviour.

“To this day, I'm happy to declare that I am still a child of God. Had I not repented, I'm certain that my life would be miserable. I can boldly declare that I'll carry the task

bestowed upon me by the country's authorities with diligence as God is on my side,” said Dlamini.

The PM said those who trusted in God never fail. He was without doubt that even the challenges the country is facing, in particular the ailing economy, would be overcome through belief in God.

Dlamini said even his appointment was God's plan.

Enhance

“The King said he needed people who would restore the country to its rightful position in order to enhance its image.

His Majesty also urged the nation to pray for the person to be appointed as the head of government.

I was also praying like the rest of other Emaswati not knowing that God would direct His Majesty to appoint me. The King said he needed ‘building material’ (*tint-fungo*) and little did I know that I would form part of the new Cabinet (of 2018-2023),” said Dlamini.

He reiterated that God has

plans for each and every person on this planet.

“Everything is possible with God and I'm a living testimony,” he said.

The PM appealed to all Emaswati to play their part in transforming the nation for the better in order for the wishes of Their Majesties to be fulfilled.

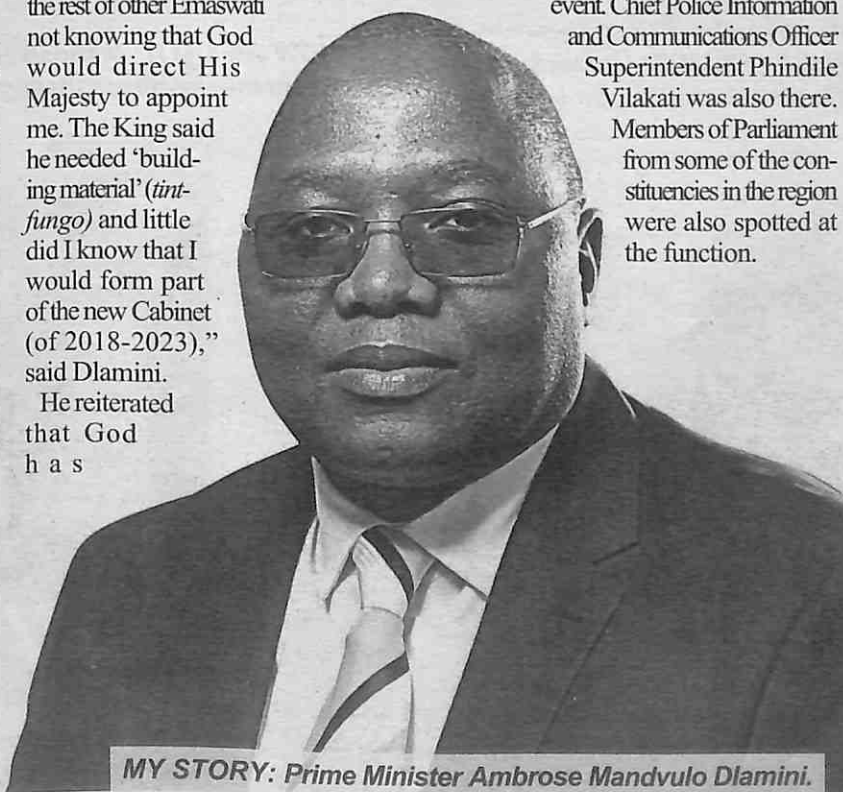
He said this was not only the responsibility of government but everyone must be seen doing something.

“It is true, our economy is in a bad shape but we can turn things around if we can all stand up and be part of the nation rebuilding exercise.

Let's allow God to direct everything and things would turn around for the better soon,” said Dlamini.

Top brass in the police service, including the acting National Commissioner William ‘WW’ Dlamini and some of his deputies, were part of the event. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati was also there.

Members of Parliament from some of the constituencies in the region were also spotted at the function.



MY STORY: Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini.

Sexual exploitation cases in wrong cop shop

THE committee also stated that they were informed that child victims of sexual violence are taken to facilities that house police officers.

Also that cultural law is used to address sexual violence cases against children and not the Dutch-Roman law. Furthermore, children with disabilities are kept in chicken sheds when they report cases of sexual violence. The committee wished to know if this information is accurate.

On the issue of taking child victims to facilities that house police officers, the response was that this information is not true. There are no sexual violence survivors (children) that are housed at police houses.

On the issue of cultural law, the response was that this information is also not true.

Firstly, in Eswatini, there is no cultural law, but rather Swazi Law and Custom. Before the introduction of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act (SODV), all cases that are of a sexual nature are handled using the Roman-Dutch Law, but now the country uses the SODV as well as the CPWA. No cases of sexual nature were ever dealt with using the Swazi Law and Custom.

Furthermore, sexual offences are governed by statutes and these are not dealt with culturally. If a case is of a sexual nature, the police are immediately informed.

On the issue of children with disabilities kept in chicken sheds, the response was that this information is not true.

Another issue raised was that the committee would like to get information on measures taken to hold perpetrators of sexual exploitation

of children accountable.

The response was that offenders are arrested, prosecuted, convicted and sentenced without the option of a fine.

Also under sexual exploitation, the committee stated that they were informed that one in three females experience some form of sexual violence by the time they are 18, and one in five females experience coerced sex before 18. The committee would like to know if this information is correct; if so the measures that are being taken by the state party to prevent gender based violence and exploitation, to hold perpetrators accountable, to ensure accessibility and availability of legal services and to provide psychosocial support to children affected by sexual exploitation.

The response was that statistically, it is true according to the 2007 national study on violence against women and girls.

Measures being taken by the state are that the country has legal instruments such as SODV and the People Trafficking and People Smuggling Prohibiting Act. Also, there is an ongoing process of community sensitisation and public awareness, especially girls on date rape, thus preventing gender based violence and exploitation.

“

On the issue of taking child victims to facilities that houses police officers, the response was that this information is not true. There are no sexual violence victims (children) that are housed at police houses

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NKAMBENI UMMEMO

BOBABE: Chief Ndlaluhlaza Ndwandwe (centre) hosted Baganu Ummemo ceremony at Etfuntini Royal Kraal in Nkambeni on Saturday. During the ceremony, a number of chiefs came through to support him and the people of Nkambeni. Present were Senator Prince Mshengu, Prince Gcina, Prince Mlayeto and Chief Nkamane. The ceremony attracted scores of people from around the area and beyond who enjoyed festivities of the season. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



THE HOST: Chief Ndlaluhlaza, who is also Minister of Public Works and Transport, addressing residents of Nkambeni at the ummemo.



IN FULL SWING: Umbutfo leading the way during kugiya session.



HOW WE DO IT: Inkhosikati LaZungu, wife to Chief Nkamane, leading Lutsango during kutsamba session.



PHOSEKA: Chief Ndlaluhlaza showing the regiment how it's done during the kugiya session.



SPOTTED: Hhukwini MP Nkhanyeti Ngwenya was also among the legislators who attended the ceremony.

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RHYTHM: Lacwebetelako captured in action during the umgubho session.



SONG AND DANCE: Emakhosikati LaNkhosi, LaZungu and LaNxumalo dancing up a storm.



SERVICES: Companies were also afforded an opportunity to get closer to their clients, as they were on the ground offering their services.



POSE: Mandlangempisi MP Sibusiso 'Scorpion' Nxumalo and HMCS senior officer Tom Dlamini were also among the many regiments who attended the ceremony.



ENJOYING: Lutsango was a marvel to watch as they came through to showcase their skills during kutsamba.



The chief pictured with business people Mpendulo Masuku, Patrick Dlamini and Jack Bello, who were guests at the event.



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LISTENING ATTENTIVELY: Judge Mumcy Dlamini, Minister of Labour Makhosi Vilakati, Education Minister Lady Howard-Mabuza, Principal Judge Qinisile Mabuza and EU Ambassador Esmeralda Aragonés-Hernández watching proceedings at the event. (Pics: Sifiso Dlamini)

AN INCREASE OF 27.5 % OF VIOLENCE & ABUSE CASES

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

A review of statistics relating to abuse recorded between 2017 and 2018, illustrates that there seems to be on upward trend.

This was revealed by REP Senior Deputy Commissioner Lydia Dlamini at the One Billion Rising campaign held at Mafutseni Inkhundla last Saturday.

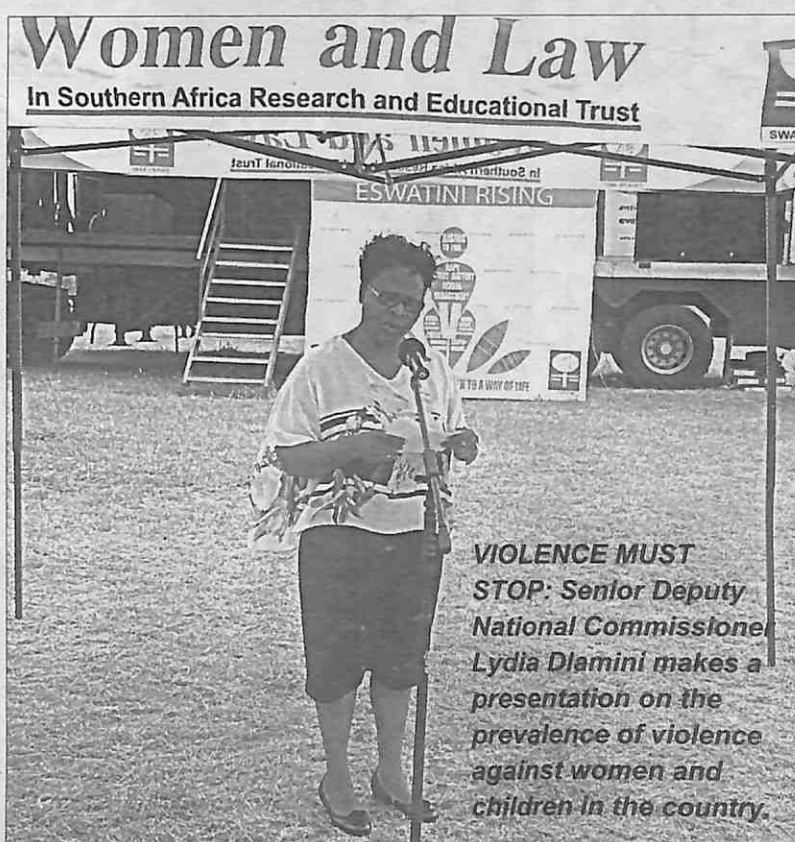
Dlamini said as REPS they were immensely pleased to join the various stakeholder categories present at the event. She added that it gratified the police agency to see such a large number of diverse stakeholders from the Mafutseni community and the nation at large in attendance to support what she themed a very important campaign.

Abusing

"The matter of abusing women and children has escalated from simply being a matter of crime, now it is a social crisis that pinpoints to a serious fracture of our society's moral fabric," added Dlamini.

Dlamini stated that the willy-nilly sexual and physical abuse of women and children witnessed in the country indicates that there is a decay of the standards of morality in society. There is a need to identify the root cause of the problem, so as to restore the virtues of "bunt-fu" that should ordinarily be a characteristic feature of Eswatini as a nation.

A review of statistics of cases of abuse indicates that abuse of women and children is on the rise. Illustrating this is that



VIOLENCE MUST STOP: Senior Deputy National Commissioner Lydia Dlamini makes a presentation on the prevalence of violence against women and children in the country.

in 2018, there was a total of 3 964 cases of violence and abuse recorded compared to 2017, where 3 108 cases were recorded. This translates to an increase of 27.5 per cent.

Dlamini said rape, in particular, appears to be gaining momentum as 517 cases were recorded in 2018 compared to 442 cases recorded in 2017. She added that of note, in 2018, 284 reported cases of

rape involved girls below the age of 17, including children below the age of five years. In 2017, there were 237 reported cases involving young girls.

With regard to intimate partner killings, a total of 33 women were murdered in 2018 versus 30 women murdered in 2017. She added that this was very sobering as any loss of life as a consequence of crime is one loss too many.

education drive to sensitise and conscientise the nation through the mass media on issues relating to the abuse of women and children.

She added that whilst they acknowledge the challenge those cases of this nature occurred in intimately private places, they have nonetheless further increased target visibility policing in areas where crimes such as rape are becoming a frequent occurrence.

Dlamini also stated that as REP they continue staging crime prevention campaigns and hold dialogues with relevant stakeholders to up the ante of awareness and also seek shared pragmatic solutions to end the scourge of violence and abuse against women and children. She also took the opportunity to extend her gratitude as a police service to the relevant structures for the promulgation into law the Sexual

Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 2018. She said the act is enabling the police service and is a comprehensive legal framework for the protection of vulnerable categories from domestic violence and sexual assault.

Dlamini appealed to members of the public to ensure that all cases of sexual abuse occurring in communities should be reported without fail so that the perpetrators can be exposed and

be made to face the wrath of the law for their misdeeds.

The practice of hiding incidents under the carpet which continues to persist is not the way to go as it adds fuel for further continuation of violence and abuse. There is a need to join hands and put an end to the abuse of women and children as it is evil and ill-portrays the nation to the international community, concluded Dlamini.

One Billion movement in its 6th year

THIS year, the One Billion movement is on its sixth year.

One Billion Rising is a global movement founded by American playwright, performer, feminist and activist Eve Ensler to end rape and sexual violence against women. It was started in 2012 as part of the V-Day movement.

The billion refers to the United Nations statistics that one in three women will be raped or beaten in her lifetime. The campaign expands each year and this year's theme is 'Rising from a campaign to a way of life.'

Last Saturday, scores of women convened at Mafutseni Inkhundla to attend the One Billion rising campaign. Women and Law Southern Africa (WLSA) National Director Colani Hlatjwako said in Eswatini, the movement started in 2013 and is now in its sixth year.

She stated that every February, there are gatherings all over the world to raise awareness on issues of gender-based violence.

Hlatjwako added that these issues should be talked about on a daily basis, as violence against women and children remained a concern, not only in the country but the world at large.

She stated that everyone should be involved.

The director appreciated the attendance at this year's event, as it showed that Emaswati were willing to stop women abuse. She also thanked the Mafutseni community for putting trust in a woman, as they elected a woman to represent them as a member of parliament (MP).

Former MP and businesswomen Nonhlanhla Dlamini said there were a number of challenges faced by women on a daily basis and these issues should involve everyone, including men.

Dlamini said women in the country wanted to thank the Eswatini Government for enacting the Sexual

Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 2018, and stated that the act will go a long way in addressing issues of abuse against women in the country.

Women have a number of issues that they needed the relevant parties to address. One of the issues she said women needed to be addressed was that of the top up fees in schools. She said as women, they were pleading with government to standardise the top up fees in the schools, as some schools charge higher fees compared to others.

On another note, Dlamini said even though the country's Constitution is open in terms of women wearing widow gowns (*tinzi*) in mourning their dead husbands, in some communities women are still forced to wear the gowns, while men are not forced.

Skills

She said government should improve life skills (*emakhono*) and they should be incorporated into the schools' curriculum as not all pupils are able to enrol in tertiary institutions. She added that the skills would come in handy for those who do not do well in school as they will be able to utilise the skills and earn a living.

On the issue of women's dress code in Parliament, she stated that women were pleading not to be forced to cover their heads in Parliament, as they viewed this as moving backwards instead of forward and depriving women of their freedom of expression.

Dlamini also alluded that there is still a need for more women in Parliament and said they as women appreciated the inclusion of the four regional women MPs as it shows that the country is moving in the right direction. On the issue of business registration, she said aspiring businesswomen were deterred from registering their businesses, as the registration fees are too high. Also the SRA tax was too high.



REPRESENTING: Minister of Labour Makhosi Vilakati who was representing the deputy prime minister delivering a speech at the event.

THE Royal Eswatini Police Service (REP) has prioritised the investigation of cases of abuse.

The police service has also strengthened the capacity of officers to tackle such matters with speed and professionalism.

Speaking at the One Billion Rising Campaign held at Mafutseni last Saturday, REPS Senior Deputy National Commissioner Lydia Dlamini said the police service had set up a dedicated communication and advocacy task force which is already conducting an intensive communication and public

COPS PRIORITISE INVESTIGATION OF ABUSE CASES

Over 4 000 turned down at NTTC

STORIES BY SABELO MAJOLA
Mbabane

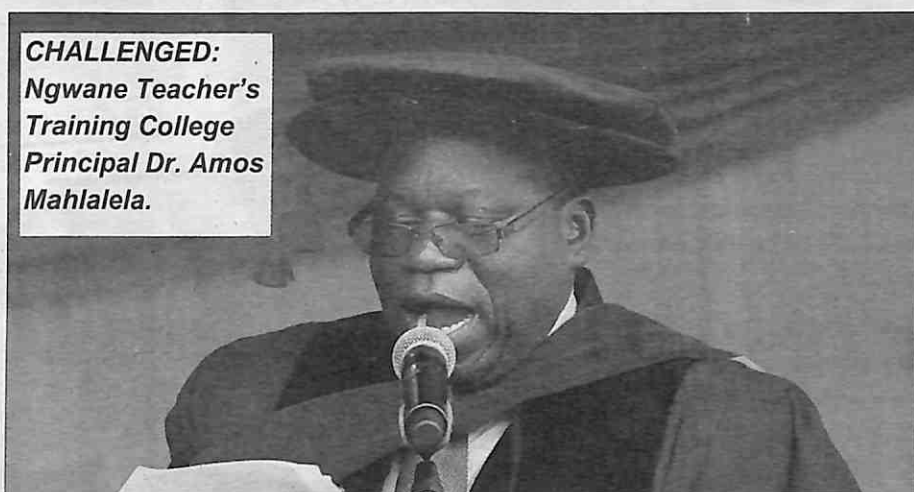
...due to space and sponsorship challenges

THE issue of space and sponsorship challenge saw 4 301 soon-to-be tertiary learners being turned down at Ngwane Teacher's Training College (NTTC) in the 2018/19 financial year intake.

The college admission processes began in January and closed in March 2018. The college offers two programmes, namely Primary Teacher's Diploma (PTD) and Early Childhood Care Education (ECE).

There were 4 109 applicants for PTD and only 250 were admitted, leaving out 3 859 while 550 applied for ECE, with only 108 admitted and 442 left out due to the aforementioned challenges. This is contained in the ministry of education and training annual performance report for the 2018/19 financial year. According to the report, lack of accommodation for both students and staff continues to be a challenge for the college and there is still no construction of additional offices for the academic staff despite the fact that a budget allocation was made both in the 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years. The lack of office space is a serious challenge, resulting to some staff members having no place to work from. Another challenge that the school

CHALLENGED:
Ngwane Teacher's
Training College
Principal Dr. Amos
Mahlalela.



faces is that of the late release of students' allowances for the 2017/18 academic year, which was a very serious and disturbing issue in the college.

A total of 136 students completed the whole academic year without receiving their allowances and that occurrence led to students engaging in class boycotts, riots and class disruptions. Ngwane College is mandated with the production of competent teachers and provide quality service by

engaging experienced professionals using modern systems that prospective teachers and other significant stakeholders aspire to be associated with in deliverance of quality education in Eswatini and beyond.

The college recently hosted a colourful and successful culture day and the event was well attended by students, staff and members of the public. The guest of honour was Prime Minister Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini.

FOLLOWING the transfer, promotion and retirement of officers in the secretariat dating as far back as 2016 at the Teaching Service Commission (TSC), no officer has been appointed to fill these vacant positions.

The five vacancies are two principal human resources officers, one human resource officer, one assistant accountant and the executive secretary. The vacant posts were listed under challenges at the commission as the report states that they are all very critical positions.

The report revealed that it takes a long time for the appointing authorities to fill vacated or

Five vacant posts at TSC

even new positions within the department and this immensely affects operations and effective service delivery.

Allocation

Another challenge listed at the commission is that there has been no allocation of new posts for teachers over the past three years and the current allocations are inadequate as the schools are upgrading, adding new streams and new

subjects, increased enrolment as well as the construction of new schools.

This makes it extremely difficult for the schools to operate, hence the increased number of teachers in contract employment which creates instability in schools, especially those in remote areas.

There is also a high turn-over in remote schools due to harsh living conditions and lack of accommodation.

370 locals studying in Taiwan

BY MELUSI MLOTSI
Mbabane

THE number of locals studying in Taiwan now stands at 370.

According to the annual performance report of the ministry of foreign affairs and international cooperation, the number has since increased by 26 per cent when compared to 2018.

This has been attributed to the rise in tuition waiver scholarships offered by universities in that country.

The Embassy of Taiwan has been working with the ministry of foreign affairs to find ways to ensure that the International Capacity Development Fund (ICDF) is more helpful to the general population in Eswatini. Priority education and training fields for the country are a necessity to Taiwan government so that they can channel their scholarship programmes to what the country needs and what could almost guarantee that the 370 students hosted by Taiwan can go back to Eswatini and find employment opportunities in their fields of study. For the period under review, through the programmes sponsored by the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan), the embassy has received about 26 officials from Eswatini who attend short term training in areas such as workshop in agriculture and workshop in urban waste management, to mention but only a few.

The report showed an increase in the number of scholarships offered to local public servants which have also been realised from close ties with India and Thailand. The ministry of foreign affairs, through its bilateral ties with France, was able to enroll 15 officers for French lessons at the Alliance Françoise in Mbabane. The report indicated that collaborations with academic institutions in Netherlands have resulted in interesting and potentially viable collaborative programmes in education services. The country has also managed to foster relationship ties with Netherlands University and Research Centre.

This has been attributed to the rise in tuition waiver scholarships offered by universities in that country.

Man (30) lands car in drain, dies in hospital

STORIES BY SABELO MAJOLA
Mbabane

A 30-year-old man of Mbekeleweni died after the car he was driving, a VW Polo sedan, veered off the road and landed into a drain.

The accident happened along Magwaza to Mbekeleweni public road near Ensuka, in the early hours of Friday. The man is said to have lost control of the car before it went off the road straight to the drain where it landed. The man sustained serious injuries and was rushed to Raleigh Fitkin Memorial (RFM) Hospital where he was certified dead upon arrival.

The man was not alone in the car as he was with a female passenger aged 18, from Mbekeleweni.

The passenger sustained minor injuries, was treated and discharged at the same hospital. Police are still investigating the cause of the accident.

In another incident that claimed a life on Friday,

Vehicle worth E120 000 stolen at Davis

NHLANGANO police are investigating the theft of a motor vehicle which was stolen while parked at a garage in Davis, Nhlanguano.

A white Golf 5 GTI worth E120 000, belonging to a 34-year-old man of Davis, was stolen on in the early hours of Friday while parked inside a garage at Davis area.

Nhlanguano police are pleading with anyone with information that may lead to the arrest of the suspect(s) and discovery of the stolen motor vehicle to contact Shiselweni RCBO Mr Gwebu at 7647 1623, Nhlanguano Desk Officer Mr Mthembu at 7603 3571 Nhlanguano Police Station

a 43-year-old woman of Engweni reported that her son aged 15 drowned while crossing Lutsantsama River while at Engweni area. This is the second death which is a result of drowning in less than a week as police reported that a 60-year-old man of Ekutsimuleni reported that his 29-year-old

son drowned at Mbuleni Dam at Ekutsimuleni last week Monday. The man is said to have drowned in the dam at around 1500 hours.

Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the incidents.

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BARNABAS MATSEBULA
FOR; REGISTER OF COMPANIES

BACK TO THE CROSS STARTS TONIGHT

BY SIMON SHABANGU
Mbabane

THE stage is set for this year's instalment of the 'Back To The Cross Crusade' campaign starting this evening, the hosts Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule and Zanele Mbokazi have said.

The hosts said the crusade to be staged behind Galp Filling Station in Mbabane, is open to everyone as its main objective is to win souls back to God. Bishop Mpendulo said everyone is invited, noting that from the first day to the very last they would have powerful ministers of the Word of God. He noted that no day will be different from the other as all the speakers are the best in their own right.

"We invite people to come in their numbers and witness the power of God at work. We will be preaching the Word and winning souls to God. We have a bigger and better marquee to accommodate even more people this year," he said.

Zanele Mbokazi, on the other



THE CRUSADE BEGINS: The marquee where the 'Back To The Cross Crusade' services starting this evening will be held. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

hand, said a lot would be happening as the speakers and the gospel musicians are all itching to minister to the people.

"This is a crusade which does not discriminate and we are happy that the time has come where we bring the third instalment of the crusade which is growing bigger by the years and will soon be going internationally. We invite people to come and witness the power of

God at work. Reverend Simon Gumbi, Bishop Makamu, Apostle Mlambo, Prophet Joseph Ampomo from Ghana and the host will all be ministering through the crusade. On Friday, there would be a powerful service as we will have an all-night prayer to close the crusade," she added. The marquee is up and well-furnished and ready for the crusade which promises to be a bigger and better one.



HOSTS: Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule and his wife Zanele joined by elders of the church Pastor Isaac Magagula and Lucky 'Slomo' Dlamini at the marquee.



WE ARE READY: The ushering crew ready to welcome brethren tonight.



WORSHIPPERS: The praise team is also ready to minister in song. Tebenguni Simelane, Londiwe Kunene, Thobile Zwane and Lindiwe Dlamini were also present.

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BACK TO GOD REVIVALS



WNNING SOULS: Bishop Nash Shongwe of Divine Healing Ministries praying for the brethren after delivering his sermon during the Back to God revivals at the Mbabane branch. The services started on Wednesday until Saturday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)


DANCE: Reverend Elias Shongwe of Shongwe and Khuphuka joined by Linda Dlamini on stage.



SHONGWE MISSION: Reverend Elias Shongwe dancing up a storm with Bishop Nash Shongwe.



FIRE: Bishop Nash Shongwe ministering the Word of God during the service.



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- Computer Lab Assistant**

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A minimum of three (3) years of relevant experience;

Strong interpersonal skills;

High level of integrity

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Applications must be delivered at the following physical address:
Lomkiri Portion 69 of Farm 73, Zone 4, Mbabane, Hhohho.

Application Deadline: Friday, 1st March 2019



FOCUS on DD cases



Old lady sentenced to two years for DD

STORIES BY BAHLE GAMA
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

EXCUSES of having taken too much buganu dominated this weekend's drink-driving cases before Magistrate Lenhle Zulu.

First, was Duduzile Mkhwanazi (61) of Macobolwane who was arrested on Saturday for driving while under the influence of alcohol.

A breathalyser test conducted on her read 0.87mg/l.

She was charged with contravening Section 91 (1) as read with Section 122(2) of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007.

The elderly woman told the court that she was stressed because of a funeral and had had a few sips of buganu, then an emergency emerged and she was forced to drive.

Breadwinner

"Bengiphetfwe stress semngcwabo Nkhosi yenkantolo, kepha sihlahlal ngiso kuphela lengisitsintile," she said, leaving the court in stitches.

She pleaded for leniency and stated that she is a breadwinner who takes care of her grandchildren and some of her children.

"Ngicela inkantolo idle itishiyele, angeke ngiphindze," she concluded.

She was sentenced to two years in prison with an option of a fine of E2 000.



E2 000 bail for 'not guilty' driver

A 30-year-old man told the court that he was not guilty of the crime of drink-driving during his court appearance yesterday morning.

Bongani Ngwenya (30) of Mankayane was arrested yesterday in the early hours on the day at Mankayane after allegedly driving while under the influence of alcohol.

When subjected to a breathalyser test, his alcohol content was 0.79mg/l.

Fiddling

He told the court that police officers found him at a parking lot with friends and he was on the driver's seat fiddling with the sound system when he was arrested.

When the prosecution applied that he be remanded into police custody, the accused also applied for bail which was granted at E2 000.

He is set to return to court on Friday.

E2 500 fine for highly intoxicated driver

A 37-year-old man from Lobamba, Nkhanini area, was the only one with a high alcohol content reading, so was his fine.

Phillip Mdluli was arrested yesterday morning at Lobamba along D38 public road.

When a breathalyser test was conducted on him, it read 1.25mg/l.

He was charged with contravening Section 91 of the Traffic Act.

During mitigation, he did not say much as he seemed to be still intoxicated.

"I don't have any other offences, I plead for leniency," he said.

He was sentenced to two years in prison with an option of a fine of E2 500.

Another highly intoxicated driver was Sandile Willis Dlamini, a 38-year-old man of Lobamba.

He was arrested on Saturday for driving under

the influence of alcohol and his alcohol content was 0.94mg/l.

Leniency

He pleaded for leniency and told the court that it was a mistake.

"Lidlojwe libhekile Nkhosi yenkantolo, ngiyacolisa kakhulu, bengicala ngigcina," he said.

He told the court that he is a father of five and has an extra five individuals who depend

on him as well.

He was sentenced to two years in prison with an option of a fine of E2 000.

Lastly, was Ncamiso Tsabedze, a 30-year-old man from Mankayane who was arrested on Saturday at Makhokholo area for driving under the influence of alcohol and when subjected to a breathalyser test, his content was 0.59mg/l.

He pleaded for leniency and told the court that he is the breadwinner and has five dependants. He was sentenced to 15 months in prison with an option of a fine of E1 500.

Cop nabbed, blames wife's death

STORIES BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Manzini Magistrate's Court

THE death of a wife supposedly forced a police officer to resort to alcohol.

Zwelithini Mavuso (44) of Ezulwini area appeared before Magistrate Nelisiwe Hlophe yesterday for contravening Section 91(1) as read with Section 122 Act 6 of the Road Traffic Act of 2007.

He was arrested at Ngwane Park (Mathayini) in Manzini driving a motor vehicle registered CSD 502 DM.

A breathalyser test conducted on him read 1.01 mg/l. Upon realising that the accused person was a police officer, the magistrate questioned his irresponsible act.

"I am surprised that you are a person of the law, a police officer, who enforces the law daily. The level of alcohol that was found in you was too high," she said.

Mavuso told the court that he was not a usual alcohol drinker, but circumstances forced him

to consider it so as to relive him from the stress and confusion after what befell him on Saturday.

"I do not drink alcohol. Your Worship, it was my first and last time," he said.

The police officer told the court that his wife died on Saturday and left him with eight children. He added that the children were crying non-stop, saying they want their mother.

He said most of them were very young to understand the meaning of death.

Mavuso said he was confused because he had been with his wife for 25 years. He claimed that he left his house to clear his mind and regain strength to face his young children.

Mavuso further told the court that he was not supposed to be appearing before the court yesterday because of an agreement that was reached between him and traffic officers.

He said when he was nabbed during the wee hours of yesterday morning, the police told him to park his car and go straight home.

"They told me to leave my car

with them and fetch it in the morning when sober because I had told them my story. I also believe they saw the state I was in yesterday besides that I was drunk," he said.

Upon arriving at the Manzini Police Station, the police officers told him to get into the police van as he had to appear before court. After he completed mitigating, the magistrate advised the police officer to seek counselling.

"I hear your problem. I understand the stress and confusion that you are in. Losing a loved one is not easy more especially your wife of 25 years, it must be very hard for you. Looking at the amount of alcohol you have consumed yesterday not forgetting that it was your first time, you are likely to head downhill. With that being said you have children that you have to look after, I suggest and urge you go for counselling soonest," she said.

He was found guilty of the charge and sentenced to two years imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.

Soldier not spared for his love of booze

A member of Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force (UEDF) was in court yesterday charged with contravening Section 91(1) as read with Section 122 Act 6 of the Road Traffic Act of 2007.

Bonginkosi Kunene (30) was nabbed along MR3 public road in the Manzini region.

He called Magistrate Hlophe 'madam' after he did not hear a question that was posed by the magistrate.

Kunene drove a VW registered OSD 061 AM with a reading of 0.79mg/l which was above the legal limit of 0.38 mg/l.

He pleaded for the court's leniency, saying he fathered three children whose mothers are

not employed.

Hlophe condemned Kunene's act as she suggested that he should start living by example.

Disgrace

"You are a disgrace in the community; you are supposed to lead by example Kunene. What will your children learn from you? You need to start showing that you are a responsible human being like you said before. Right now, I am only seeing an irresponsible person who is putting his life and others in danger by driving drunk," she said.

He was found guilty of the charge and was sentenced to 10 months in a correctional facility with a fine option of E1 500.

Drink a weevil tablet, die alone - offender told

A drink driving offender stunned the court when he said his offence has been blown out of proportion as he was not driving on a public road.

Sibusiso Dlamini was nabbed driving a motor vehicle registered DSD 834 DM while under the influence of alcohol with a recording of 0.84mg/l, which is above the legal limit of 0.38 mg/l.

Exposing

Dlamini told the court he was from fetching his father who is an elderly person from work because it was too late in the evening.

Magistrate Nelisiwe Hlophe asked him if he thought of the danger he was exposing other

motorists as he sat on the driver's seat drunk. Dlamini told the court that he did not expose so many people to danger because he was not driving on a busy road, but on a gravel one.

Remorseful

"I was driving emgwacweni wesintfu not a tarred road so I wasn't exposing so many people to danger," he said.

The court felt Dlamini was not remorseful of his act. The magistrate told him to drink a weevil tablet if he wanted to die. She added that accidents also happened on gravel roads in residential areas.

He was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment with a fine option of E1 500.

Mayor, CEO wanted out of council premises

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI
Mbabane

MBABANE Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule and CEO Gideon Mhlongo are wanted out of Mbabane City Council premises with immediate effect, by Mbabane residents and ratepayers.

This is contained in a petition to be delivered to the council today.

It is addressed to the mayor, councillors and Parliament.

The eight demands listed in the petition are said to be based on allegations that the mayor abused his position by charging their councillors for carrying out their mandate.

Of note, the petition states that the councillors were suspended, and this resulted in the residents having no representation within council.

This they said after reports surfaced that four councillors were recently charged for allegedly refusing to partake in the appraisal of Mhlongo, as they are alleged to have instead asked for his contract, as well as the council minutes which put him in the position of CEO.

"Mhlongo must be removed from council premises because he doesn't have a valid contract. Seven councillors voted for non-renewal of the contract against four, who voted for the renewal of the contract on May 25, 2018. Council must appoint a proper and fit person for the



PETITIONED: Mbabane Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule and CEO Gideon Mhlongo.

position of CEO," reads the petition in part.

The residents also alleged that Mhlongo was forcing the local community committee policy to be implemented against a parliamentary resolution.

It is claimed that Mhlongo does not want to uplift the building ban, which has been in place since 1992.

"Mhlongo is selling our houses much against a court order which says they must attach movable items first," reads item five of the petition.

The residents also touched on the CEO's contract, claiming that Mhlongo and Nkambule committed fraud by drawing the town clerk's salary, allegedly without a contract and they quantified this to close to a E1 million after summing up E150 000 said to have been paid to him within the seven months since his con-

tract was renewed.

The residents are further aggrieved by the alleged suspension of councillors, which they say has been unlawfully done as they were elected into office by them as residents.

They called upon Parliament to set up a probe team to look into the council affairs, as they alleged interference by the minister of housing and urban development in the operations of council, especially on the issue of the non-renewal of the contract of employment of the former (incumbent) CEO.

Also, they implored Parliament to investigate the issues surrounding the former employees who were sent home through restructuring and allegedly promised tenders by Mhlongo, but were never awarded. Worth noting is that all these allegations are yet to be tested.

MINISTRY RESPONDS

WHEN reached for comments, Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development Clifford Mamba said; "The ministry is charged with overseeing council, so it is amiss to say we are interfering in their business when in fact we are playing a role that is clearly pointed out by the Urban Government Act, which governs council."

"The Act clearly states that the hiring and firing of CEOs is a process that will go through the ministry, therefore you can't say we are interfering when we are exercising a role given to us by the clause in the Act."

Regular suspension of councillors:

"Council in the exercise of its mandate and following its own standing orders will take necessary decisions they deem appropriate when dealing with mat-

ters arising in the course of council business.

"The ministry is not aware of council acting outside of its competence as provided for by the aforementioned standing orders."

"The ministry is unaware of the regular suspension of councillors."

LCC approval:

"LCC was approved by us, where there are issues arising consultations with that particular community are not prohibited, they are encouraged."

Commission of Inquiry:

"We have not received any resolution by the ratepayers."

"In any event, the institution of an action by way of inquiry or other action into the activities of a council will be on the basis of the ministry, following its own assessment and being satisfied of the need for that purported or required action."

Mhlongo has a contract - Mayor

MBABANE Mayor Zephaniah Nkambule has said in as far as he is concerned the CEO was in office legitimately, saying such was substantiated by the High Court ruling, which is appealed.

"These matters are in court and it has ruled that Mhlongo has

the right to occupy office. You can't put people in the forest, Mhlongo has a contract, look what Judge Mamba said in his judgement, who are we to oppose the courts? "The suspended councillors also ran to court, so I will not comment about their case as well," he said.

Herdsman sells master's cow to butchery owners

STORIES BY BAHLE GAMA
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A herdsman aged 23, has been arrested with his friend for stealing and killing a cow belonging to his master.

It is said Celucolo Mkhonta, the herdsman and his friend Mangaliso Mbatha (18) stole the cow belonging to Sipho Sikonela at Mahwalala.

The court heard that the two stole the cow in a bid to sell it. Together with the buyers, who supposedly own a butchery in Manzini, dressed the cow, leaving behind its skin which was presented in court as evidence.

Three witnesses appeared before Senior Magistrate Nonhlaliso Dlamini to give an account of what happened.

One was Bonginkhosi Fakudze, who told the court that he was a herdsman for Muzi Fakudze and he knew Mkhonta (the accused) from the mountains, where he herded cattle belonging to Sikonela.

Fakudze said, around December, he took his father's cattle to the mountains as usual and when he returned he found Sikonela's cattle still inside the kraal, with a few gentlemen inside including the accused.

"I asked him what was going on and he said he had been sent by Sikonela and I rushed home to tell my father of what was happening. Together with my father, we went to Sikonela's kraal," he said.

Fakudze added that when they arrived at the kraal, they found the accused



ARRESTED: Celucolo Mkhonta and Mangaliso Mbatha in these file pictures taken on the day of their arrests.

and the others gone, however, they was a cow's skin left behind.

Sikonela was called by Fakudze and they all went to Tophill to search for the people responsible and only managed to capture two men and he identified one of them as Gift, who told them that the accused had told them he was instructed by Sikonela to 'sell' the cow.

"Sikonela was present and he said he had no knowledge of what Gift was saying," he continued.

Police

The police were then called to the scene and took the two men to the police station.

The second witness was one Mlungisi Dlamini who was present when the crime was committed and he was allegedly turned state witness, nar-

rated before the court how the accused stole and sold the cow.

He told the court that he was asked by the accused to help him find a person who could buy his family's cows and his father had permitted him to sell the cow.

"He said he would give me E500 if I found a buyer for one cow," he said.

Butchery

He told the court that he was in Manzini when called, and he decided to visit a butchery however, its manager was not around. He went to another one, where he was successful and they were interested in buying the cow.

At first there were disagreements on the amount they wanted to pay for the cow, and he told them that he was

heading back to Mbabane, hence he would talk with the owner so they exchanged numbers.

Later on the same day, the buyers called and they agreed that the cow would be sold for E6 000.

The following day, they came to Mahwalala to fetch the cow.

He stated that they met at Engen Filling Station with Cele and another gentleman, and along with the buyers, they headed for Hilltop at Mahwalala.

The accused led them to the kraal where the gentlemen were told to choose a cow and they chose a pregnant one. It was slaughtered instantly.

It is said the accused threw away the unborn calf.

He told the buyers that his father was not around to provide his ID for the proper documents to be made, so he allegedly told the buyers that they should leave its kidney behind, which he would take to madibhane.

They all boarded the vehicle driven by the buyers, and along the way the accused asked that they drop him off so he could go home to change. Dlamini proceeded with the buyers to town, where they gave him E2 000 as they had had an agreement that they would pay the said amount on the day and the rest a few days later.

"I then called Cele, and told him the buyer had given me the money and he arrived, then gave me the E500 as per his promise and we parted ways," he continued.

The buyers paid the balance through Mobile Money.

You were an accomplice -Suspect tells witness

DURING cross examination, the suspect incriminated Mlungisi Dlamini.

"Aren't you the one who told me that we should sell one of my family cows because you wanted to fix your car?" he asked.

He further told the court that he only knew that the cow had been sold for E5 000, which made him wonder where the E1 000 had gone to.

The accused stated that when the buyer arrived to buy the cow, Dlamini told them that he was the elder brother and was standing in, on behalf of their father, who was not around at the time and the buyers knew that their business transaction was an unlawful one.

Dlamini refuted the accused's claims, saying had he known that the cow was being sold illegally, he would not have involved himself at all.

"Bengingati kutsi kaya-gangeka futsi nje bengingake ngichubeke, watsi wena babe wakho bekakuvumele kutsi utsengiselenkhomo," he said.

He stated that the accused had sold cows before, which is how they met because he had been asked by one of his friends to transport a cow for him, which he had bought from the accused.

He also disclosed to the court that the accused had told him that his father had permitted him to sell the cattle, because they were trying to raise money to pay an attorney, who would represent his brother, who was behind bars at the time. Trial is set to continue tomorrow.





ESWATINI HOUSING BOARD

SUPPLIES OF COMMONLY USED ITEMS 2018/2019

Tenders are hereby invited for registration into the Eswatini Housing Board's supplier database for the 2019/2020 financial year for the supply of products/services in the following procurement categories

1. Tender No.12 of 2018/2019 - General Hardware & Glazing
2. Tender No.13 of 2018/2019 - Supply of Protective Clothing and Cleaning Material
3. Tender No.14 of 2018/2019 - Supply of Plumbing Material
4. Tender No.15 of 2018/2019 - Supply of Computer Consumables
5. Tender No.16 of 2018/2019 - Supply of Stationery
6. Tender No.17 of 2018/2019 - Supply of Electrical Materials
7. Tender No.18 of 2018/2019 - Brush Cutter Service and brush cutting materials

Expression of Interest:

8. Tender No.19 of 2018/2019 - Bush Clearing Services
9. Tender No.20 of 2018/2019 - Electrical Services
10. Tender No.21 of 2018/2019 - Communal Satellite / DSTV Services

Tender documents must be returned to the EHB and deposited to the designated tender box at the 5th floor Sibekelo Building, Mbabane EHB reception on or before **12:00 noon on Tuesday, 19th March 2019**. Tender submissions should be in a sealed envelope marked with the "Tender name" and "Tender number" and addressed to "The Secretary EHB Tender Committee, P.O. Box 798 MBABANE". Late, facsimile and emailed tenders will not be considered.

Tender Documents are to be purchased from the EHB Revenue Office, Ground Floor Dian'ubeka House, from **18th February 2019 to 18th March 2019** at a non-refundable cost of **E300.00** each.

Tenderers are required to submit four (4) copies of the tender document and the following documents:

- Certified Original of a valid Trading License.
- Original of a valid Tax Compliance Certificate
- Form J (for current Shareholders)
- Certificate of Incorporation
- VAT Registration (if applicable)
- Proof of SNPF Compliance
- Proof of Labour Compliance
- Original EHB Receipt for E 300 (Three hundred Emalangeni).
- Company profile (with list of similar work done)
- Three trade reference letters
- Audited financial statements
- Colour copies of directors' identity documents
- Police clearance for company directors

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

For further information contact the Procurement Officer, Mr. Lwazi Fakudze at (+268) 2405 5016 or (+268) 7806 0101.

DOC:18005

FIRE SCARE AT ESWATINIBANK BUILDING



FIRE SCARE: Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries Bulunga was also part of the people who had to vacate the EswatiniBank building at Gwamile Street after the fire alarm went off last Thursday. The building was later cleared to be safe by the fire and emergency personnel.



CROWD: The employees gathered at the emergency point behind the building. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



CLEARED: A firefighter addresses the workers after they cleared the building to be out of danger.



Supply, Delivery and Installation of Packing and Processing Equipment for the High Value Crop and Horticulture Project

EuropeAid/139-928/IH/SUP/SZ

The Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Aid Coordination and Management Section, intends to award a contract for the supply, delivery and installation of packing and processing equipment to the High Value Crop and Horticulture Project with financial assistance from the 11th European Development Fund. The Contract Notice is available on the EuropeAid website at <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>. The CD containing the Tender Dossier is also available from;

The National Authorizing Office
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development
Aid Coordination and Management Section (ACMS)
Annex Building, Hospital Hill
P.O. Box 602,
Mbabane H100
Eswatini.
Tel: +268 2404 6512 / 6154 / 9551
Fax: +268 2404 9816

Email: lwazi.mkhabela@mepd-acms.org
Copy: mawenzi@swade.co.sz and mduduzi@mepd-acms.org

The deadline for submission of applications is **29th April 2019** at 1400hrs, Swazi local time.

DOC:18701

Citec College in Affiliation with **University of Lusaka**

Approved by:

- Eswatini Higher Education Council (ESHEC)
- Ministry of Education & Training

Department of Education

- Primary Teacher's Diploma in Education
- Early Childhood Diploma in Education

Professional Courses

- Health & Safety at Work
- Project Management
- Sports Management
- HIV/AIDS Management
- Executive Secretarial & Administration
- Information Communication Technology
- Business Management
- Community Development
- Sales & Marketing Management
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DOC:18100

FIRE SCARE AT ESWATINIBANK BUILDING

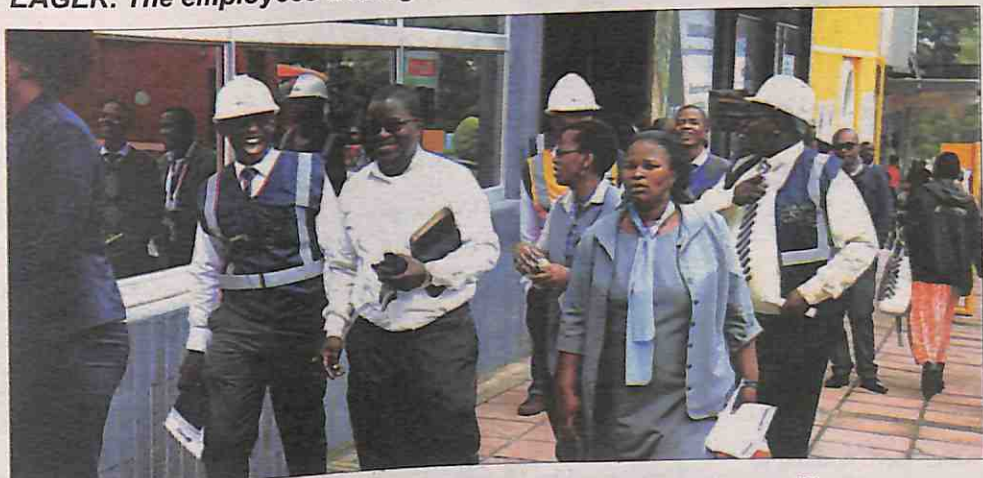
RESCUE:
Fire and Emergency Services personnel arrive to attend to an emergency call at the EswatiniBank building.



CALM: Some of the staff members looking relieved after the building was cleared after the scare.



EAGER: The employees waiting to be addressed by the firefighters.



NORMAL: The employees making their way to their various offices.



BACK TO WORK: More employees on their way back to the offices.

UN
environment



VACANCIES

Background

The Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs of the Kingdom of Eswatini has received funding support from the Global Environment Facility's (GEF) through United Nations Environment (UN Environment) to support the preparation of the country's Sixth National Reports (6NR) to the UN Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). To facilitate the preparation of the 6th National Report, the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs is seeking to hire a National Consultant and a Project Officer to support the CBD National Focal Point in the preparation of the 6th National Report in line with the requirement of the Convention of Biodiversity. Detailed CVs and traceable references are a pre-requisite for consideration of application.

1. National Consultant

Duties and Responsibilities

Scope of Work: Under the overall guidance and supervision of the Chief Environment Coordinator, the consultant will carry out the following tasks:

- Scoping the initial draft elements of the national report (Zero draft) that includes data and progress assessments in coordination with the Chief Environmental Coordinator and the Project Officer.
- Review the Experts group/stakeholders' inputs and comments and provide consultations regarding data, progress assessment, information gaps for each Aichi/National target and NBSAP implementation.
- Review and provide advice on the series of small reports on each Aichi/national target progress assessment, actions to mainstream biodiversity and effectiveness assessment of actions undertaken to implement NBSAP.
- Compile, review, revise the above reports and finalize 6NR comprehensive draft, with all formatting requirements to ensure consistency across targets.
- Submission the final 6NR, for final approval from the National partners and experts.
- Support the project officer and the National experts with the technical materials and knowledge products on CBD international reporting, lessons learned on other countries National reports
- Provide overall technical quality assurance in the National Report development processes.

Deliverables and Timelines.

1. Submission of technical and knowledge products e.g. materials to the training course for national experts.
2. Inception Report highlighting concrete process for formulation of the report with the expected timeframes.
3. 6th National Report zero draft for comments by Steering Committee and national experts.
4. Conduct consultations with stakeholders
5. Providing guidance on the small reports for Aichi/National targets progress assessment
6. Submission of comprehensive draft 6NR and Compile, review, revise the report.
7. Incorporating Stakeholder comments to the 6NR.
8. Submission of final 6NR

Qualifications:

1. Postgraduate Degree (Masters or PhD) in Natural Resource Management, Biological Sciences, Ecology and other related field.
2. 10 years of experience in research, analysis or implementation of biodiversity conservation programmes
3. 5 years of experience working on biodiversity issues in Eswatini; specific experience in national regions highly desirable.
4. Previous experience in preparing national reports on implementation of the biodiversity-related MEAs an added advantage.
5. Familiarity with the CBD and relevant guidance for preparing NBSAPs and National Reports
6. Prior experience with UN Environment and/or GEF projects would be an asset

Competencies:

1. Strong technical report writing, data acquisition and analysis skills;
2. Strong verbal and written communication skills;
3. Timely delivery of high quality analytical work;
4. High proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite; and
5. Fluency in spoken and written English

Period of engagement

- 40 days spread over 8 Months.

Project Officer

Duties and Responsibilities

Scope of the Work: Under the direct supervision of the Chief Environment Coordinator and technical guidance by a National Consultant, the National Project Officer will be required to provide his/her technical, coordination and managerial services to undertake the following tasks:

- Liaise with senior staff from government departments, ministries and other institutions to obtain sufficient support for project implementation.
- Ensure technical direction and project progress for timely and successful completion of the 6th National Report
- Ensure that the standard UN Environment and GEF M&E requirements are fulfilled to the highest quality
- Facilitate in organizing launching /inception event to present the project objective, outcomes and work plan, identifying the project stakeholders and technical group in coordination with the Chief Environmental Coordinator.
- Coordinate with the national consultant on preparing the initial draft elements of the national report (Zero draft).
- Coordinate with expert group and stakeholders in consultation meetings to verify data and progress assessment and address information gaps for each target, NBSAP implementation and draw their conclusions.
- Based on above consultation meetings and in consultation with the national consultant, develop series of small reports on each Aichi/national target progress assessment.
- Support the national consultant in compiling, reviewing, revising and finalizing the 6NR, then report validation to be submitted officially to CBD.
- Coordinate with the expert group and stakeholders for the final review of the report before submitted officially.

Qualifications / Experience

- Masters' degree in environmental management/sciences, biological sciences, conservation biology/ecology sustainable development (such as water/energy/food).
- At least five years of working experience in project and knowledge management in issues of environmental management and/or related areas as well as spatial data/GIS/remote or in analytical and practical experience in biodiversity conservation/spatial analysis/technical process of GIS
- Experience working to support the engagement of stakeholders in issues of environmental management; and with measuring the conservation status of protected areas and/or threats to biodiversity is an advantage
- Experience developing and using indicators and other metrics to measure conservation or project success;
- Proficiency in using GIS software and spread sheet software
- Experience working with governments is an advantage.
- Fluency in English (oral and written) is a requirement, with sound written and presentation skills using plain English.

Period of engagement

9 Months up to December 2019

Application Process:

Interested candidates for both positions should send their detailed CVs with three traceable references to the Chief Environmental Coordinator reachable on Email: xolym12@gmail.com and hlobskhos@yahoo.com. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Deadline for applications is Sunday 03 March 2019.

SHISELWENI NEWS

Nhlangano office

Tobacco Complex, Cnr King George Masengule Streets
Opposite SEDCO PremisesTel: 2207 5159 Cell: 7621 5081
Email: Starsky@realnet.co.sz

...With

Starsky Mkhonta



Nhlangano PnP spreads some love

NHLANGANO Pick n Pay is spreading some love this February by presenting some cake and other gifts to companies and schools.

Already schools around Nhlangano and textile companies have benefitted. This newspaper understands that more establishments will be showered with gifts before the end of the month.

Since the branch in Nhlangano was opened almost four months ago, it has been bringing smiles to the community of Nhlangano and Shiselweni in general. Evelyn Baring, Nhlangano Central, Joppa are some of the schools which have so far benefitted from the store, whose opening has taken the Shiselweni folk by storm given the social responsibility it has 'paraded'.

The promotions and specials that the store usually has, it is believed, is how it has won the hearts of many customers. Most importantly, customers prefer the store for upholding ideal health and hygienic standards.

The recent announcement of exten-



SPREADS LOVE: Nhlangano Pick n Pay branch Manager Cedric Dlamini.

sion of trading hours, has also been warmly welcomed by the people of the region. Branch Manager Cedric Dlamini said presenting the cakes and other gifts was one way of celebrating the month of February with customers and the public in general.

He said presenting gifts was a way

of showing appreciation for the support the store received since they started operating.

"We are not yet done, as we still have something big coming before the end of February. We are finalising a few things with the directors, then we will announce what we have in store for our customers. Our presence here is not to compete, and make money, but we have also come to make a difference in people's lives. Yes, as a business we have to make profit, but the philosophy of the directors is that for us to make a profit, we also have to make our customers happy," said Dlamini.

Dlamini added that the store was involved in charity work and it's what the directors fully support as it's a way of ploughing back to the community.

"The owners of this company always avail themselves whenever there is a need to assist. We have been involved in charity for quite some time now," said Dlamini.

MP Ntshangase plans big event for teachers

MINISTER of Public Service and Shiselweni I Member of Parliament (MP) Christian Ntshangase wants to host a big event for all teachers of schools under his constituency.

Preparations for the event have already started. It is possible that the event takes place between the first and second week of next month.

To kick-start preparations of the event, Minister Ntshangase met with the principals of all the schools last Friday at the Royal Casino Hotel, where logistics were discussed. There are close to 20 schools under the constituency and all were represented during the meeting.

Minister Ntshangase told Shiselweni News that the aim of the event was to motivate the teachers and thank those whose schools excelled in the 2018 results.

He said as teachers were part of the civil service and falling under public sectors whose members are still eager to have the much talked about cost of living adjustment (CoLA) addressed, he has decided to have a way of consoling the teachers from schools under his constituency by having 'tea' with them.

"The event is just to thank them (teachers) for showing commitment in their work. It's a special way of recognising them for a job well done. The plan is to motivate them and urge them not to be discouraged by not getting CoLA. It is



PLANNING: Minister Ntshangase seen posing for a group picture with the principals after the meeting.

a fact that government has no money. At home when there is no food, children should not square up with their parents. Children have to be patient and allow parents to find a way of getting the food.

Normalise

"The same thing applies here; it does not mean that government is not doing anything about CoLA. It's only that it is broke at the moment and once things normalise, as the head of government (PM) has assured, they will get their CoLA," said Ntshangase.

Ntshangase said during the event, there would also be discussions on the welfare of teachers, as there were those who were now stressed by the unavailability of CoLA, but others need counseling

on other issues which have nothing to do with their work.

"The pending event will be dubbed 'Shiselweni I Teachers Wellness Day'. We will be discussing how teachers can be assisted even on social issues. Otherwise, other than that, it's going to be a day of celebrating, where we will thank them (teachers) for the good work despite these challenges," said Ntshangase.

The minister said the meeting with the principals was the beginning of the preparations and stated that there are committees which have been tasked with different roles for the event to be successful. "The meeting I held with the principals was to discuss how best the event can be organised," said the minister.

SFC constructs footbridge for Mbangweni community

SHISELWENI Forestry Company (SFC) has taken it upon itself to construct a footbridge connecting Khiza and Nsongweni, which are areas under Mbangweni chiefdom at Shiselweni II Inkhundla.

The company realised the danger posed by a stream between the two areas, as on rainy days, it sometimes overflows making it impossible to cross to either side. Those that are affected include school going children from Nsongweni High and Primary.

Elders of Mbangweni thanked SFC for coming to their rescue and pointed out that the company has been of great help in a number of projects.

The acting chief of Mbangweni Musa Matsebula said they were grateful for the contribution SFC was doing to the community.

"We approached the company after seeing that school-going children, especially those enrolled at our local schools (Nsongweni High and Primary) find it hard to cross the stream. Others are forced to take off their shoes when crossing the

stream, during rainy days crossing the stream is dangerous. With the footbridge now constructed, we are relieved as it guarantees safety for our children and even residents," said the acting chief.

Matsebula said there were many projects sponsored by SFC in the area.

Even schools have benefited, as some have buildings and fencing, all sponsored by the company.

SFC Public Affairs Manager Sibongile 'SB' Kunene said the company was ready to assist the surrounding communities.

She said the construction of the footbridge was another gesture, of showing that as a company they were part of the community. "Funding community projects is part of our social responsibility. We have been involved in a number of community projects which are endorsed by the directors, who know the importance of partnering with the community and the benefits that come with that," said Kunene.

The handover of the project is expected to take place soon, Kunene told Shiselweni News.

Bucopho's clean-up campaign a success

DUMENKUNGWINI Ump-hakatsi was left sparkling clean after the Bucopho of the area Bafanabodvwa Sithole organised a clean-up campaign last Wednesday.

Dumenkungwini is one of the five chiefdoms under Shiselweni I. Its leader is Chief Landokwakhe Ntshangase.

"We started at 9am and just when it was towards noon, we were through. The attendance was good, as there were over 50 people, including the elders such as *bandlancane* with the headman of the area *Babe* Elijah Mhlanga.

"We collected rubbish and burnt it and dug down anything which could not be burnt. Right now, the royal kraal is clean. We have agreed that we should do this at least once a month as the royal kraal needs to

always be clean," said Sithole. Sithole thanked the headman Mhlanga and his inner council for taking part in the exercise.

"After we requested from them (elders) to be allowed to clean around the royal kraal, Mhlanga agreed and further assured us that together with his *libandla* they will be part of the exercise. The residents were encouraged to see their leaders in the forefront in cleaning up the royal kraal," said Sithole.

"We collected rubbish and burnt it and dug down anything which could not be burnt. We have agreed that we should do this at least once a month"

PROBASE SHOULD START IN RURAL AREAS - MPs

STORIES BY MBONO MDLULI
Lobamba

THE chemical soil stabiliser (probase) project should start in rural areas so as to benefit people living there.

This was an expression made by Members of Parliament (MPs) who are members of the portfolio committee of the ministry of public works and transport. The MPs said this on Wednesday in the Senate during a meeting with the ministry of public works and transport officials.

The MPs, especially those from rural areas, felt the ministry of public works and transport made a poor judgment in allowing this project to benefit people who were in urban areas.

The MPs said it was unfair for the people they represented as they were

given a raw deal in as far as the probase project was concerned.

Maphalaleni MP Mabulala Maseko said it was unfortunate for his constituency not to be included in the first phase of the project.

Constituencies like Lobamba, Maseko said, were prioritised in the project yet there were many tarred roads passing through Lobamba though his constituency had no single stretch of tarred road.

Prioritised

Ntfontjeni MP Sompisi Magagula echoed the sentiments of the Maphalaleni MP. He said the people in the rural areas were supposed to be prioritised in this project, especially because it was difficult for them and their goods to be moved.

The least that government could do for them was to make their lives easier by helping them so that their busi-

nesses could be boosted. Probase would facilitate the easy movement of goods and rural entrepreneurs.

Mhlume MP Victor Malambe urged the ministry of works to speed up the project and prioritise rural areas. He further told the works ministry that the King was also banking on that project for the country to develop.

Motshane MP Robert Magongo, who is the Chairperson of the ministry of works portfolio committee in the House of Assembly, said he wished that this programme could be stopped. His comment, which amused those those present in the chamber, was sparked by the fact that the probase project was not finished in Mpolonjeni (Mbabane), which is under his constituency. He said this annoyed him and he did not see the need to continue with the project if such a shoddy job would be done.

'Elections should be managed'

THE ministry of finance says spending on elections should be properly managed.

It said no exorbitant amount should be spent on the elections.

This transpired during the scrutinisation of the E76 million supplementary budget. The concern about

the money used for elections was raised by Members of Parliament (MPs) who are members of the finance sessional committee.

The MPs stated that the country was in a very bad fiscal crisis and there was no need for it to spend so much on the elections.

They even said the country did not need to hire vehicles from South Africa.

They also said the expensive systems that were purchased during the elections were a drain to the government coffers. The way the country ran the elections was as if free money was used yet taxpayers' money was used.

BLESSED IS THE HAND THAT GIVES



HELPING THE NEEDY: Some members of the Eswatini Bikers, including the Paiva family Carlos and Sonia, pose with the Roman Catholic Bishop Jose Luis Gerardo during the donation of 1.4 tones of rice and 100kg of maize seeds from the Woman Farmer Foundation. Also in the picture are Eswatini Bikers Ferinado and Reverend Patrick Dlamini. The presentation was held at the bishop's house in Manzini over the weekend. The church will be distributing the donation soon. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Church of England spiritual leader to plead for unity

LONDON - The spiritual leader of the Church of England may lead five days of prayer with other churches after Britain's March 29 exit from the European Union in an attempt to ease Brexit divisions, The Sunday Times reported.

The 2016 Brexit referendum showed a United Kingdom divided about much more than the European Union, and has fueled soul-searching about everything

from secession and immigration to capitalism, empire and modern Britishness.

Under plans discussed by the Church of England, Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby wants to pray in public with the leaders of the Catholic, Methodist, Baptist and United Reformed churches on the day after Britain leaves.

"I would hope that it will resonate with the wider nation, that this is the time for turning to something deeper in the human

spirit than legal arguments and philosophical discussions, and to seek wisdom from God," a senior Church of England source was quoted as telling the newspaper. With the clock ticking down to March 29, the date set in law for Britain to leave the EU, the United Kingdom is in the deepest political crisis in half a century as it grapples with how, or even whether, to exit the European project it joined in 1973. *Reuters*

Man beats up girlfriend, insults her

BY BAHLE GAMA
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A 38-year-old man of Dlangeni has been arrested and charged with contravening the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence (SODV) Act of 2018.

He appeared before Senior Magistrate Nonhlanhla Dlamini.

Madoda Gama was charged with two counts under the Act after he was arrested on January 31, for beating up his girlfriend Nomvula Matse with open hands on the face and all over her body.

He further insulted her and that injured and impaired her dignity, hence he was charged with con-

travening Section 77(1) (f) of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act 15/2018.

Gama pleaded guilty to both counts and told the court that he was drunk when he committed the crimes. He asked for forgiveness and pleaded for leniency from the court, stating that it was a mistake.

He further stated that he was still paying school fees for his children, hence he was hoping the court would be considerate.

He was sentenced to two years in a correctional facility with a fine option of E2 000 for beating Matse and a year in prison with an option of a fine of E1 000 for insulting her.

The sentences will run concurrently.

Sikhatsi wins brawl over land with neighbour

BY BAHLE GAMA
High Court

SIKHATSI Dlamini has won a land dispute that was between him and his neighbour at Nkoyoyo. Dlamini had been taken to court by his neighbour Nomsa Rosemary Hlatshwayo for destroying her drive way protection wall at Nkoyoyo.

Hlatshwayo filed an urgent application at the High Court where she stated that on February 20, 2018 after she noticed five men destroying the protection wall using five-pound hammers whilst carrying spades to remove the debris.

She was represented by an attorney from S.S Hlophe Attorneys while Sikhatsi conducted his own defence in the matter.

The matter appeared before High Court Judge Ticheme Dlamini last Wednesday. The founding affidavit by Hlatshwayo states that she then went to Vusani Dvuba, who is a brother to the chief and reported the matter to him. He advised her not to confront the men. He then called another senior member in the community identified as Gabriel Shiba and asked that he speaks to the five men who disclosed that they were acting on orders of Dlamini.

Hlatshwayo and Dlamini are neighbours at Nkoyoyo under the jurisdiction of Chief Zembe Dvuba and each were allocated a piece of land on Swati Nation Land and were allocated next to each other.

She then filed an application under a certificate of urgency and she inter alia sought that Dlamini be ordered and directed to forthwith re-erect and restore her driveway protection wall that was unlawfully demolished.

She further applied that he paid the costs of the application.

In her founding affidavit, she further stated that when she asked the men to produce a court order that authorised them to demolish the wall, they failed and told her that they were acting on the instructions and orders of Dlamini. Hence they

finished demolishing and discarded the debris into a nearby sewer.

In his answering affidavit, Dlamini said Hlatshwayo's protection wall was built on his land. He had been away for two months and when he returned he found that the wall had been constructed right inside his land and it blocked access to his house. He also stated that he did not immediately react but reported to one of the area's authorities by the name of Mangwana Zulu, who at the time did not know who had constructed the wall and when it was inquired no one knew, but, it was suspected that Hlatshwayo had. She was summoned twice but never responded to the summons, which was then that he decided to demolish the wall because he did not know who had constructed it.

He also disclosed that she had lost the land war at their *umphakatsi* in 2010. He further stated that Hlatshwayo's application did not meet the urgency requirements stipulated by Rule 6 (25).

"On the basis of the Rikhotso and Tswelopele (supra) decisions, this court cannot order restoration under the spoliation remedy because the protection wall was destroyed and the debris thereof were thrown into a sewer. The application is accordingly dismissed with costs," reads the last part of the judgment signed by Dlamini," Dlamini said.

Hlatshwayo and Dlamini are neighbours at Nkoyoyo under the jurisdiction of Chief Zembe Dvuba and each were allocated a piece of land on Swati Nation Land and were allocated next to each other.

BY SABELO MAJOLA
Mbabane

Eswatini to evaluate results of bilharzia, worms intervention

FOLLOWING three successful rounds of the deworming campaign, the Kingdom of Eswatini has embarked on a week-long exercise to prepare for a mid-term evaluation of the impact of the intervention on the burden of bilharzia and worms in the kingdom.

Deworming of children in the kingdom was re-introduced in 2016 following the suspension of the exercise in 2009.

The country has been ranked number one out of 49 countries in the African region in scaling up efforts to eliminate bilharzia and worms.

This is based on the campaign reaching nine in 10 of the school aged children in Eswatini. The country has achieved above the minimum recommended level of 75 per cent.

Actions

This has been made possible through collaborative actions between the deputy prime minister's office; ministries of health; education and training; tinkhundla administration and development; World Health Organisation (WHO), UNICEF and other development partners, as well as school communities; parents; learners and members of the media.

WHO, through the Expanded Special Project for Elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases (ESPEN), is sup-



ALSO THERE: Participants of the deworming exercise workshop from the ministry of health. (R) **PRESENTATION:** Professor Nicolas Midzi making his presentation, and looking on is Dr Maurice Odier and Ministry of Health Epidemiologist Vusi Lokotfwako during the official opening of the workshop at the UN House. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)

porting countries, including Eswatini, to scale up interventions to eliminate bilharzia, worms and other Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) including snake bites and rabies as public health problems.

Countries are required to periodically monitor and evaluate the impact of the interventions towards reducing the burden of these diseases through setting up sentinel surveillance sites in schools and conducting impact surveys. Eswatini is due for the mid-term review of the deworming campaigns as well as setting up of the sentinel surveillance sites.

Two experts, Professor Nicholas

Midzi and Dr Maurice Odier are in the kingdom for a week to assist with the selection of the sentinel schools and developing a protocol for the mid-term review and the impact survey.

Working

The two are working with the Neglected Tropical Diseases focal person in the WHO Eswatini Country office - Dr Kevin Makadzange, and the multi-sectoral team led by Precious Dlamini, the NTD programme manager and Mr Vusi Lokotfwako, an epidemiologist in the ministry of health. The team is working from the new United Nations House in Mbabane and the week-long exercise was commissioned by Dr Njabulo

Lukhele, the senior medical officer in charge of public health institution in the ministry of health. Dr Lukhele stated that the power to succeed in the elimination of bilharzia and worms in Eswatini lies in the hands of everyone and hopes that everyone continues to rise to the challenge and do their part and together, making a difference and have the two diseases eliminated in our lifetime.

Dr Lukhele further thanked the WHO consultants for providing technical assistance towards this activity, adding that this was indeed the beginning of an important step in the elimination of the diseases. He also recognised the partnership between the ministry of health,

and the ministry of education and training towards improving the health of school children and educational outcomes for sustainable development.

The mid-term review will be conducted in May this year and involves visiting the selected school to test urine and stools from learners for bilharzia and worms. Also of note is that this will be followed by the fourth round of the deworming campaign in June year. The ministry of health looks forward to the cooperation by learners, teachers and parents, as demonstrated in 2015 when the baseline mapping exercise was conducted. These are crucial events towards Eswatini free of bilharzia and worms.



GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT
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TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE OF MAIN ROAD 7 (MR7) FROM LUKHULA TO SITEKI

The above Main Road will be temporarily closed to traffic between Lukhula and Siteki. The Road Closure is meant to ensure safety of road users while blasting works take place. Traffic disturbances are expected to be on Wednesday, 27 February 2019 from 14h00 to 16h00. The temporal road closure will happen for internals of approximately 30 minutes during this period.

During the road closure, the public is kindly requested to adhere to road signage and traffic controllers who will facilitate accommodation of traffic. Below is a pictorial image showing the proposed road closure.

We apologise for any inconvenience that may be caused during this period.



MAKHOSINI MNDABE
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

DOC:18503



KaShali Pro-Learning
High School

2018 SGCSE RESULTS

The Directors, Management and Staff of KaShali Pro-Learning High School, take this opportunity to congratulate the SGCSE Class of 2018 for the excellent results in the final examinations, where the school obtained position 38 out of 255 schools in the Kingdom of Eswatini. Our gratitude goes to the Almighty, who has constantly sustained this school all these years. We also extend our gratitude to the parents who have cooperated in making Pro-Learning a success.

We note with sadness the continued use of English Language as stumbling block to the academic progress of many students in the country. It is indeed an embarrassment that after 50 years of independence, we still have the former colonialists' language as an entry requirement in institutions of higher learning within the Kingdom of Eswatini. This is done in even courses which have nothing to do with the mastery of the English Language. We therefore urge the Ministry of Education and the relevant stakeholders to put the interest of the country first and remove this unnecessary barrier with immediate effect.

Sandiso Nkambule First Language: Siswati: C Mathematics: A Geography: A Physical Science: B	Mxolisi Mdluli English Language: B Mathematics: A* Business Studies: B Physical Science: B	Bongumenzi Dlamini First Language: Siswati: B English Language: B Biology: A Mathematics: A Business Studies: C Physical Science: A* Geography: C
Minenhle Dlamini First Language: Siswati: B English Language: A* Biology: C Mathematics: D Physical Science: C Religious Education: C	Candy Mazibuko First Language: Siswati: A English Language: A* Biology: A* Mathematics: B Physical Science: A Geography: C Religious Education: C	Evander Dlamini English Language: B Physical Science: A Business Studies: A*
Nomfundo Mkhwanazi English Language: C Biology: A Geography: B	Linda Dlamini Biology: B Physical Science: B	Zukiswa Mavuso English Language: B Mathematics: A Biology: B Physical Science: A Geography: C Religious Education: C
Mgiyo Khaya Simelane First Language: Siswati: A English Language: C Mathematics: C Biology: B Physical Science: B Geography: B Religious Education: C	Nombulelo Nhleko First Language: Siswati: B English Language: B Mathematics: B Biology: C Physical Science: B Geography: C Religious Education: B	Sweetlille Ndlovu First Language: Siswati: C English Language: C Mathematics: B Accounting: B Business Studies: B Economics: A*
Samkeliso Dlamini Mathematics: B Physical Science: B	Njabulo Bhembe Mathematics: B Physical Science: B	Nkhonipho Ndlovu English Language: B Biology: B Science: A
Mandisa Matsenjwa Mathematics: A Physical Science: A	Brian DuPont English Language: B Mathematics: A Biology: C Physical Science: B	Lungiswa Nkambule First Language: Siswati: B English Language: B Mathematics: C Biology: D Geography: C Religious Education: B
Hlobile Mkhonta English Language: B Mathematics: C Business Studies: B	Bandzile Sukati Mathematics: C Physical Science: B Geography: B	Nespho Ntshani English Language: B Mathematics: B

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Features & Opinions

Refresh What You Think

BIBLE FOR SPORTS

LAST week's Wednesday afternoon scorching sun couldn't stop an exciting soccer match as the Bible Society of Eswatini (BSE), the Church of the Nazarene pastors, the Voice of the Church (VOC) and the Eswatini Broadcasting and Information Services (EBIS) came together to communicate the gospel to the people by worshipping God in sports.

Sport is not some area outside of God's good creation; it is an integral part of it, a gift to be enjoyed, to His glory, thus the resounding success of this match was to God's glory.

With teams coming all out to play, the overall winner ironically was the Bible Society of Eswatini who made its way to win after penalty shootouts against Eswatini Broadcasting and Information Services, triumphing 2-1.

The cherry on top was having females directing the match (from referees to lineswoman), something that captured even passersby who found themselves forced to watch.

This soccer match was the BSE's brainchild to bring Bible to the people, and more matches of this nature are in the pipeline. And the purpose is to match the gap between the Bible and sports and also to promote accessibility of the Word of God to everyone: whether in church, sports, work etc.

"Through this project we want to



A GIFT TO BE ENJOYED: Bible Society Eswatini's CEO Ngcebo Mbuli highlighting on the importance of a friendly soccer match.

also inculcate biblical values to the people: that is love tolerance, respect, patience, among others.

Lastly, as we are trying to close the gap the message being sent across is that the Bible is not a scary book, but we can carry it everywhere we go and it still carries the same value, whether you are at church or in the soccer field," said BSE's CEO, Ngcebo Mbuli after the match.

The winner of the match was to take home Bibles, courtesy of the BSE, but because they became the eventual winners and EBIS becoming second runners-up, they had to be given the Bibles, something appreciated by everyone.

Brief interviews conducted among the coaches of the different teams who had come to play, most of them had this to say regarding the Bible Society of Eswatini.

FRANK MAKAMA - VOC

"All along soccer was perceived to be a thing of non-



A MEDAL ABOVE ALL: Reverend Rikas Heya giving out Bibles to the EBIS soccer team, courtesy of BSE.

believers, but the BSE has come to change that. As VOC, we saw it as a platform for propagating the gospel of Jesus Christ. For us it was an opportunity that we embraced, as it is in line with our duty embraced by the BSE to take the Bible into the soccer field to share soccer skills and love. We say BSE must continue with these games; they unify us and keep us fit. It truly is a great thing to promote

health and physical health to the body of Christ while socialising. We surely can win the world if we stand together."

REV THEMBA MASEKO - CHURCH OF NAZARENE

"We thank BSE for such an initiative that aims at reaching out to individuals through sport. The Bible in

Mathew 28:19 tells us of the Great Commission, that we are supposed to go to the people, and such an initiative is one of the ways of making Christ-like people. BSE is doing a perfect and relevant thing. It is actually a heartbeat of the very gospel we are propagating and using the same Bible for fairness in the sports as per the biblical principle."

WAGA FAKUDZE - EBIS

"Most people love soccer, and this is a perfect way to reach out to them. Bible Society of Eswatini is really doing a commendable job, through such matches we learn to be humble in victory and defeat. Everyone knows that there's always ultimate excitement when your team wins and ultimate despair when your team loses but at the end of it all, one team has to come out best."

Note: Soccer matches should draw us closer to God, not further away from Him. They should give us an opportunity to love and serve our neighbour and display the very grace, humility and servant heart of God Himself. *Remain Blessed.*

“The Bible is a sacred, purposeful, universal book with information that you can't find anywhere else. It is a Book from God, it is accurate, full of good advice, life-changing, and is inspired of God, as 2 Timothy 3:16 elaborates. It is a product of divine inspiration, a record of the relationship between God and humans and it gives us helpful principles to apply when we have problems.”**”**



Bible Society Eswatini



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The Bible - A Central Social, Cultural, Political and Economic Influence!

ON THIS DAY

...February 25

1793 - The department heads of the U.S. government met with U.S. President Washington for the first Cabinet meeting on US record.

1836 - Samuel Colt received U.S. Patent No. 138 (later 9430X) for a 'revolving-cylinder pistol.' It was his first patent.

1901 - The United States Steel Corp. was incorporated by J.P. Morgan.

1913 - The 16th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified. It authorized a graduated income tax.

1919 - The state of Oregon became the first state to place a tax on gasoline. The tax was one cent per gallon.

1928 - The Federal Radio Commission issued the first US television license to Charles Jenkins Laboratories in Washington, DC.

1930 - The bank check photographing device was patented.

1933 - The aircraft carrier Ranger was launched. It was the first ship in the US Navy to be designed and built from the keel up as an aircraft carrier.

1837 - Thomas Davenport patented the first commercial electrical motor. There was no practical electrical distribution system available and Davenport went bankrupt.

1940 - The New York Rangers and the Montreal Canadiens played in the first hockey game to be televised in the US. The game was aired on W2WBS in New York with one camera in a fixed position. The Rangers beat the Canadiens 6-2.

1948 - Communists seized power in Czechoslovakia.

1950 - 'Your Show of Shows' debuted on NBC.

1999 - William King was sentenced to death for the racial murder of James Byrd Jr in Jasper, TX. Two other men charged were later convicted for their involvement.

2000 - In Albany, NY, a jury acquitted four New York City police officers of second-degree murder and lesser charges in the February 1999 shooting death of Amadou Diallo.

2005 - Dennis Rader was arrested for the BTK serial killings in Wichita, KS. He later pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 10 life prison terms.

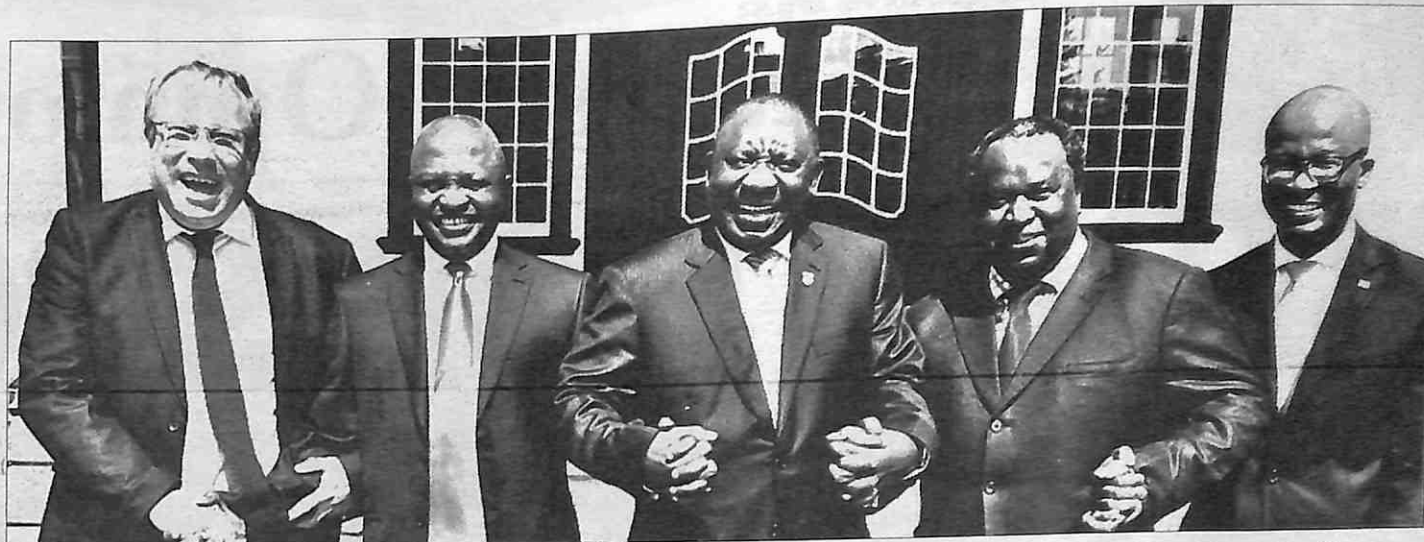
HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Ric Flair
(WRESTLER) - February 25, 1949
(70 years)



Sean Astin
(Movie Actor) - February 25, 1971
(48 years)



UNITED: Acting SARS Commissioner Mark Kingon, Deputy President David Mabuza, President Cyril Ramaphosa, Finance Minister Tito Mboweni and Dondi Mogoane, Director-General of Treasury ahead of the 2019 Budget Speech in Parliament.

BREAKING SOME BONES: THE PLANS FOR SA'S REFORMATION

LAST Wednesday, before tabling his first budget vote in the National Assembly, Finance Minister Tito Mboweni cut a totally different figure than his immediate predecessors.

In 2017 Pravin Gordhan was under siege and warding off repeated attacks from then president Jacob Zuma while attempting to pacify sceptical financial markets. The strain showed and he used the Budget platform to rally national support.

In 2018 Malusi Gigaba was visibly crestfallen, having just lost his political patron Zuma, who had been removed after a series of strategic manoeuvres by President Cyril Ramaphosa. He was out of his depth and knew he was on his way out.

Both those budget votes however, in 2017 and 2018, issued the same warnings contained in Mboweni's 2019 version. The widening budget deficit, increased debt-to-GDP ratio, tepid growth, a bloated public service wage bill, the dangers of a ratings downgrade... it was all there. South Africa is in deep, deep trouble.

Mboweni isn't under attack from within, like Gordhan was, and he has job security, unlike Gigaba. He has the clear support of his principal and it seems as if he will be able to pick the time of his leaving. He also has the political experience and gravitas to navigate the gauntlet that is ANC ideology and internal alliance politics.

Because after signalling the Ramaphosa government's intent – including a clamp-down on errant state-owned companies and reducing the public sector wage bill – he is going to have to gird himself for political war.

The reformation process of the South African state, initiated after Ramaphosa's election as ANC leader at Nasrec with the installation of a new board at Eskom in January 2018, is facing resistance on all the fronts it has opened.

There are numerous public processes underway (or have been con-

cluded) that have started to exact accountability (if not prosecutions) after years of corruption and neglect, including the inquiry into the South African Revenue Service (SARS), state capture, the Public Investment Corporation (PIC) and senior officials at the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), while a new chief prosecutor has been appointed and a new tax commissioner will be announced soon.

These aren't insignificant, given the national state of affairs 12 months ago. But much of the heavy lifting is happening out of sight and out of earshot, with Ramaphosa's reformists active on three fronts: rolling back corruption and rent-seeking in the state, stabilising and rejuvenating the economy and refitting the ANC.

The struggle to change the ANC's culture is a monumental one, and Ramaphosa seems determined to do this concurrently with his two other major projects: the state and the economy. According to operators with insight into strategy and unfolding events, the damage caused to the ANC by the party's presidential election campaign is severe.

Passive

Whole structures, from provincial level down to branch level, have been bought or co-opted by factions who remain antagonistic to Ramaphosa. And they are not passive, they are actively organising against the ANC leader, who aims to change the culture of money for support and votes. It is a herculean task, given that the practice to lobby and buy support has now been entrenched for more than a decade.

ALSO READ: A Budget for tough times with an eye on the election

Beyond the party's internal strife, recovering the state and retooling the economy are Ramaphosa's most pressing tasks – and Mboweni and Gordhan his most important allies.

During the years of state cap-

ture, National Treasury, with its constitutional mandate, adherence to rules and regulations and commitment to strict control was the rent-seeking cabal's principal enemy. It kept a tight leash on public money, ferretted out corruption and put a brake on the nuclear deal. Zuma, as evidenced by his removal of a succession of finance ministers, considered them adverse to his project of total capture, and mounted repeated assaults on the institution.

In the post-Zuma era Treasury now seems be positioned to indeed become the "super-ministry" Zumaite like Bathabile Dlamini and Nomvula Monokyanne were fearful of.

Mboweni and Gordhan will soon appoint a 'chief reconfiguration officer' at Eskom, who will be responsible for ensuring that the utility adheres to Treasury's strict prescriptions. This CRO will be "Treasury's man" at Eskom and will look after taxpayers' money. The minister of finance said on Wednesday that the days of free money are over and that Treasury will from now on make sure "every rand and cent" is looked after.

Bankrupt

Eskom surely won't be the only state-owned company to get a CRO. SAA is bankrupt, Transnet's procurement and tendering processes are being investigated, Denel has instituted a turnaround plan and the South African Post Office is using debt to fund operations. State companies, individually and as a collective are in dire straits. According to Treasury they are all loss-making, with debt steeply rising over the last couple of years.

In order for them to remain functional, government has issued guarantees to the tune of R483bn last year, a staggeringly high amount. Just to keep the lights on and aircrafts flying.

But Treasury will now have a direct say in how these companies are managed through the deployment of CROs, which would give the department's officials in Pretoria

a direct line into daily operations. And which, in theory, should prevent overspend on expenses like diesel at Eskom.

It is going to give Treasury enormous insight to and control of entities gutted by corruption and fraud and used as cash cows for the corrupt and unscrupulous.

Gordhan is Mboweni's perfect foil. Where the finance minister will remain in charge of disbursements, Gordhan (who as a former minister of finance and SARS commissioner knows everything about fruitless and wasteful expenditure) will be responsible to whip the companies into line.

According to Treasury's Budget Review Eskom remains the single biggest threat to the economy due to its deteriorating debt position, that now makes up more than 15% of national debt.

Both Mboweni and Gordhan will be in charge of rescuing the parastatal and the economy through the restructuring and unbundling process.

It will be this process – an obvious precursor to wider state reforms – that will test both ministers' resolve.

In the Budget Review, Treasury lays the groundwork for far-reaching policy adjustments, including privatisation, which Ramaphosa has already rejected. But Mboweni, ahead of his speech, wasn't flustered when asked about Treasury's position.

He spoke of antiquated 'Soviet-style' thinking and said if he had his way he'd rather spend money investing in railroads and taxis than on SAA.

According to Treasury the first priority in the reorganisation of Eskom will be to establish an independent transmission company and adds: "In line with the president's statement, the new company will invite the participation of strategic equity partners that will provide capital for the business and strengthen oversight."

News24



PROPOSED IAAF RULES AGAINST CASTER ARE ARROGANT AND INSULTING

AS the world gathered in Monaco last week to celebrate the crème de la crème of global sport at the Laureus World Sports Awards, another global star started the next phase of the gruelling battle for her identity, dignity and possibly her life.

Lawyers for the International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) have argued that the 28-year-old world and Olympic champion, Caster Semenya, is a 'biological male' as well as a classified female. Spectators have also joined in, posting the vilest insults and verbal abuse.

Their tone is no longer that of people who genuinely want to understand the genetic and social issues on the table. The names they call her leave you in no doubt that their prism is populated with racism, homophobia and misogyny.

Semenya has been fighting a decade long battle that is no longer just about naturally occurring hormones. It is about her freedom to live and excel in the body in which she was born. It is about her identity as a woman being questioned. It is about who gets to tell women, that they are not women?

Imagine being an athlete competing on the international platform, setting the tarmac on fire every time you compete. Crowds roar and cheer you on from inside the stadium and others from the comfort of their homes. The applause is deafening. But for

● Semenya's superlative talent is unquestionable. Perhaps, that is the problem. She is not allowed to be THAT talented. Semenya owns the running track. There is no question about that. But now, she cannot own her own body. She cannot let it do what it was born to do and is facing the possibility of giving her body up to the male dominated IAAF. Where do men get the nerve to...? Never mind, I know the answer

every cheer your victory solicits, there is a loud groan from those who have appointed themselves arbiters of who is and isn't a woman.

Semenya's superlative talent is unquestionable. Perhaps, that is the problem. She is not allowed to be THAT talented. Semenya owns the running track. There is no question about that. But now, she cannot own her own body. She cannot let it do what it was born to do and is facing the possibility of giving her body up to the male dominated IAAF. Where do men get the nerve to...? Never mind, I know the answer.

The IAAF wants to introduce new rules, that will apply to women who take part in track events from 400 metres. They are to keep their testosterone levels below a prescribed amount prior to competing. Prescribed by whom? Furthermore, the international athletics body has arrogantly conferred unto itself the authority to determine what constitutes 'normal female'. It is outrageous. It is insulting. It is crass. Even their vocabulary is violent and discriminatory.

Her lawyers are emphatic though: she is 'unquestionably a woman'

and is fighting 'for her right to run free'.

Semenya's lawyers are arguing that her genetic variations are what sport is about and that hers should not be treated differently than other genetic variations that are celebrated in sport. It is absurd, that the athletics body wants us to believe that a naturally occurring variation confers unfair advantage and requires artificial intervention. There is a name for that. It is doping. And we all know how that goes down!

All Caster wants is to run naturally, the way she was born. In a recent interview, shortly after she had decided to challenge the proposed rules, she told me, "The IAAF has pissed me off and I want to make this right."

Well, my sense is that Caster is not the only one who is pissed off. For many years South Africans have rallied behind her, with a few exceptions. Even when politicians in the ANC and the disgraced former athletics chief Leonard Chuene, tried to divide the nation, eroding all the goodwill that South Africans were directing at Caster, ingratiating themselves to her by positioning themselves as her only protec-

tors, citizens of this country continued to celebrate and fight for her in many different ways. The powerful people made political speeches about Caster, claiming nobody, besides them, was on her side. That was ten years ago. Time has proven that they were wrong.

South Africans in all their diversity have been and still are behind Caster. The outpouring of outrage and empathy when it was revealed that she had undergone quite intrusive tests to determine if she was a girl or not, initiated decisive action against Chuene (there were other governance transgressions that led to his dismissal). This matter has hung like an albatross around Semenya's neck. In some quarters, she is spoken of as though she is a cheat, when all she is doing is using her talent to inspire so many – and leave many others behind!

It all boils down to whether a woman, with naturally high levels of testosterone has the right to be a woman. The answer should be YES! It all boils down to whether a woman with naturally high levels of the hormone should be forced to take drugs to compete. *News24*

Wit and Wisdom

● "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."
— Dr. Seuss

● "I'm selfish, impatient and a little insecure. I make mistakes, I am out of control and at times hard to handle. But if you can't handle me at my worst, then you sure as hell don't deserve me at my best."
— Marilyn Monroe

● "Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."
— Oscar Wilde

● "Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe."
— Albert Einstein

● "So many books, so little time."
— Frank Zappa

● "Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind."
— Bernard M. Baruch

● "A room without books is like a body without a soul."
— Marcus Tullius Cicero

● "You've gotta dance like there's nobody watching,
Love like you'll never be hurt,
Sing like there's nobody listening,
And live like it's heaven on earth."
— William W. Purkey

● "You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams."
— Dr. Seuss

● "You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough."
— Mae West

● "Be the change that you wish to see in the world."
— Mahatma Gandhi

● "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on."
— Robert Frost

● "If you want to know what a man's like, take a good look at how he treats his inferiors, not his equals."
— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

● "Don't walk in front of me... I may not follow
Don't walk behind me... I may not lead
Walk beside me... just be my friend"
— Albert Camus

● "Friendship... is born at the moment when one man says to another "What! You too? I thought that no one but myself..."
— C.S. Lewis, *The Four Loves*

BUSINESS UPDATE

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	5%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E12.80 per litre
Replacement	E12.85 per litre
Diesel	E12.80 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 22 FEB 2019

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.9595	14.0095
British Pound/SZL	18.1913	18.3258
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.9075	7.9351
Swiss France/SZL	13.9483	13.9941
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3173	1.3295
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.9071	9.9453
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.5506	10.5852
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.8259	15.8826
Gold	1,324.4400	
Oil	67.45	

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Standard Bank

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE LOOKING TO EVOLVE SEDCO

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

...ministry considering ways on how entity can be into a Development Finance Institution

THE ministry of commerce, industry and trade is looking at ways on how they can improve SEDCO to evolve into a Development Finance Institution in the spirit of transforming into being a one stop shop.

This was revealed by the Under Secretary in the Ministry Nkululeko Dlamini, who represented the principal secretary (PS) during the official closing event of the Small Enterprise Development Company training hosted by SEDCO in partnership with the University of Stellenbosch and the European Union (EU).

He said SEDCO was created to offer comprehensive business support and advisory services to SMEs to enhance business skills through tailor-made training, business counselling, market linkages, business incubation and turnaround strategies.

He said these initiatives assist SMEs to enhance their capacity and skills to manage their busi-

nesses effectively, as well as to access finance.

"If the participation of SMEs in the economy is to yield the much-needed economic utility, it is incumbent upon SEDCO as a company to deliver relevant and suitable interventions. Admittedly, this can only be realised through continuous skills development for our staff members.

Dlamini stated that during challenging economic times, SMEs acted as the economic shock-absorbers to cushion economies from total collapse.

He said they also allow wheels of economies to keep turning, hence nurturing and developing small businesses should be a priority for the Kingdom of Eswatini.

"Throughout the week our officers were skilled in topics such as diagnostic tools for small enterprises, preparing a winning business plan (business plan development), the psychology of a

business coach amongst others. We believe that our officers have had their skills sharpened and are ready to deliver trailblazing solutions to our clients, the SMEs," he said.

He then extended appreciation to the EU for the Strengthening and Technical Cooperation Project that has made it possible to train their officers in the area of Small Enterprise Development and also the University of Stellenbosch through its business school's African Centre for Development Finance.

"In particular, may we thank Professor Ikhide and Dr Oduwale (our facilitator) for making sure that we get cutting-edge training from a business school of outstanding international repute. May I also thank our friends, the Centre for Financial Inclusion for their assistance and role they played during the conception stage of this workshop. I may add that right now we have a world

standard SME policy through their support.

"Finally I wish to encourage the trainees to use this knowledge to place this institution in the forefront of SME development," he said.

Meanwhile, Dr Sola Oduwale said he was happy to be part of the week-long workshop.

"SEDCO is a good initiative and it continues to push people towards the right direction. The training has been good and I hope the participants will make good use of the knowledge gained here," he said.

Also present during the event was SEDCO CEO Dorrington Matiwane, who expressed gratitude to the EU and the university for their contribution towards the success of the event.

Speaking on behalf of the 14 participants was Babe Dlamini, who said they were happy to be part of the event and that they gained a lot from the Dr Oduwale.

Cimbresh Investments nets E7 million EPTC contract

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

THE Eswatini Post and Telecommunications Corporation has awarded local company Cimbresh Investments (Pty) Ltd with an intention to award contract to supply payphones.

The intention to award contract documents as highlighted in the

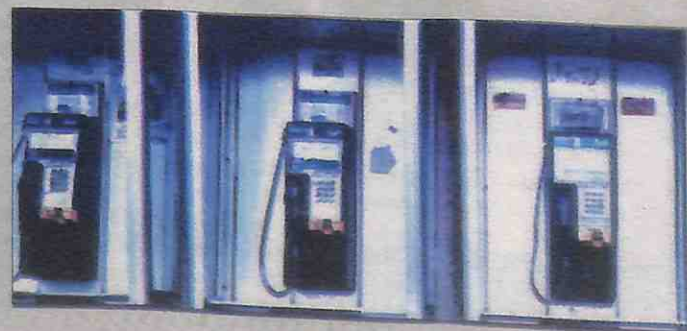
Eswatini Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (ESPPRA) website, show that the contract is worth E7 200 840.

Attained

The successful tenderer also attained a total evaluated score of 90 per cent, beating another local company MV Tel, whose asking bid was E9 396 171.20. The company received a evaluated score of 61 per cent.

DETAILS OF BEST EVALUATED RESPONSIVE TENDERER

Name	Cimbresh Investments
Nationality	Swati
Proposed Contract Price	E7 200 840
Total Evaluation Score	90 per cent



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TBWA Group accolades inspire local wing to soar to new heights

BY MLINDENI GUMEDE

TBWA Group closed 2018 in a remarkable style after being awarded with Global Agency of the Year award for experiencing growth across the business, and seeing a large number of its agencies ranking number one in their respective markets.

Just at the beginning of this year, the global advertising agency was named in the Fast Companies World's Most Innovative Companies List for 2019. The list acknowledges the world's most forward thinking, progressive companies across a wide range of categories, including the advertising sector.

TBWA Group dubbed, 'The Disruption Company,' is a subsidiary company under Omnicom Group, which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). It boasts about 11 300 creative minds across 270 offices in 95 countries, including the Kingdom of Eswatini.

Commenting on the TBWA Group accolades, TBWA\Yati-Eswatini Managing Director Mfundo Mavimbela said they were immensely proud to

INSPIRED:
TBWA Mfundo
Mavimbela.



be part of the TBWA Group network, which continues to reflect its innovation in 'Beta mantras.

"We view these group accolades as a challenge for us to continue stepping up our game to become the kingdom's best advertising agency," he said.

Going forward, Mavimbela said in line with the group's goals for the current year, the local agency would

continue to position itself to, amongst other things, demonstrate its creativity through innovative and big idea platforms, accelerate production capabilities, come up with stronger and more confident marketing programmes, put more innovation; partner, share and scale at speed, and drive more organic growth opportunities. Of course, this will not be done unadventurously.

"We are not a traditional advertising agency but are a radically open creative collective. We look at what everyone else is doing and strive to do something completely new. We live and breathe disruption and that has been our secret to our clients' success," he said.

Mavimbela said disruption meant going against marketing conventions to find new growth opportunities for their clientele.

"We do this by defining a differentiated strategy, breaking barriers to involve our clients in modern culture and push them to go beyond average and achieve maximum reach," he said.

Mavimbela said their affiliation to the TBWA Group network, especially the TBWA Africa network, was also their secret weapon.

"This is through exchange of best practices within the TBWA Group network. It also offers diverse workplaces that create suitable conditions for innovation and creativity. The network also exposes our staff to international competitiveness," he said.

TBWA\Yati's key clients are MTN Eswatini and Standard Bank. The agency has also done work for a num-

ber of clients, including but not limited to; African Alliance (AA), Eswatini Royal Insurance Corporation (ESRIC), Pamalat Eswatini, Junior Achievement Eswatini (JAE), Swazi Observer, Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU), and Bible Society. It is currently working with Royal Eswatini National Airways Corporation (RENAC), Happy Valley Hotel, ESRIC, and the new Hilton Garden Inn.

One of the most recent samples of disruption applied by the agency is the MTN's Men's Conference advert on this year's Valentine's Day, which hit home for MTN. Through TBWA\Yati, MTN jumped on the imaginary Men's Conference social media frenzy to deliver a series of hilarious adverts that triggered an influx of positive conversations and responses from customers.

Commenting on the advert, MTN Senior Manager Consumer Meshack Maseko said this provided a perfect opportunity for MTN to entrench itself into culture by looking more actively and purposefully at the culture buzzing around them, especially on social media, to use that awareness to inform how they should best position and integrate themselves into the world.

On that note, TBWA\Yati Creative Director Bruce Ngonga said they constantly seek to break away from the convention, and create something meaningful. Something different and disruptive for their clients.

NIDCS SPENDS E9.3 BILLION ON STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

BY MLINDENI GUMEDE

THE ministry of commerce, industry and trade has reported that the National Industrial Development Corporation of Swaziland spent a total of E9.3 billion on strategic investment projects.

The strategic investment projects are said to have been in various economic sectors, such as agriculture, agro-processing, infrastructure and transport to name a few. "As means to proactively peruse stronger sources of revenue for the corporation, while developing the country's industries, 11 project profiles were developed." According to the report from the ministry, the agricultural sector managed to get E6.7 million worth of development projects approved in 2018. Agriculture and agro-processing have received the larger share of the funds directed to industrial development at 28 per cent. The larger share directed towards agriculture is justified in the report by saying that the NIDC supports the agricultural sector strongly for food security, import substitution, export promotion and employment creation.

The second largest shares were obtained by education and infrastructure respectively at 18 per

cent, while art and transport obtained nine per cent.

The report also points out an increase in loan and equity financing in some economic sectors in 2018. "The number of approved loan funding requests received during the quarter when compared to the previous quarter," reads the report.

In the agricultural sector 95 per cent of loans of loans distributed are reported to have been utilized in crop farming while five per cent was allocated towards animal farming in the Manzini and Lubombo regions.



According to the report from the ministry, the agricultural sector managed to get E6.7 million worth of development projects approved in 2018.

Agriculture and agro-processing have received the larger share of the funds directed to industrial development at 28 per cent

Stakeholders roll up their sleeves for SMLP

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

THE National Maize Corporation, in partnership with the Eswatini Water and Agricultural Enterprise (ESWADE) will host a brainstorming session on how to improve the legumes industry in the country.

The smallholder market-led project will be held at the Bethel Court at Ezulwini on Thursday.

Stakeholders will gather at Bethel Court on Thursday to brainstorm best practices aimed at improving the legumes industry through employing modern technologies and innovations.

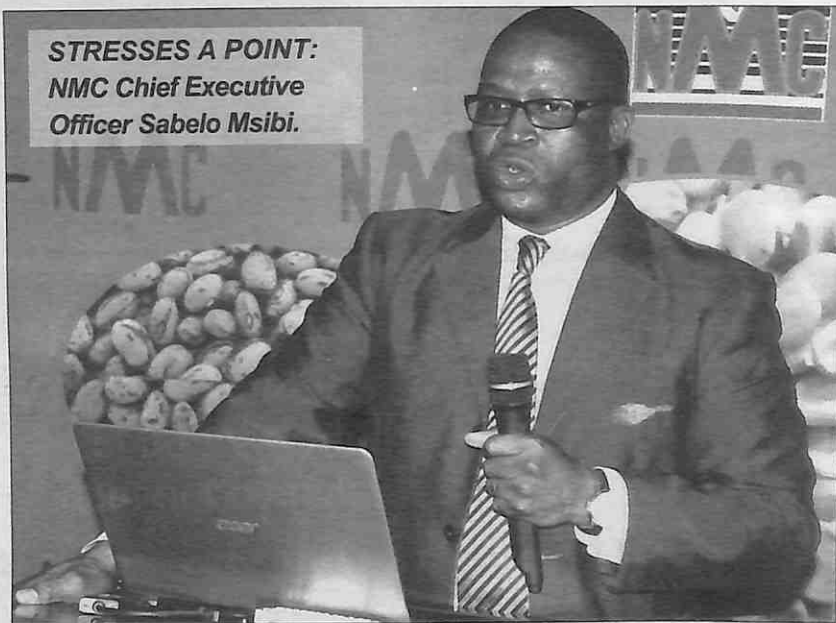
NMC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sabelo Msibi said the workshop, to start at 8am, will endeavour to get stakeholders to form a coalition which will then meet regularly to share their experiences, knowledge, skills, resources and ideas for the purpose of solving problems in the legumes value chain and seize opportunities of common interest.

"The main aim of the meeting is to create a platform for dialogue between the different stakeholders of the value-chain and to identify collectively the challenges and find opportunities to improve the food legumes production and marketing by the adoption of better technologies and innovations,

"Stakeholders interested can contact Banele Bennett at 7802 7401 or Robert Mabundza at 7802 6880 for further details," he said.

The workshop comes as a sequel to

STRESSES A POINT:
NMC Chief Executive
Officer Sabelo Msibi.



last November's launch of a multi-sectoral approach that targets to bring 37 chiefdoms mainly in the drought-stricken lowveld into mainstream economic activity. ESWADE was tasked with implementing the Smallholder Market-Led Project (SMLP) with funding sourced from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the government. The project timeline is from 2016 to 2022.

Of the 37 chiefdoms to benefit from the SMLP, 22 are in Shiselweni, 10 in Lubombo and five in Manzini. Seven organisations have partnered to implement the project, and these are the Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (YERF), ESWADE, National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBoard), National Maize Corporation (NMC), LULOTE,

University of Eswatini (UNESWA), and Mashayinkonjane.

The stakeholders who have been invited to the workshop, aimed at improving the industry by employing Modern technologies and innovation, include the the Ministry of Agriculture (Research Department), the University of Eswatini (UNESWA), the Royal Science Technology Park (RSTP), Eswatini Economic Analysis and Research Centre (ESEPARC and the National Marketing Board (NAMBOARD), Small Enterprise Development Company (SEDCO), Food Agricultural Organization (FAO), ADRA, COSPE, World Vision, PANNAR, SEEDCO, Tshala Seeds, Smiling Through Investments, Lake Agriculture, SNAU, Eswatini Bank, SIDC, SWAFUCU, NIDCS and FINCORP.

IMP hosts networking seminar for HRs

BY BAHLE GAMA

THE Institute of People Management (IPM), in conjunction with Central Bank, hosted a networking seminar on educating human resources managers about culture in the workplace.

The event held at the MTN Headquarters on Thursday evening, was facilitated by founder and Managing Director of Advisory K, Ethiel Kuuya from Zimbabwe.

Kuuya spoke about the strategies that organisations should implement in ensuring that workers and the organisation, as a whole, strive for success and harmony.

She noted that a proper workplace culture was made of trust, dignity and respect. She also mentioned that trust enlarges growth and innovation in a workplace.

"Organisations with low trust have a high cost of doing business, because if workers do not share ideas out of fear created within the workplace, the organisation is forced to outsource, hence the environment results to less progress," she said. She said fear leads to lack of dignity and that human resource practitioners are responsible for creating the proper strategies that can enable an organisation to apply all three key factors.

About Ethel Kuuya

● A business analytics and transformation advisor. She is the founder and Managing Director of Advisory K, a leading firm in Zimbabwe delivering solutions in strategy, analytics, organisations, people and research. It is an affiliate of Mercer, the world's leading HR consulting company.

2019 IPM membership categories

- Corporate subscription
- General
- SME
- Associate
- Individual
- Student membership



SMILE: IPM Chairperson Sharon Maziya sharing a light moment with I Can founder Dr David Molapo and Advisory K founder and Managing Director Ethiel Kuuya who was the guest speaker during the seminar held at Ezulwini on Thursday. (Pics: Bahle Gama)

"Lack of dignity is a bad organisational culture and low ethical standards lead to no dignity. People who feel good about themselves produce good work," she continued.

Kuuya also stated that it is important for each organisation to define their own house rules based on the good of the workers and the organisation not on what one wants.



ATTENTIVE: The attendees listening to Ethiel Kuuya's lecture.

Leadership is influence - Dr Molapo

I Can Foundation founder Dr David Molapo says leaders must be able to identify potential.

Making his remarks during the IMP seminar held at the MTN Headquarters on Thursday, Molapo said a great leader should not only identify the potential but must empower and equip their employees to become better than them.

He stated that one had to learn to WATCH, meaning human resources managers need to watch, amongst others things, their words and attitude in the workplace, mainly because they are walking time

bombs.

"Don't be impressed by people's smiles and as a leader be careful of what comes out of your mouth because words can elevate and bring a person down," he continued.

Warned

He further warned that in the workplace, one should also be careful of their thoughts.

"Thorough thinking makes one visualises and if a person thinks positively they paralyse all negativity, which then results to materialising output."

IPM membership open to students - Sharon Maziya

IPM Chairperson Sharon Maziya says membership to the organisation is also open to tertiary students.

Maziya during the seminar said most of the issues addressed by the IPM were faced by people when they get to the workplace, hence being taught earlier enables them to prepare themselves.

She stated that apart from the membership, institutions should implement strategies to reach out to students about such issues to ensure that they align themselves.

Encouraged

Students are encouraged to subscribe with E265 per annum and subscriptions range up to platinum with at a cost of E48 300 per annum.



Amazon tapping into e-commerce customers in Kenya

KENYA - THE e-commerce giant has rolled out a service that will allow customers to purchase goods and then pay for them at a local Western Union retail agent.

During checkout, a special QR code will be generated that will be used to verify the customer's identity and matched to the order confirmation for payment. Dubbed Amazon PayCode, the cross-border payment option has been launched in Kenya in Africa, along with nine other countries in Asia and Latin America.

The service's launch underscores Amazon's pivot towards e-savvy consumers in Kenya, who are keen on buying things online but might not have access to international credit cards or prefer to buy goods in cash and in their own currency. This is especially crucial as research shows that cross-border shopping sales will represent 20 per cent of e-commerce by 2022, with sales

Dubbed Amazon PayCode, the cross-border payment option has been launched in Kenya

reaching \$630 billion, boosted by increasingly sophisticated customers in markets, including Africa and the Middle East. Kenya has specifically undergone a mobile commerce revolution, buoyed in part by ubiquitous mobile penetration, increased smartphone adoption, and a mobile-first strategy that enables shoppers to pay for goods and services online through mobile money platforms like M-Pesa.

Amazon's partnership with Western Union also signals the company's gradual

turn towards expanding its footprint in developing markets as it faces off with rivals like Alibaba. This is compounded by the fact that the company is yet to replicate its success in the US in markets, including China and India. Amazon currently delivers to only 10 African nations as part of its global shipments operations, with its e-commerce subsidiary Souq operating in Egypt too.

The Seattle-headquartered company could also be following in the footsteps of global tech giants who have all looked to Africa to deepen their presence and increase their revenue.

Besides pioneering a project to deliver internet to remote areas, Google last year integrated Kenya's M-Pesa mobile money service as a form of payment in its store. Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba has also been keen on Africa and recently launched deals with the Rwandan government to boost e-commerce, trade, and tourism.



GOING DIGITAL: Dubbed Amazon PayCode, the cross-border payment option has been launched in Kenya in Africa, along with nine other countries in Asia and Latin America.

Amazon and Western Union's collaboration also showcases the increasing focus from multinationals and fintech companies to boost financial inclusion and get more customers to do digital transactions.

Last year, Kenya's leading mobile network operator Safaricom signed deals with both Western Union and PayPal to allow its customers to shop and transfer money both at home and abroad using their e-wallets.

Quartz Africa

Focus on Africa News

Continental News

VIOLENCE IS 'NOT THE WAY', SAYS MUGABE AT 95TH BIRTHDAY BASH

HARARE - Song and dance bellowed from the Blue Roof mansion in the usually quiet upmarket Borrowdale suburb, as hundreds of invited guests last Saturday attended the birthday party for former Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe.

The guests were celebrating the former statesman's 95th birthday at a private ceremony at his lavish Harare home. The event was held under the theme 'a living legend'.

There were strictly no children allowed at the function, which had a black and gold dress code.

Mugabe's children organised the birthday party, which was strictly by invite.

His eldest daughter, Bona, and son-in law, Simba Chikore, were the main organisers. Bona is said to have put the guest list together.

Notable among the guests was Gideon Gono, the

● *"Some people think that being a leader means killing people and beating people, but that is not the way. Even the fallen heroes would not approve of that,"*

former central bank governor and the Mugabe's personal banker. Family members, among them his wife, Grace, wished the 95-year-old Mugabe a long life.

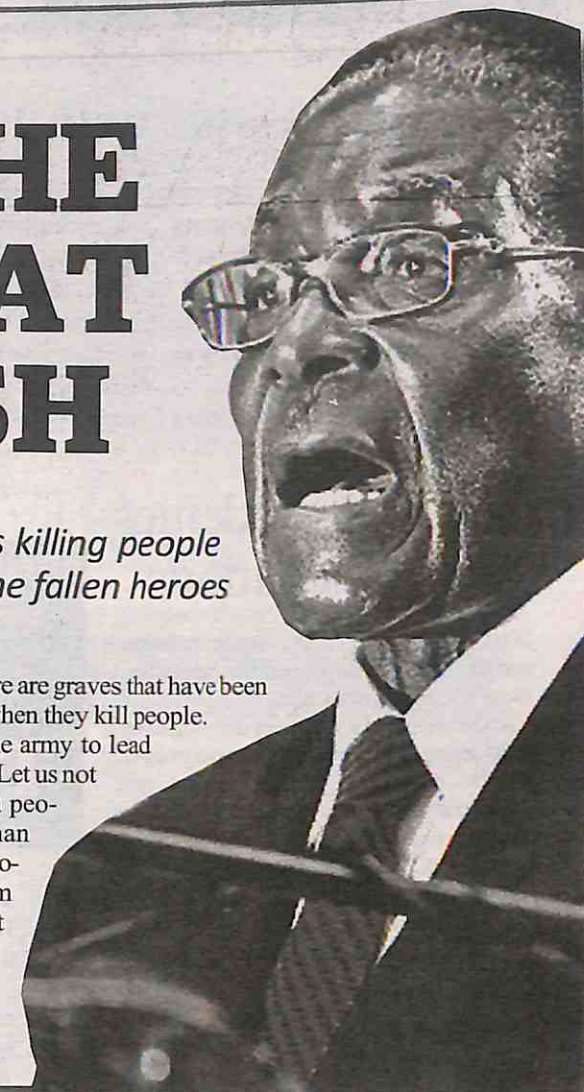
During a short speech at the event, Grace said she would stand by her husband until the very end.

Mugabe, in his speech, criticised the heavy-handedness of the military against citizens under President Emmerson Mnangagwa's government.

"Some people think that being a leader means killing people and beating people, but that is not the way. Even the fallen heroes would not approve of that," said Mugabe.

"We are hearing there are graves that have been created by the army when they kill people. It is not the task of the army to lead the people with guns. Let us not be killers of our own people," he added. Human rights groups said 17 people died last month from protests that broke out linked to a fuel price hike.

TimesLive



US to deny visas to DRC officials over election misconduct

JUBA - Tens of thousands face starvation in South Sudan, aid agencies warned last Friday, as fighting continues despite a peace deal signed six months ago meant to end civil war.

Nearly seven million people or two-thirds of the country face extreme hunger, the government and UN agencies said.

"The food security situation continues to deteriorate," said Isaiah Chol Aruai, Chairman of the National Bureau of Statistics, as he released the latest round of mind-boggling food assessments.

Nearly a fifth more people now need food aid to survive than when a man-made famine was declared in 2017,

and the risk of another famine is a 'real risk', the UN said.

Aruai, speaking to reporters in Juba alongside the heads of the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), pleaded for more aid to avert further catastrophe.

"The projections are alarming," said FAO boss Pierre Vauthier. "Food security continues to worsen."

When famine was declared in 2017, 4.9 million people or 40 per cent of the country needed food aid. Now over 6.1 million people, or just over half the population, are assessed to be in 'acute food insecurity'.

Without action, those figures will

worsen to over 6.8 million people, or some two-thirds of the country.

UN-backed assessments rank hunger levels according to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) system, which ranks hunger levels from one to five. Level five is classified as 'catastrophe,' and when stretched to 20 per cent of the population, becomes famine.

Today, some 30,000 are judged to be in level five in the eastern Jonglei and central Lakes regions. Those starvation numbers will rise to 50 000 without aid.

"Most in need of assistance are malnourished women and children," WFP boss Simon Cammelbeek said. *AFP*

French troops in Mali kill top commander of al Qaeda-linked group

SAHEL - French troops fighting Islamist militants in Mali have killed a one of the Sahel region's leading jihadists, France's defence minister said last Friday.

Yahia Abou Hamman was the number two in command of Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM), an umbrella group for al Qaeda-linked insurgents in West Africa's Sahara. The group claimed responsibility for a spate of attacks to disrupt Mali's election last July,

and more recent strikes in Burkina Faso.

"The removal of a prominent leader helps to dismantle the networks and disrupt terrorist activities in the region," Defence Minister Florence Parly said in a statement.

Soldiers belonging to France's Barkhane force, deployed in the Sahel, identified Hamman as he travelled in a convoy north of Timbuktu last Thursday, Parly said. *Reuters*

BRIEFS

Buhari casts ballot as polls open

ABUJA - Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari cast his ballot in the presidential election this past Saturday as polls opened after a week-long delay, television images on Channels TV showed. The race to control the country with Africa's biggest economy pits Buhari, who is seeking a second term, against main opposition candidate Atiku Abubakar, a businessman and former vice president. Analysts have predicted a tight race. Buhari, who voted in his hometown of Daura in the northern state of Katsina, said, 'I will congratulate myself' when asked by reporters if he would congratulate his rival, should his rival win the election. *Reuters*

Buhari inspects who his wife voted for

ABUJA - A viral photo has shown Nigerian president Buhari ostensibly checking to see who his wife voted for in the ongoing presidential polls. Mrs Buhari got cleared to vote before her husband but Buhari was seen looking at her ballot before he proceeded into the booth to cast his ballot. The wife of the president looks to have allowed him so to do with the entire episode drawing laughter among the people present at the booth. Buhari is seeking a second and final term to govern Africa's most populous nation. He stressed being 'very hopeful indeed' after casting his ballot. *AfricaNews*

Counting starts in Nigeria's delayed poll

ABUJA - Nigerian officials began counting votes in its delayed election the past Saturday, after gunfire and explosions started voting day, as President Muhammadu Buhari seeks a second term in Africa's most populous nation. The vote, widely seen as too close to call, also was marred by hours-long delays at polling stations across the vast West African country. Polls closed in many areas, although voting continued in units that opened late. Preliminary results are expected in about two to four days, according to observers.

AFP

Prince Harry, Meghan arrive in Morocco

CASABLANCA - Prince Harry and his wife Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, have arrived in Morocco for an official trip scheduled to be their last international journey before she gives birth to their first child. Meghan is seven months pregnant and is expected to have their child in April. The royal couple's schedule began yesterday in the town of Asni in the Atlas Mountains to hear about the education of girls in rural communities. They will then travel to Rabat to meet with diplomats, influential women, young entrepreneurs and disabled athletes. *AP*

Focus on

SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

EFF takes issue with Jabu Mabuza's 'conflict of interest' at Eskom

JOHANNESBURG - The Economic Freedom Fighters said it wants new Eskom Board Chairperson Jabu Mabuza to step down following disclosures he made at the judicial commission of inquiry into state capture last Friday.

The EFF last Saturday said Mabuza

disclosed a 'serious conflict of interest' during his testimony that should have disqualified him from his position at the power utility.

Mabuza, who is currently chairing the new Eskom Board tasked with ridding the state-owned entity of impropriety, told the commission on

Friday that he had bought six per cent of shares in Sphere Investment worth R26m. He said that upon accepting the position of board chairperson in January 2018 he declared all his interests and resigned from future investment decisions at Sphere. The shares had also been put in a blind trust.

"Mabuza told the commission that he is an executive chair of a company that maintains a third of Eskom's boilers," EFF spokesperson Mbuyiseni Ndlozi said in a statement on Saturday.

Ndlozi was referring to Sphere's shares in Babcock and Honeywell, who have contracts with Eskom. The

use of a blind trust was not good enough, Ndlozi continued.

"The use of blind trusts by high profile executives in state-owned companies, including political office, is nothing but a web of dishonesty and deception used to hide the conflict of interest and dealings taking place to enrich the few, at the expense of South Africans," Ndlozi claimed. Mining interest *News24*

Zizi Kodwa denies rape allegations

JOHANNESBURG - ANC acting spokesperson Zizi Kodwa has denied the rape allegations levelled against him.

Kodwa released a statement denying allegations saying 'It's a dirty tricks campaign against me'.

Yesterday, the party confirmed receiving a letter from a woman-making the claims.

The ANC says it advised the woman to approach the police as the alleged incident happened at a private party last year.

In a statement released this morning, Kodwa describes the rape allegations as a grotesque attack on him and his reputation.

He says the letter his accuser sent to the ANC is replete with false accusations.

The acting spokesperson confirms that he is accused of rape, sexual assault and drugging two women.

But he says he denies the allegations with the contempt they deserve adding: "I refuse to succumb to extortion and blackmail."

Kodwa alleges that there are cowards operating from factional dark corners using women to neutralize him.

He says he will not be silenced through a dirty tricks campaign and is considering filing a case of extortion or defamation. *Eyewitness*

VOTERS LIKE CYRIL RAMAPHOSA MORE THAN THEY LIKE THE ANC: SURVEY

JOHANNESBURG - President Cyril Ramaphosa is more popular than the ANC, a survey by the party has found.

A poll conducted by the governing party's research unit says Ramaphosa has an approval rating of 73 per cent by South African voters, whereas only 60 per cent of those polled are pleased with the ANC.

The ANC has set itself a target of at least 60 per cent of the national vote in the May 8 polls, which would be an improvement from the 54 per cent national support it received in the 2016 local government elections.

The party received 62 per cent in the 2014 general elections.

But Ramaphosa's support may not automatically translate into ANC votes — as was the

case with former president Nelson Mandela, who was also more popular than the party but could not get it beyond 63 per cent of the vote.

"The people have got to see the president in the image of the ANC," said ANC head of elections Fikile Mbalula. "The two are not disconnected."

"When he acts in government and does good things, people see Ramaphosa, not the ANC, but that is so because of where we come from with an ANC that was associated with badness because of the head of state."

Timeslive



LOVE: SA President Cyril Ramaphosa.

DA admits 2018 was a bad year, focuses on 2019

JOHANNESBURG - The DA says it's put a bad year behind it and it's now more focused than ever on its election goals.

The party launched its manifesto for change yesterday, telling a packed stadium in Rosettenville that jobs, economic growth, border security and better policing, are top of its agenda.

Despite a year-long public spat with former Cape Town mayor Patricia de Lille and controversial statements by the party's former leader Helen Zille, the party is still hoping to continue on its growth path it's enjoyed since the 1994 elections to remain the country's chief opposition.



The party's Parliamentary Whip John Steenhuisen says the DA is the only party that's been putting up a real challenge to the ANC government, and exposing corruptions within its ranks.

"The year 2018 wasn't a great year for the DA

but we have come into 2019 on the front foot, far more focused on the external environment and focused on issues that matter to South Africans and it's represented in the manifesto."

Eyewitness news

Maimane reiterates no to land expropriation without compensation

JOHANNESBURG - DA leader Mmusi Maimane is threatening court action if Parliament decides to amend Section 25 of the Constitution to pave the way for land expropriation without compensation.

Launching the party's manifesto for the May elections in Johannesburg yesterday, Maimane said the party

was not opposing the amendment of the Constitution just for the sake of it.

The party says allowing land expropriation without compensation would mean citizens will have to rent their homes and land from government and they will never enjoy security of tenure.

Last week, a Parliamentary ad hoc

committee started working on its programme for the amendment, after the National Assembly adopted a resolution from the Constitutional review committee last year that the Constitution should be changed.

The DA is standing by its position that it does not support the ANC and EFF's plan for land expropriation without compensation.

Its manifesto says that land reform should be a tool for economic development and that land reform shouldn't mean that government must take from one to give to another.

The DA leader says his party wants people to own land and there should be no limits to the amount of holding.

Eyewitness

Eskom chair warns of threat to the economy should debt not be repaid

JOHANNESBURG - Eskom Board Chair Jabu Mabuza has described the consequences for the country and its economy if the power utility defaults on its debt repayments.

Mabuza took the stand at the Zondo Commission on Friday and is expected to conclude his testimony today.

Finance Minister Tito Mboweni announced this week that Eskom will receive a guarantee of R69 billion over the next three years to service its debt.

The power utility is sitting with a debt of over R400 billion.

There are funders that have extended loans to Eskom and those loans have a material default clause which, if breached, could have serious implications for the country.

The Eskom board chair explains: "A breach of any of the covenants within Eskom, the fatal effect of it whether they are Denel or SAA..."

Eyewitness

THE MAN WITH A TOOTH GROWING IN HIS NOSTRIL:

'Rare' condition left the 59-year-old with a blocked nose for 2 years

AARHUS - A 59-year-old man had a tooth growing in his nostril because of a rare condition which left him with a blocked nose for two years.

The strange growth, called an intranasal retained tooth, can be caused by physical damage or development problems but doctors couldn't explain this case.

After doing scans and investigations to try and work out what the growth was, doctors removed it during surgery and discovered it was an entire tooth.

Growing a tooth in the nostril is rare and thought to affect somewhere between 0.1 per cent and one per cent of the population but can go unnoticed.

The report was published in the journal BMJ Case Reports and included pictures which clearly show a pearly white tooth inside the unnamed man's nose.

Experts said they could only find 23 incidences of the odd condition recorded in medical journals between 1959 and 2008.

The man, who saw doctors at the Ear, Nose and Throat unit at University Hospital Aarhus, had been suffering from a blocked nose and loss of sense of smell over the past couple of years.

He had also had a regular milky discharge, particularly coming from the left nostril.

After topical nasal steroids - sprays to reduce swelling - had failed to solve his problems after a month, he saw a doctor.

"It can easily be missed", the doctors, led by Dr Milos Fuglsang, wrote. "Diagnosis is important since it potentially can cause disease."

A scan revealed the man's nose was crooked to one side and there was a mass growing in his nasal cavity.

Doctors suspected it was a cyst or even a tumour, and decided to operate and pull the growth out.

Previous case reports have described this condition happening when normal teeth are displaced after facial trauma, infections or developmental problems such as cleft palates.

They found the man had broken his jaw and nose when he was younger, which had needed surgery to reconstruct, but they couldn't find any link between the two incidents.

The doctors added: "Our patient most likely had the intranasal retained tooth most of his life, but had late onset of symptoms."

The patient was fine within a month after he used nasal saline irrigation and ten days of antibiotics.

"Intranasal teeth are a rare finding but important to recognise since nasal congestion, chronic discharge and hyposmia can decrease quality of life," the report concluded. *Daily Mail*



TOOTH-SMELL: When the unnamed man visited doctors to complain about a blockage in his nose and regular discharge, medics found a pearly white tooth growing into his nostril.



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC ON THE REVERSAL OF ESTIMATED ASSESSMENTS



Eswatini Revenue Authority (SRA) has noted an increase in the number of taxpayers requesting for reversal of estimated assessments raised by the Commissioner General. Taxpayers who end up with estimated assessment, in most cases have ignored the Commissioner's numerous reminders to file their income tax returns. These include amongst others, the annual public notices, phone calls and letters.

Estimated assessments are raised in accordance with Section 39 of the Income Tax Order 1975, as amended, which states that an estimated assessment may be raised by the Commissioner General in every case in which a taxpayer defaults in furnishing a return; or, if the return submitted by the taxpayer is unsatisfactory to the Commissioner General.

After the estimated assessment has been raised, the taxpayer has a right to object to that assessment within twenty-one days as provided for by Section 52(1) of the Order; note that failure to object within the time limit set above, renders the

assessment final and any tax due is collectable and must be paid by the taxpayer.

Caution: Upon publishing of this notice, the Commissioner General shall not reverse any estimated assessments issued against taxpayers who have failed to submit their returns, and have furthermore ignored reminders from the Commissioner General. Additionally, any failure to adhere to the notice / the provisions of the law will result to a liability as per the Income Tax Order 1975, as amended.

Taxpayers are further urged to advise the authority of their preferred mode of communication. This is required in order to facilitate receipt of communication from the SRA. Where the contact details or physical address have changed, taxpayers are cautioned on the legal obligation to notify the Commissioner General of the change.

DUMISANI E. MASILELA
Commissioner General

Focus on World News

Global News

NORTH KOREA REPORTS KIM'S SUMMIT WITH TRUMP

HANOI - North Korea on Sunday confirmed for the first time that its leader, Kim Jong Un, will hold a second summit with US President Donald Trump, days ahead of the high-stakes nuclear meeting in Vietnam's capital of Hanoi.

Kim left Pyongyang by train on Saturday afternoon for the February 27-28 summit accompanied by senior North Korean officials as well as his influential sister, North Korea's official KCNA news agency and its Rodong Sinmun newspaper reported.

Trump and Kim will meet in Hanoi eight months after their historic summit in Singapore, the first between a sitting US president and a North Korean leader,

where they pledged to work toward the complete denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula.

With little progress since then, the two leaders are expected to focus on what elements of North Korea's nuclear program it might begin to give up, in exchange for US concessions.

Coverage

In rare, revealing coverage of Kim's travel, while it is still going on, Rodong featured photographs of Kim getting a red-carpet honor-guard send-off in Pyongyang and waving from a train carriage door while holding a cigarette.

He was accompanied by top officials also involved in the Singapore summit, including Kim Yong Chol, a former spy chief and Kim's top envoy in negotia-

tions with the United States, as well as senior party aide Ri Su Yong, Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho and defense chief No Kwang Chol.

The North Korean leader's sister, Kim Yo Jong, who acted as a close aide to him in Singapore, is again part of the delegation, KCNA said.

The extensive coverage in the secretive North's official media was a contrast to the limited reporting that has traditionally prevailed during his foreign trips.

Other senior North Korean officials, such as his de facto chief of staff Kim Chang Son and Kim Hyok Chol, negotiations counterpart to US envoy Stephen Biegun, were already in Hanoi to prepare for the summit.



CONFIRMED: Kim Jong Un, will hold a second summit with US President Donald Trump.

France calls on Germany to ease arms export rules

BERLIN - French Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire said yesterday that Germany should ease its strict arms export rules for countries outside the European Union to strengthen the defence industry.

France has complained that joint arms manufacturing projects are being stalled by Berlin's refusal to authorise future arms export licenses to Saudi Arabia, a major buyer.

Germany said in November it would reject future arms export licenses to Riyadh over the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi. It has not formally banned previously approved deals but has urged industry to refrain from such shipments for now.

"It is useless to produce weapons through improved cooperation between France and Germany if we are unable to export them," Le Maire told Welt am Sonntag newspaper.

"If you want to be competitive and efficient, we need to be able to export to countries outside Europe," Le Maire said.

The minister said France also had relatively strict rules for arms exports. "Our hope is that we will come to an agreement with Germany in this crucial point," Le Maire said.

Germany and France are working on a joint proposal for arms export guidelines to non-European countries.

Reuters



EASE: French Finance and Economy Minister Bruno Le Maire.

Brexit must not be frustrated, Theresa May vows

LONDON - In a speech to Tory activists the PM said, as her negotiations with the EU reach their final stages, the 'worst thing we could do is lose our focus'.

It came as three pro-EU cabinet members warned they could vote to delay Brexit to prevent a 'disastrous' no-deal.

But Theresa May said there must be no party 'purges' over MPs with differing views.

Ahead of crucial votes in the Commons next week, Greg Clark, Amber Rudd and David Gauke told the Daily Mail they would be prepared to defy the prime minister and vote for a delay.

The intervention led to calls for their resignations by Tory Brexiters.

● Ahead of crucial votes in the Commons next week, Greg Clark, Amber Rudd and David Gauke told the Daily Mail they would be prepared to defy the prime minister and vote for a delay.

The UK remains on course to leave the European Union on March 29.

However, the government has repeatedly refused to rule out the possibility of the UK leaving without a formal deal, in the event that Mrs May cannot get MPs to approve the deal she negotiated with Brussels in time. Largest democratic exercise May's speech to the National Conservative Convention in Oxford on Saturday evening came as MPs prepare for a series of votes on Wednesday, which could see Parliament take control of the Brexit process.

Delegates at the convention overwhelmingly backed a symbolic motion saying Brexit should not be delayed, and leaving without an agreement should remain an option.

Clark, the business secretary, along with Rudd, the work and pensions secretary, and the justice secretary, Gauke, had earlier said they would be prepared to defy May and vote for a delay to Brexit.

They argued there 'simply will not be time to agree a deal and complete all the necessary legislation' unless a deal is approved

in the coming days.

An amendment tabled by former Tory Minister Sir Oliver Letwin and Labour's Yvette Cooper would give Parliament the opportunity to delay Brexit and prevent a no-deal situation if there is no agreement with the EU by the middle of March.

But May told activists: "Our focus to deliver Brexit must be absolute. We must not, and I will not, frustrate what was the largest democratic exercise in this country's history. In the very final stages of this process, the worst thing we could do is lose our focus." AP

BRIEFS

President faces calls to resign

TEHRAN - As Iran marked the 40th anniversary of its Islamic Revolution, a white-turbaned Shiite cleric at one commemoration targeted President Hassan Rouhani, a fellow clergyman, with this sign: "You who are the cause of inflation; we hope you won't last until spring."

Already lashed by criticism over his collapsing nuclear deal and renewed tensions with the US, the relatively moderate Rouhani faces anger from clerics, hard-line forces and an ever-growing disaffected public that now threatens his position.

AP

Princess announced as US ambassador

RIYADH - Saudi Arabia has announced that Princess Rima bint Bandar al-Saud will become its next ambassador to the US - the first woman ever to take on an envoy role for the kingdom.

Her appointment was made public in a royal decree this past Saturday. Princess Rima spent part of her childhood living in Washington DC. She assumes the role at a difficult time, as Saudi Arabia tries to quell an international outcry over journalist Jamal Khashoggi's death. After giving conflicting explanations of what happened, the Kingdom eventually admitted Khashoggi, who was once a Royal insider, was murdered after entering the country's consulate in Istanbul last year. BBC

'Manafort's' criminal actions were bold

WASHINGTON - Prosecutors from special counsel Robert Mueller's office wrote in a sentencing memo filed Friday for Paul Manafort that the former Trump campaign chairman's years of criminality were "bold" and continued even when and after he served as Donald Trump's campaign chair in the 2016 election.

The memo was made public last Saturday with some redactions, and prosecutors asked Judge Amy Berman Jackson to make sure the now-jailed 69-year-old may never walk free again. Manafort pleaded guilty in September to conspiracy against the US and conspiracy witness tampering. CNN

Expectations surge ahead of new talks

DOHA - The US and the Taliban are to meet in Qatar for fresh talks Monday seeking an end to 17 years of grinding conflict in Afghanistan, with the stakes ratcheting higher as the spring fighting season approaches.

Marathon talks held in Doha last month have stoked hopes of a breakthrough after the two sides walked away with a 'draft framework' that included a Taliban commitment to prevent Afghanistan from once again becoming a safe haven for international terror groups.

It was the most substantial engagement by Washington with the militants since US forces ousted them from power in 2001. AP

Observer Entertainment

New Reviews Star Signs Celebrity Watch Cartoons

SANDS PROVES HE'S 'THE GOLDEN BOY'

STORIES BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE
AND AYANDA DLAMINI

AWARD winning singer and songwriter Sands proved why he is the country's 'golden boy' during the 'Ndimbonile Night' held at Happy Valley on Saturday evening.

The singer packed one of the halls at the hotel with fans yearning to hear his music.

Fans were more than excited to see the singer as he last performed in the country during the FNB Smoothfest in 2018.

Looking at the audience, it was also clear that the singer has fans of different age groups as the audience was packed with children, middle aged and old aged people.

The night began on a high note as DJ Mixmash and Zwide entertained the guests with old school jams. The crowd started singing way before the two acts got on stage.

Taking to the stage first was South African singer and songwriter Loyiso Bala, who wowed the crowd with his voice and dance moves.

Loyiso mounted the stage ready to give it his all and the crowd was ready to receive as they were screaming and cheering him on.



SIMBONILE: Loyiso Bala and 'Sands' rendering their song 'Ndimbonile' during the 'Ndimbonile Night' at Happy Valley on Saturday. (Pics: Nokwanda Sibandze and Ayanda Dlamini)

Loyiso sang his hit song 'Dali Wami' which sent the crowd into a frenzy, as they started singing along with the singer. The audience loved the song so much they did not stop singing it. Loyiso even took the time to teach them the lyrics.

Not only did he sing his songs but the singer also serenaded the audience with John Legend's 'All of me'. The singer would engage the audience in-between songs by telling them about his life and reasons why he wrote some of the songs he performed.

"I wrote this song while I was still in Drakensberg. I met a girl that I liked back home and because I only saw her during school holidays, I decided to write the song titled 'Love of my life,'" said the singer.

During an interview with this publication, Loyiso said he amazed by how locals are able to keep their culture and fuse it into their modern way of living.

"I have not been to the country for almost 20 years and it is amazing how the people still uphold their culture,"

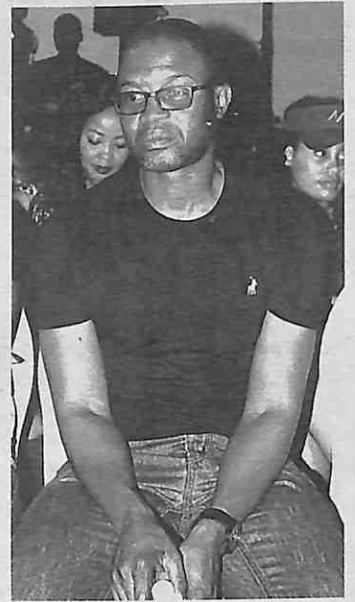
I am happy to support him in everything - Dad

DURING his performance, Sands took the time to acknowledge some of the special guests that attended the show.

Speaking to his father Sukulwenkhosi Nxumalo, he said he was proud of his son and he is happy to support him in whatever he does.

"More than anything, I am glad that he was not only able to break the beliefs that we had in our generation that music cannot be a career but he was also able to succeed in it and that makes us happy and proud," said Nxumalo.

PROUD FATHER: Sands' father Sukulwenkhosi Nxumalo enjoying the show.



High profile individuals in attendance

'NDIMBONILE Night' was graced by a number of high profile people as they had fun and got to see the South African star Loyiso Bala.

Notable faces were South African award winning artist Takie Ndou, Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harris 'Madze' Bulunga, SWAMA President Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini and African Alliance

CEO Nelisiwe Mabuza, to mention a few.

Allies

It would have not been Sands' show without his allies of the industry such as Velemseni, Floewe, Nomalungelo Dladla, Mozaik the Producer, award winning gospel artist Linda Dlamini and SwaziBoy Director 'Shadow', amongst many others.

WHAT PEOPLE HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE SHOW:

Nosipho Ndzinisa: Such a beautiful show it was. In as much as the show started a bit late, trust me, it was worth the wait.

Sandile Nxumalo: I haven't been out for sometime. So today I decided to take a chance and attend this show. I am not regretting my decision. I've always missed Sands' show;

clearly I've been missing out.

Belinda Chester: Wow. What a show. This is beautiful. Sands has grown so much. He's indeed a superstar. Can his stable host another show next week please?

Nosipho Nkonde: This was a beautiful show. Sands and Loyiso outdid themselves. I'm impressed.

he said.

He also said it was wonderful how South Africans embraced Sands' music, which proves the point that Africa is one nation.

He continued to sing more songs, including the gospel track 'Siyabonga'. The singer left the stage and Sands

took over.

It was a night of new songs for the singer as he went on stage singing one of his new tracks 'Ngizithandaza', which has a gospel beat.

The singer continued to perform new songs even though the crowd already knew some of them.

SWAZI JIVE ANNOUNCES 'HIPNOTIK' COMEBACK

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

THIS may come as good news to all the hip-hop festival lovers as Swazi Jive Entertainment Director Sakhile Nkambule took to social media yesterday to announce that there would be a Hipnotik 2019 Festival.

This comes after Nkambule had announced that he will no longer be hosting the festival in the country

because of unstated reasons.

In 2018, Nkambule said he would be hosting the show outside of Eswatini but the stable would continue to operate. Details about the festival will be revealed as the year progresses. Speaking to Nkambule, he said he decided to bring the festival back in the country because of the fans.

"I really brought it back because of the fans and nothing more, there isn't a bigger reason to it than that," said

Nkambule.

Since 2014, the festival has seen a bit with its fans. Having hosted a number of local and international artists, this year the festival will do the same.

Usually held at Greyhound in Ezulwini, the festival has hosted international artist such as Kwesta, AKA, Nadia Nakai, Cassper Nyovest, Khuli Chana and many others. Local artists who have performed at the Hipnotik include DJ Master P, SmokeyandWigo, Qibho

Intalektual, amongst many others.

Fans of the festival were delighted to hear the news. Lindelwa Mamba, who said she has attended every Hipnotik Festival ever held in the country, was delighted to hear the news.

"This is great news, I was heartbroken when I heard that the festival might not happen ever again but this is just the best news I've heard all week and I will definitely attend again," said Mamba.



COMEBACK: Swazi Jive Entertainment Director Sakhile Nkambule.

EMOTIONS FLARE AT SBU J'S SHOW

STORIES BY DELISA THWALA

IT was a spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings during Sbu J's show dubbed 'A poet's Intuition' held at the Eswatini Theatre Club the past Saturday evening.

The show was to help him raise funds to pay off his tuition fees so he could attain his degree. As he had promised, the night was fun-filled.

Directing the proceedings were the vibrant duo of Elfoe Masilela and Nana Sambo, who kept the crowd entertained. The lined-up artists also did their best and delivered a great show, these included Hip Hop boy LK Baba, Mbuli Nation, who made everyone dance. The poetry on the night was spectacular as it saw performances by TK the poet, Thembisa, Ngomane and Be Seen. They all delivered stellar performances. The artists

all received standing ovations.

Gracing the show was European Union Ambassador to Eswatini Esmeralda Hernandez Aragonés, who actually was one of the first people to arrive at the venue.

She seemed to have enjoyed the show as she stayed until the show was over.

The highlight of the event before Sbu J mounted the stage, were the two ladies who brought the house down, Thobile Makhoyane and MoCats.

Thobile had everyone in tears with her soulful deliverance.

MoCats, who has not been performing for the past three years, marked her comeback with three performances, which touched everyone's heart in the room.

Then the man

of the moment came onto the stage, where he left all emotions and feelings he had ever felt. Sbu J delivered touching pieces and had everyone highly emotional when he dedicated his second piece to his mother. He thrilled the audience when he rendered a poem titled 'Dear Ngeti,' which was about a man apologising to his woman.

A number of people were seen sobbing and some wiping their tears away as the poet poured his heart out on stage.

The audience was mostly made up of students from the University

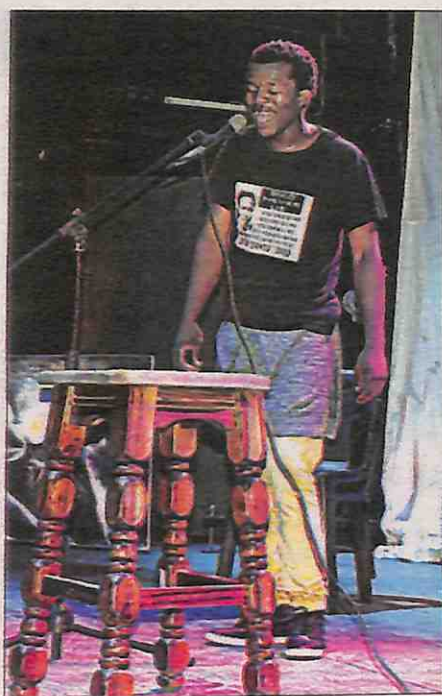
of Eswatini, who had come to support their fellow student. The poet said he had never expected so many people to attend the show, and he was more than grateful to each and every one who bought the tickets.

"The show was emotional for me, seeing my family in the audience and everyone who had promised to come truly filled my heart, I may not have reached the target but I have accomplished my dream," he added.

He said the funds collected did not reach the set target but he was thankful either way and said he was grateful to the pledges made further requesting people interested in pledging to contact him.



THANK YOU: Man of the moment Sbu J thanked everyone for taking time to attend his show, which was held at Eswatini Theatre Club in Mbabane last Saturday evening.



POEM: Ngomane doing what he is well-known for.



SUPPORT: Swazi Observer Managing Director Allan Mkhonta and News Reporter Bahle Gama attended the show in support of their former colleague MoCats.

More pledges for Sbulelo

THE event saw award-winning poet Majaha Nkonyane, who also performed on the night pledging E1 000 to the initiative 'Help a Poet get a Degree' and said he wanted to see his friend get his degree and improve his family.

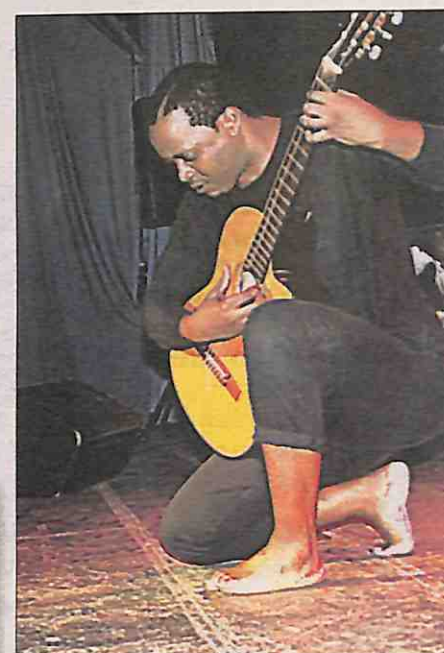
"Boy, I'm pledging a thou-

sand Emalangeni from my pay cheque for you to get that degree," he announced before leaving the stage. Also pledging E1 000 was a businessman who refused to be named, but said he was also lending a hand for the poet's degree.

"My company is pledging E1

000, you deserve this man," he said. The last pledge was from art-man Thapelo, who was selling art on the night and said all proceeds from the art he was selling will go towards the poet.

"Good people, the King's birthday is soon approaching, buy this art and present him and also help a poet," he loudly announced on stage.



BHEJANE: Black Rhino left everyone in stitches with his performance, which depicted that of 'Lutsango'



FUNNY GUY: MC of the night Elfoe Masilela.



IMPRESSED: Appreciations were the order of the night.



POWERFUL: Thobile Makhoyane delivered a powerful performance.

ALSO THERE: Dr Shakes also delivered a brief set.



NDIMBONILE NIGHT A BLAST



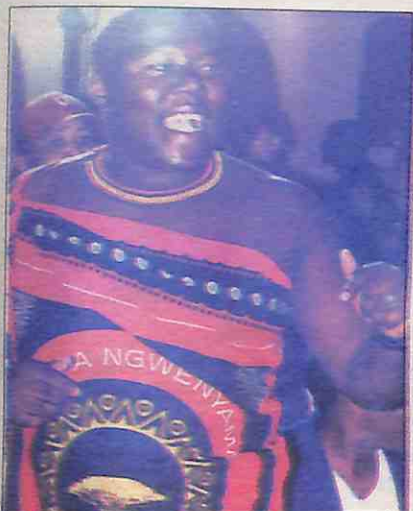
PERFECT: Sands and Loyiso Bala performing the song 'Ndimbonile' during the 'Ndimbonile Night' this past Saturday at Happy Valley Hotel. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini and Nokwanda Sibandze)



MR MC: The MC of the night Phila 'P.h.D' Dlamini directing proceedings on the night.



IN SONG: Loyiso Bala showing off his singing skills to the crowd.



MOOD: SWAMA President Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini was there to support Sands.



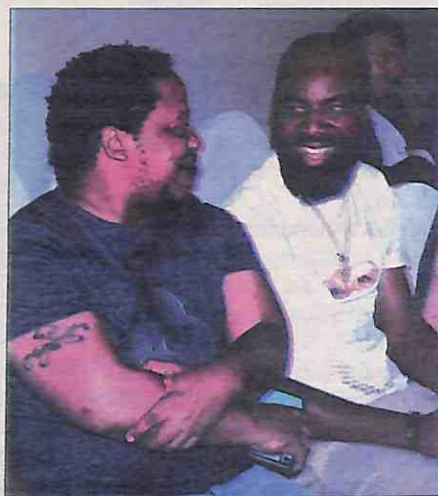
SUPPORT: Songbirds Velemseni, Floewe and Nomalungelo dancing to music rendered by Sands.



ME: These ladies were mesmerised by Sands as they tried to reach out their hands to him.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Sands giving his friend some cake to celebrate his birthday.



THE BOYS: Shadow Zwane and Stix Nxumalo having a conversation during the show.



THAT'S MY SONG: Some of the ladies enjoying the show.



LALA LA: Sands singing 'Tigi' during his performance.



GREETINGS: South African Gospel singer Takie Ndou greeting Minister Harries 'Madze' Bulunga and Loyiso Bala at the event.



Celebville

International Celebrity News

US\$1m bail for R. Kelly in sexual abuse case

CHICAGO - R. Kelly reportedly failed to post the \$100k bond by the cut-off time of 9pm in Chicago, so he'll have to spend the night in jail.

We're told until R. Kelly makes bail, he's being held in a holding pen by himself because the jail doesn't want him interacting with other inmates for safety reasons. R. Kelly's considered a "high profile individual," and if he doesn't bond out, he'll be placed in his own cell.

TMZ's also obtained video of Joycelyn and Azriel leaving the courthouse. Neither woman had anything to say about Kelly's case or their relation-



IN JAIL: R. Kelly.

ship with their parents.

Joycelyn Savage and Azriel Clary were both in the courtroom for R. Kelly, and were reportedly sitting in the first row reserved for friends and family during his hearing.

TMZ

'From the 'victim' to the 'culprit'

CHICAGO - Empire star and musician Jussie Smollett has been the subject of many headlines in the past few weeks after a violent attack landed him in hospital. Now, the story has gone a different direction, with Smollett facing charges and public backlash.

In late January, the actor was hospitalised in Chicago, US, after he claimed he was attacked by two men who put his head in a noose and shouted, "This is MAGA (Make America Great Again) country", TMZ reported.

The police said the perpetrators poured a chemical substance on Smollett and beat him with their hands.

Smollett received wide support



CULPRIT: Jussie Smollett.

from fellow entertainers and US politicians, including Nancy Pelosi and former US vice-president Joe Biden.

News 24

Veteran musician Dorothy Masuka dies

SOWETO - Veteran jazz musician Dorothy Masuka has died at the age of 83, her family confirmed.

Masuka had been suffering from complications related to hypertension after suffering a mild stroke last year.

"She was in the comfort of her home surrounded by her children and grandchildren," said family spokesperson Fortune Hute. Hute said that Masuka would be remembered for staying true to herself and her craft.

One of Masuka's last stage performances was at Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's funeral last year.

On social media, tributes have



RIP: Dorothy Masuka.

been pouring in for 'Mam Masuka'. **Times Live**

Naked DJ and his wife announce split

CAPE TOWN - Just two years after tying the knot in a fairytale wedding ceremony, Metro FM DJ Quinton 'Naked DJ' Masina and Real Housewives of Johannesburg star Naledi Willers have confirmed they have split.

The model made the announcement on her Instagram account on Thursday, telling fans they had ended their relationship and were now "permanently separated".

"I wish to announce that Quinton Masina and I are no longer in a relationship. As it has been a public one to a certain degree, I feel it fitting to formally announce that we have ended



SPLIT: DJ Quinton 'Naked DJ' Masina and Naledi Willers.

things, permanently separated and are no longer staying together," she said in an official statement.

Naledi also removed any pictures she had of them together from her social media pages. **Times Live**

Kim, Khloe Kardashian shut down Bachelorette

HOLLYWOOD - Kim Kardashian West blasted 'Bachelor' creator Mike Fleiss for claiming he's in talks to make Khloe the next 'Bachelorette', and shared texts showing he's full of it.

Kim went off on Twitter on Saturday in response to Mike's earlier tweet that he'd been in contact with his 'dear friend' Kris Jenner about Khloe being 'The Bachelorette' next season, by calling it "Fake f***ing news big time!!!!" Fleiss replied saying Kim wouldn't know, so she fired back with a screenshot of a text between her mom and her sister deny-



BLAST: Kim and Khloe Kardashian.

ing his claims. Khloe also went after Mike with a little extra animosity and a threat, tweeting, "I'm not f***ing clickbait right now. Stop or you will be hearing from my lawyers. How insensitive!!!" **TMZ**

UK backlash at Meghan's lavish US baby shower

LONDON - Meghan Markle drew fresh scorn from British media this week after celebrating the imminent arrival of her first baby with what they described as an "extravagant" trip to New York in a private jet.

The Duchess of Sussex, due to give birth in the spring, returned to Britain on Thursday after enjoying a party with celebrity friends at what British papers referred to as "the most expensive hotel suite in the US".

The party, hosted at Manhattan's Mark Hotel by Serena Williams and attended by other high-profile figures including Amal Clooney, saw guests serenaded by a harpist and



SMILES: Meghan Markle.

given expensive gifts, they reported.

Although neither Markle nor British taxpayers footed the bill, The Times led the critically-toned coverage, headlining its article on Friday: "Meghan's extravagant New York baby shower provokes flood of indignation." **Showbiz**

Malaika to rekindle their magic on stage

PRETORIA - The Malaika reunion that we have been waiting a decade for is finally happening.

Following a very nasty public break-up, Sowetan can confirm that the '90s music group that brought us chart-topping hits such as 'Destiny' and 'Sebakanyana' have kissed and made up.

Malaika will reunite on stage on March 8 headlining the Waar was Jy, Remember the Time concert at Time Square's Sun Arena in Pretoria.

Speaking to Sowetan yesterday, the two remaining members of the band Bongani Nchang and Tshedi Mholo said they could not wait to rock the stage once again.

The other member, Jabu Ndaba,



BACK: Malaika.

is deceased.

"It's a new year and we are just looking forward to touching base yet again. This is a rebirth in a way," Mholo said.

Sowetan Live

'I won't pretend to be okay with you when I'm not'

SOWETO - Zodwa Wabantu won't pretend to be cool with you to ease your conscience and her forgiveness ain't for free.

Zodwa has also been accused of wearing less clothing by the day and has received more insults across different social media platforms. She made it clear that she doesn't care much for such comments and it's not her fault they have a problem with her.

"I see everything; it's just that other things I am just not interested in. Like I can't pretend. The thing is if you do wrong by me, I see no use of forgiving you or continuing to both-



REVEALS: Zodwa Wabantu.

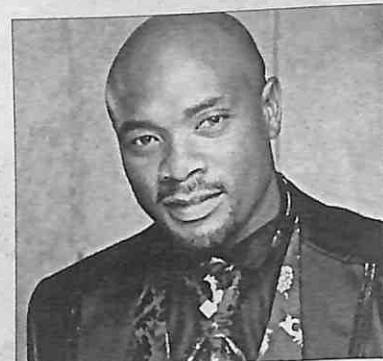
er myself with you. If you have done me wrong, that's how it will stay".

Times Live

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST



TODAY



CHOOSE: Mpiyakhe.

Ntwenhle makes a stunning discovery about Dabula and the mall. Mpiyakhe decides to choose a dark and self-destructive path. Lillian convinces Qaphela to see the world her way.



TODAY

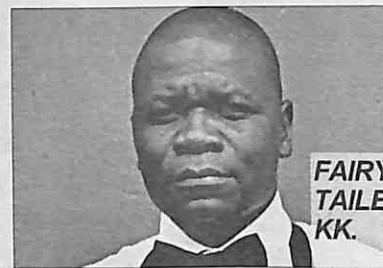


AHEAD: Lincoln.

Lincoln gets a step ahead of his enemies. When forced to face the truth about their affair, Wendy and Hendrik surprisingly have very different reactions and Mpumi sees trouble between her friends.



TODAY



Marang and KK's romance is blossoming into a fairytale. Mollehi and James' divorce negotiations begin. Mpho suspects something is amiss with Shaz once again.



TODAY



TO BE NAILED: David.

Maponya and Madikgetla try to figure out a way to nail David. Sabelo is conflicted about the dirty money Dumi brings home. Mampho and Reneilwe trap Joe and Constance.

PICTURE OF THE DAY

My Uncle has a side chick so he stored her name "Battery Low". Whenever the side chick calls and my Uncle is not around, My Aunt just connect a charger and life goes on 😊😊😊



IT'S ALL LOVE

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19

The energy that you feel today may have you so jittery that others don't know what to do with you, Capricorn. The day's influences can bring a boost. You'd be wise to plan things to do to expend it all. Get busy with physical chores at work or home. Pull things out and organize, move furniture around, whatever it takes. It's better to be productive than drive everyone crazy.



Aquarius January 20 – February 18

Venturing into something new and different may be what you need, Aquarius. You have a very solid, practical side to your personality, but the need for excitement and adventure is likely to be just as strong. If you've had your nose to the grindstone recently, take some time off for fun. Visit a friend or, better yet, drive to a place you haven't been to and explore.



Pisces February 19 – March 20

You may want to learn about something today, Pisces. At work and home there's a set schedule of what you must tend to and when. On your own time, you're free to research anything your heart desires. Intellectual growth is something you enjoy, so why not spend time online or in the library finding out more about your favourite things? Whether cooking or genealogy, you will find something new.



Cancer June 22 – July 22

Your nature is intense, Cancer. You probably feel things deeply and spend a lot of time lost in thought. Yet, too much intensity can take a toll on your health and well-being. It might be time to go out and enjoy yourself. Get up from the chair and take a walk. Meet someone for lunch or do a little shopping or yoga. Find something active to do to break the monotony of your routine.



Leo July 23 – August 22

Feed your mind today, Leo. While you no doubt enjoy being active and social, you get bored fairly quickly, too. You need a constant supply of intriguing, fresh material in order to feel your best. Explore an interesting subject or learn a new hobby. Stimulate your mind and your body will become more energetic. Use the Internet if you can't get away.



Aries March 21 – April 19

If you happen to meet new people today, Aries, be careful. Some folks appear interesting because they're bold or dangerous. Perhaps they do things you'd never dream of doing. This may seem interesting, but it can lead to trouble and hurt you if you aren't careful. Stick to your usual standards and ethics. If danger excites you too much, it may be time to re-examine your life and change things.



Scorpio October 24 – November 21

Scorpio, don't be fooled by others who aren't straight with you. If you don't know the person well, trust your instincts. You tend to care for others, so it can be easy for you to feel sorry for someone and be inclined to help. Make sure that the person you help really deserves it and is telling you the whole story. Taking this extra time can save you problems later.



Libra September 23 – October 23

Consider putting your problem-solving skills to work today, Libra. You have a real flair for investigating situations and figuring out what happened. If something comes your way that seems mysterious, take the bull by the horns and get to the truth. If you're baffled, use the process of elimination to narrow things down. Stick with it and you will learn what's what in no time.



Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

It could be easy to get carried away today, Sagittarius. You might get caught up in some excitement or base your decisions on another's word. You need to use your head on a day like this. Double-check everything and moderate your activities. Keep your limitations in mind.



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PUZZLE CHOICE

YAKETY-YAK

Can you find the mythical creatures hidden in the box? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.

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SMART PUPIL

Teacher: Tell me a sentence that starts with an 'I'. Pupil: I is the... Teacher: Stop! Never put 'is' after an 'I'. Always put 'am' after an 'I'. Pupil: OK. I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.

USELESS FACTS

1. The storage capacity of human brain exceeds 4 Terabytes.
2. In Vermont, the ratio of cows to people is 10:1
3. Any free-moving liquid in outer space will form itself into a sphere, because of its surface tension.
4. The average American looks at eight houses before buying one.
5. In the average lifetime, a person will walk the equivalent of 5 times around the equator.

BRAINTEASERS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Friday's Brainteasers

1. What is easy to catch but hard to throw?
Answer: Your breath or an illness (a cold, virus, the flu etc).
2. What goes up as rain comes down?
Answer: Umbrella

Today's Brainteasers

1. Jessica just turned 13 years old. Her father Chris is 40 years old. How many years ago was Chris four times as old as Jessica?
2. I am in heaven but not in hell. I'm in the devil but not in god. I'm in the river but not in the sea



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NEWS



BRING BACK MGJIMI?

...Is Mgijimi the only one who can save MaMkhize?

SIBONGILE Mkhize-Zungu has been missing since the day after her wedding without a trace.

If there is one person who can find a needle in a haystack, or a kidnapped wife, it's Mgijimi. Should Mpiyakhe take the risk to get his wife back?

Mgijimi's track record with helping the Zungu family find their loved ones speaks for itself. Mgijimi gets the job done. However, at what risk? Mpiyakhe Zungu has been completely overcome by *umkhovu* a couple of times and both times it seemed he was on the brink of never coming back. Bringing MaMkhize back may be well worth the risk, but what good will it do if she loses her husband in the process?

What is the cost of a life? Will it be Sibongile's life for Mpiyakhe's?

When Judas Ngwenya kidnapped the Zungu children and waged a massive war against Mpiyakhe, it was Mgijimi to the rescue. Not only was Manqoba returned safely home, but Mgijimi waged a one-man war against the entire Ngwenya army and won with ease.

However, Thandeka often struggled to control Mgijimi, and he disappeared leaving the family longing for their father and husband. Can Thandeka really control Mgijimi this time?

Another factor to consider is the return of the dreaded Sunday Nkabinde who seems to have taken over Mehlo's body and mind. How could Thandeka possibly control Mgijimi with Sunday Nkabinde pulling the strings? Mehlo is pushing for Mpiyakhe Zungu to make the transformation – just imagine how powerful the evil Sunday Nkabinde would be if Mgijimi were his lap-dog?

What is the cost of a life?

Will it be Sibongile's life for Mpiyakhe's?

Stay tuned to #Isibaya every Monday to Friday at 20:30 to find out!



Cartoon Network powers DStv's new pop-up channel

SUPERHEROHQ is an exciting new Pop-Up channel premiering on DStv, super-powered by Cartoon Network.

SuperheroHQ is where universally appealing superheroes will share their best stories about saving the world and their most action-packed adventures, offering viewers an almighty battle between the best of animated adventures against the unsurpassed action-packed superhero movies for the whole family to enjoy!

Between 15 and 31 March, these much-loved superheroes will set up home on DStv channel 300. During the day, the children will get to enjoy eight of their favourite animated, caped-hero series like Batman, Superman, Justice League, Green Lantern and Teen Titans. Then, in the evenings, the whole family can settle down to watch some superhero sagas such as the four Superman films, and all three Spy Kids movies. For fans of the legendary animated superhero movies, the ultimate selection has been made including 'The LEGO® Batman' Movie, 'Batman Gotham Knight', and 'Justice League: Throne of Atlantis'.

But, it's not only superheroes that will be making their rounds in this domain; they will join forces with acclaimed South African comedian, Comic's Choice Award and Emmy Award nominee, Mojak Lehoko, who brings some African flavour and lots of laughter to the channel, on and off air. In-between the anticipated superhero programming, Lehoko will present super-comedic stand-up videos where he identifies with the humour found in the superheroes of the channel.

"I like being creative, always trying to do new things, and now being part of Cartoon Network's Pop-Up channel, with relatable characters, makes me feel like a superhero! This channel is a special treat for the legions of superhero fans - young and old - delivering thrilling action as well as moments to laugh out loud," says Lehoko.

Exclusive to DStv Premium, Compact Plus and Compact, SuperheroHQ is the exciting channel where your favourite superheroes will gather for the holidays. For the full schedule, as well as the latest information, visit www.DStv.com

List of titles on Superhero HQ Pop-Up channel:

Series:

Batman the Brave and the Bold; Batman the Animated Series; Superman the Animated Series; Green Lantern; Justice League Action; Young Justice League; Justice League Unlimited and Teen Titans.

TV Movies:

Batman Gotham Knight; Batman Beyond: Return of the Joker; Batman VS Robin; Justice League: Doom; Superman/Batman: Public Enemies; Superman/Batman: Apocalypse; Green Lantern: First Flight; Lego Batman: The Movie - DC Super Heroes Unite; Lego DC Comics Super Heroes: Justice League: Attack of the Legion of Doom!

All the drama on 'The Bachelor SA'

THIS week's hour-long episode of M-Net's reality dating show 'The Bachelor SA' delivered on all the drama, romance, and adventure viewers were promised at the start of the season.

Graceful Belle and recipient of South Africa's first-impression rose, Michelle Reddy, was called out on her lack of authenticity by feisty sports coach Thenji and later the whole house. Feeling attacked, the damsel stormed out of the mansion in tears and demanded to be left alone. "Being ambushed is not a nice feeling," Michelle said. "I thought certain girls would stand up [for me]... and nobody did."

The claws came out early at the mansion and the only person to take on Thenji was the show's sweetheart, Gina Myers. While things were being shaken up, sustainable lifestyle brand

● Thenji and Michelle R. have a dramatic confrontation and three women say goodbye on The Bachelor SA



owner and blonde bombshell, Kelly, was enjoying the first one-on-one date with her hunk, Lee Thompson. The two enjoyed a romantic tour around Lee's hometown, Cape Town, and later relaxed on a yacht with the Mother City's beautiful sunset as backdrop.

Date

During the date, Lee and Kelly developed a strong connection and also enjoyed some intimate moments, after which he presented her with a rose.

Kelly returned to the mansion beaming, saying that "it feels like I'm falling fast and I don't like it".

Earlier that week, 10 lucky girls were invited on the very first group

date - to a rugby field! "Play ball and you are in with a sporting chance," the date card read. Lee invited Lucy, Annalene, Natasha, Jenna, Thenji, Milisha, Kerry, Shelly, Michelle D., and Mbali who made it clear that she wasn't impressed at being invited to a sporting activity date.

The girls were divided into two teams, 'Peaches' and 'Lee's Angels' where they played a round of Zorb ball to win a breakaway date with their potential future partner, Lee. At the end of the game, Lee's Angels (Lucy, Jenna, Thenji, Shelly, and Mbali) came out strong and got the opportunity to get to know him better at a luxurious spa tucked away in the heart of Johannesburg.



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Leicester sack Puel after humiliating home defeat

LONDON - Claude Puel has been sacked by Leicester, with Brendan Rodgers the firm favourite to take over.

Leicester have acted after the 4-1 home defeat by Crystal Palace meant the side have lost seven of the last nine games.

The atmosphere among players at Puel's methods is said to be at rock bottom, and the pre-season target of seventh appears a remote prospect. The club are 12th, only eight points above the relegation places.

Reported

Sportsmail reported before Christmas how Puel's position was precarious due to low morale at Belvoir Drive, with communication, selections, and training said to be problematic.

Victories over Chelsea and Manchester City saved his job but Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha has decided a change is required now.

A double from Wilfried Zaha sent Roy Hodgson's Crystal Palace side to within two points of Leicester and it proved Puel's final act. Claudio Ranieri and Craig Shakespeare were also sacked

... as club make Celtic manager Rodgers their No 1 target



SACKED: Claude Puel has been sacked by Leicester, with Brendan Rodgers the firm favourite to take over.

after failing to win in six consecutive matches.

Sportsmail understands Rodgers has been Leicester's prime target for a number of weeks, and the club will now try to convince the former Liverpool boss to leave Celtic immediately.

It had been thought the 46-year-old wanted to see out the campaign in Scotland. A Leicester statement on Sunday read: 'The club would like to thank Claude for his efforts in leading

the team during his 16 months in the role and wish him well in his future career.

"Assistant Manager Jacky Bonnevay also departs with the club's best wishes. First Team Coaches Mike Stowell and Adam Sadler, supported by the club's established backroom staff, will assume responsibility for the senior squad while the club begins the process of appointing a new manager." *Daily Mail*

Furious Pochettino has to be held back

LONDON - Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino had to be dragged away from referee Mike Dean after his team suffered a 2-1 defeat by Burnley at Turf Moor.

The Argentinean initially walked away after making his point to the match official - before turning back to confront Dean after the Englishman appeared to provoke the manager.

Dean controversially awarded Burnley a corner in the second half from which Chris Wood headed the hosts into the lead, but the Spurs boss seemed to be angered by comments made at full-time.

Edged

As Pochettino edged closer to Dean, Spurs coach Jesus Perez decided to intervene, also telling the official what he thought before restraining his colleague.

Another decision went against the visitors in the second half when Dean opted against sending off Burnley defender Phil Bardsley for an erratic tackle on Danny Rose.

Pochettino refused to discuss what was said in his post-

match interview with Sky Sports. He said: "What happened on the pitch, happened on the pitch. We keep going."

We made a few mistakes, we concede the two goals. "Congratulate Burnley, they fight a lot. We don't deserve the defeat but that is football and I cannot say nothing. I can only keep going and be ready for next Wednesday. "It was an important game, I

believe before the game we knew it would be decisive if we want to be a contender at the end of the season." *Daily Mail*



DRAGGED AWAY: Tottenham Manager Mauricio Pochettino

TENDER

Invitation for submission of Bids (IFB) Tender number EWSC 14 OF 2018/19

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MPOFU INTAKE WORKS - INFILTRATION GALLERY

The Eswatini Water Services Corporation (EWSC) in conjunction with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy's Department of Water Affairs hereby invites sealed bids from eligible engineering service providers for the design-construct contract of an Intake Works for the Mpofu Rural Water Scheme. The scope of works shall include a Gabion Cage, Collection Sump, Transmission pipeline from Sump to Control House, Drop cable from the Sump to the Control House, Valves and Valve Chambers and a Control House. Production of designs, construction, commissioning and handover of completed works is expected from the Prospective Bidder.

Bidding documents may be downloaded from the Eswatini Water Services Corporation website www.swsc.co.sz. Bid documents may be purchased for a non-refundable cash deposit of E1000.00 (One thousand Emalangeni only) from the Gables or Swazi Plaza, Mbabane EWSC Revenue offices; proof of payment shall be included in the bid.

Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after bid opening and shall be accompanied by a bank guaranteed tender bond of E10 000.00 (Ten thousand Emalangeni). Bids shall be delivered in an envelope marked "Design & Construct the Mpofu Intake Works" to a designated tender box at the address below:

Eswatini Water Services Corporation
Emtfontjeni Headquarters Building
Corner MR103 and Cultural Village Road
Ezulwini

The closing time for receipt of tenders is 12:00hrs on Friday 8 March 2019, at which time they will be opened in the presence of bidders who elect to attend. Telegraphic, telephonic, telex, facsimile, e-mail and late tenders will not be accepted.

A compulsory site inspection will be conducted on Tuesday the 26 February 2019. Prospective Bidders must meet the Corporation's Engineer or representative (Coordinate: 25°57' 54"S 31°32'33"E) at MR 5 T-junction to Mpofu at 11:00am.

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MANAGING DIRECTOR

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Visit: www.swsc.co.sz

DOC:18509

Man U 'make contact' with agents of Sporting Lisbon

LONDON - Manchester United have made contact with the agents of Sporting Lisbon captain Bruno Fernandes.

The attacking midfielder has previously been linked with a multi-million pound move to Liverpool in the Portuguese press, but United have now also expressed an interest, according to A Bola.

Fernandes has had an outstanding season with Sporting, who are currently fourth in the Portuguese top flight.

The 24-year-old has been involved in 33 goals this season in all competitions, making 11 assists and scoring 22 for the capital city club.

Potential

The sports paper reports that Sporting could be receptive to potential interest due to the big money involved, with the club currently struggling financially off the field. Fernandes has been crucial to Sporting's recovery following the turmoil induced by the chaotic reign of former

club president Bruno de Carvalho.

The controversial president of the Portuguese giants was finally dismissed from the club after nine players—including Wolves goalkeeper Rui Patrício—decided to tear up their contracts.

That followed a period in which 50 supporters attacked players and coaches at the club's training ground towards the end of the season. They also hired and then sacked Sinisa Mihajlovic over a period of nine days.

Daily Mail

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South African SOCCER

Cape Town City announce signing of Chris David

Larsen credits former Chippa United coaches for current form

DURBAN - Chippa United coach Clinton Larsen has credited the work of the men before him after leading the team on a six-match unbeaten run since taking over.

Larsen joined Chippa in January and the team has showed impressive form under the former Golden Arrows coach, who revealed his plans going forward.

"About our form of late, I must give credit to our former coaches. I came to a club that had a good foundation, unfortunately results were not coming," Larsen said.

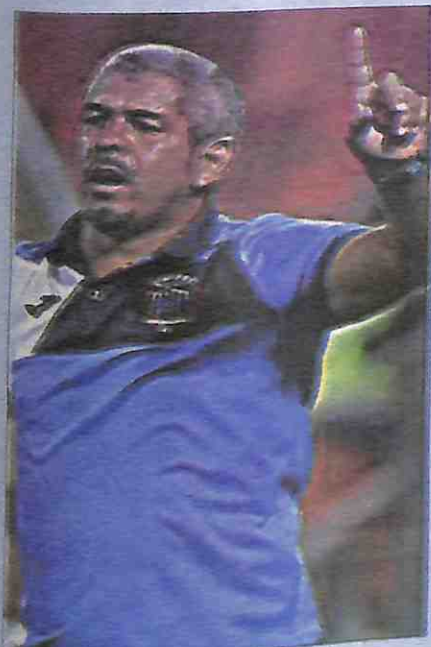
Played

"Going forward we need to make sure we keep momentum. I have guys who haven't played yet and we also have seniors like Daine Klate, Lerato Manzini, Mark Mayambela and William Twala who I believe have a big role to play in this team.

"We are a work-in-progress, the confidence is back from the guys, even though I feel we need to be ruthless up front."

Chippa now aim to move further up the log and with Nedbank Cup still on their menu, Larsen believes every player in his team must be ready to fight at any given time.

"Those who are not playing right now need to look at others and be motivated, be ready for their time because if we want to compete with the likes Mamelodi Sundowns, Orlando Pirates and Cape Town City who have raised the bar, every player must be ready," he added.



CREDITED: Chippa United coach Clinton Larsen.

CAPE TOWN - Only days after announcing the capture of former Ajax Cape Town captain Travis Graham, Cape Town City have confirmed yet another signing.

Despite the transfer window being closed, City are raiding the free agent market as they look to challenge for Premier Soccer League (PSL) and Nedbank Cup honours.

This has seen them look to a former English Premier League player in Dutchman Chris David.

The 25-year-old has featured for clubs such as Fulham in England as well as Go Ahead Eagles, FC Utrecht and FC Twente in his homeland.

Represented

David has also represented the Netherlands at junior level, and Citizens coach Benni McCarthy will hope that the Dutch winger can add some additional bite to his attack especially after Ayanda Patosi recently left the club. According to the club, who announced David's acquisition yesterday-morning, the midfielder has penned a two-and-a-half-year deal at the club.

Nonetheless, expectations will be high of the Amsterdam-born player as City continue to push the limits and challenge the South African status quo. McCarthy's men currently find themselves in fourth position on the league table after over-



DEAL DONE
Chris David in action.

coming Maritzburg United 3-2 last Saturday. This has put City just five points behind log leader Bidvest Wits and has them firmly in a spot to challenge for domestic honours. City are also still alive and kicking in the Nedbank Cup and with the likes

of Mamelodi Sundowns, Orlando Pirates and SuperSport United out of the competition, the Cape Town-based outfit may fancy their chances now more than ever of winning another piece of silverware this season. *Goal*

Micho happy with Bucs' response after SuperSport defeat

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates coach Milutin 'Micho' Sredojevic was pleased to see his side return to winning ways against AmaZulu FC following a defeat to SuperSport United.

The Buccaneers secured an impressive 4-1 win over AmaZulu in a PSL match which was played at the Orlando Stadium last Saturday, having lost to SuperSport last Wednesday.

"Living on the philosophy; when it's bad do not give up and when it's good do not fly. We're aware that on Wednesday we were on the opposite - the losing side," Sredojevic told SuperSport TV.

"It was a good medicine in preparation for this match because we believe we don't have a footballing problem but a mental problem. After the setback on Wednesday, today we answered well from the start. However, against the run of play due to one turnover we got punished," he continued.

Goals from Kudakwashe Mahachi, Luvuyo Memela, Justin Shonga and Ben Motshwari handed Bucs the victory, while Jabulani Ncobe netted Usuthu a lone goal. *Goal*

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Messi is showing no signs of slowing down

BARCELONA - Lionel Messi sealed a 50th career hat-trick in style with three stunning strikes for Barcelona against Sevilla last Saturday.

Messi has now scored 650 goals and has 227 assists in his career after his flurry at the Ramon Sanchez-Pizjuan Stadium.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner is averaging a goal every 75 minutes as he shows no signs of slowing at the age of 31.

"Today we played as ourselves again. We played well and the goals came when we needed them to," Messi told El Chiringuito TV in his post match interview, as quoted by Football Espana.

"It is always hard to win here and we knew that we would have to rediscover our form. We did that and performed very well and got the result."

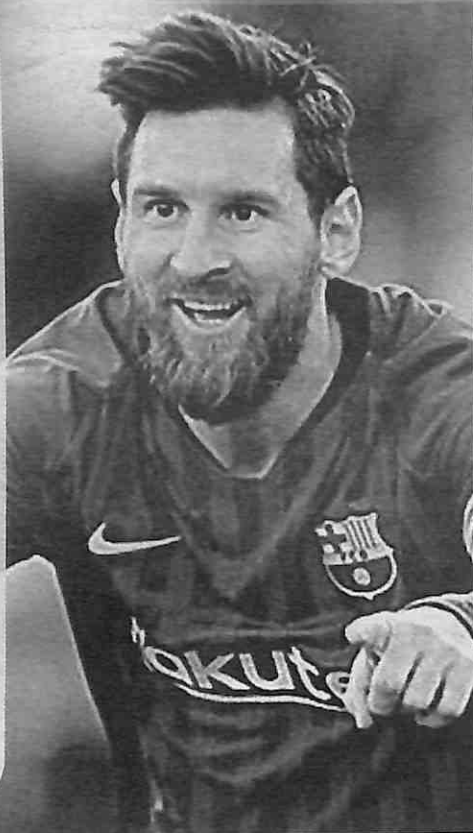
In comparison, Cristiano Ronaldo has 51 hat-tricks in 948 games for club and country.

It took Messi 797 games to reach 50 hat-tricks while Cristiano Ronaldo reached his 50th in March last year.

The Barcelona forward now has 25 La Liga goals this season, nine clear of team-mate Luis Suarez and almost double the top scorer of any other team - Cristhian Stuani has 13 for Girona. The Argentine sensation scored an incredible volley to equalise for his side and then levelled the scores again with a brilliant curling effort with his supposed weaker foot.

He rounded off his hat-trick with a chip over the goalkeeper from close range to help his side seal a 4-2 victory.

Daily Mail



Zidane won't be put off by Chelsea transfer ban

LONDON - Zinedine Zidane is still interested in taking over as manager of Chelsea despite the club's two-year transfer ban, according to *The Sun*.

The Stamford Bridge side were hit with the suspension over illegally signing 29 young players, but may appeal in order to have the upcoming summer transfer window to recruit fresh faces.

With current boss Maurizio Sarri under pressure after a run of poor form, Zidane still wants the job and will be given a huge £200m for signings.

The incumbent Italian enjoyed a fine start to life in west London, but has overseen an alarming dip in form that sees Chelsea sit sixth in the Premier League, one point from the Champions League places.

Despite only joining from Napoli in the summer, his long-term future remains unclear amid interest from Roma in making him their boss at the end of the current season.

Zidane has been unemployed since leaving Real Madrid at the end of last season, having led the

club to a third consecutive Champions League win.

The Frenchman's former club Juventus are also considering an offer for him to reunite with Cristiano Ronaldo, with whom he enjoyed so much success in Spain.

The probe from FIFA analysed more than 100 transfers carried out by the club, with Chelsea also fined £460 000 and given three months to address the issues highlighted. *Daily Mail*

The incumbent Italian enjoyed a fine start to life in west London, but has overseen an alarming dip in form that sees Chelsea sit sixth in the Premier League, one point from the Champions League places

BARCELONA WILLING TO PAY £96m TO NIGUEZ

BARCELONA - Barcelona are ready to step up their interest in Saul Niguez and 'are willing to pay £96 million to land the Atletico Madrid man' this summer.

The La Liga champions have long been admirers of the Spanish midfielder and were close to landing him in 2017 before he penned a long-term deal to remain in red and white. But according to Spanish publication AS, Barcelona are determined not to miss out again and have plans to produce a near £100m bid to get him.

Atletico are known to dig their heels in as they look to avoid strengthening a direct rival.

Should Saul make the switch to the Nou Camp, or to the Premier League with Manchester City believed to retain an interest, he would become the most

expensive Spanish player of all time.

While Barcelona's bid would still be record-breaking for a Spanish player, it still falls short of the release clause in his contract which is believed to be around 150m Euros (£130.3m).

Despite holding a 10-point lead at the top of La Liga, still in the Copa del Rey and the UEFA Champions League, Barca chiefs appear committed to recruiting the best young players for next season.

Daily Mail



WANTED: Saul Niguez.

R. Madrid know perfectly well Neymar not for sale

PARIS - Paris Saint-Germain president Nasser Al-Khelaifi has insisted that PSG can keep hold of Brazilian superstar Neymar despite rumours linking him with a move to Real Madrid.

The Qatari club chief also added that the French champions' relationship with Kylian Mbappe will be a long-term one.

Real Madrid have courted both of PSG's star names in recent times.

The Spanish giants missed out on signing Mbappe from

Monaco in 2017 while rumours continue to swirl about their interest in Neymar. But Al-Khelaifi is adamant that both players have futures in the French capital.

"Neither Real Madrid, nor any other club in the world, needs to call us about Neymar or any other player," Al-Khelaifi told Marca. Neymar is not for sale and that the player won't leave PSG this summer.

"We have a fantastic relationship with Neymar and his father

and it is built to last a long time."

Paris Saint-Germain remain on course to win yet another French title despite losing Neymar to a foot injury last month.

They defeated Nimes 3-0 last Saturday, a win that sees the club move 17 points clear of second-placed Lille - and they still have a further game in hand.

Mbappe netted twice to help secure the club's 22nd league victory of the season, a return that takes his goal tally in Ligue 1 to more than 50 goals - achieved at just 20 years of age.

And Al-Khelaifi heaped praise on the French league's top goalscorer, insisting that he is in Paris for the long haul.

Daily Mail



Ferguson wants Solskjaer to be given manager's job

LONDON - Sir Alex Ferguson wants Manchester United to appoint Ole Gunnar Solskjaer as manager on a permanent basis now, according to reports.

Solskjaer has made a superb impact since taking charge in a caretaker capacity, winning 11 out of 13 games in all competitions.

As reported by the Mirror, legendary former United boss Ferguson has told close friends that United should appoint Solskjaer immediately as opposed to waiting until the end of the season.

Since taking over from Jose Mourinho Solskjaer has won

11 out of his 13 games in charge. Ferguson, who managed Solskjaer, has spoken to the Norwegian on several occasions since he was appointed and has also regularly visited United's training ground.

In particular, Ferguson is delighted that Solskjaer has overseen a return to United's traditional style of attacking football.

Furthermore, Ferguson is pleased with the fact that former United players Michael Carrick and Mark Dempsey have formed part of Solskjaer's backroom staff.

Daily Mail





Man City edge Chelsea to retain Carabao Cup

LONDON - Manchester City successfully defended the League Cup after defeating Chelsea on penalties in a game where Blues goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga refused to be substituted.

Pep Guardiola made one change from the win over Schalke as Zinchenko replaced Ilkay Gundogan, while Gonzalo Higuain was surprisingly left on the bench for City.

Unlike the league contest a couple of weeks ago, there was a measured start to the encounter as chances were few and far between in the early exchanges.

The game's first real opening arrived shortly after the 20-minute mark when Bernardo Silva did well to pick out Sergio Aguero at the far post but the Argentine sent his effort over the crossbar.

While City dominated the possession, the Blues looked to use their pace on the counter whenever the opportunity arose, however, the City defence remained resolute.

The Citizens nearly broke the deadlock on the stroke of half-time through Nicolas Otamendi, who saw his header palmed away by goalkeeper Arrizabalaga.

Ten minutes into the second half, City had the ball in the back of the net when Aguero slotted home from close range, however, the striker's goal was flagged for offside. Chelsea went close to breaking the deadlock with 25 minutes left in the second half when Eden Hazard broke down the left before pocking out N'Golo Kante, who sent his effort over the bar from close range.

Both coaches opted for a change for the final 10 minutes of the half as the highly-rated Callum Hudson-Odoi replaced Pedro for Chelsea, while City's David Silva made way for

Gundogan.

The game was forced into extra-time after neither side could find a break through in the latter stages of regulation time, although it didn't fare any better in the extra 30 minutes.

There was a bit of drama in the final minutes of extra-time when Arrizabalaga refused to be substituted for Willy Caballero, who is known as a penalty specialist. Nevertheless, Arrizabalaga did manage to save a penalty in the shoot-out but it was not enough as Jorginho and David Luiz missed theirs as City won 4-3 to retain the title.

Daily Mail

Alexandre Lacazette, Mkhitarian strike early in Gunners' win

LONDON - Alexandre Lacazette and Henrikh Mkhitarian were on target as Arsenal coasted past struggling Southampton 2-0 to move back into the Premier League's top four.

It took just six minutes for Lacazette to convert from Mkhitarian's attempted shot and the latter turned home the dangerous Alex Iwobi's assist at Emirates Stadium yesterday.

Lacazette wasted a couple of golden opportunities to stretch the lead before half-time and, while Arsenal's tempo noticeably dropped after the break, Unai Emery's side were in complete control.

Manchester United's goalless draw with rivals Liverpool consequently sends Arsenal back into the Champions League places, while Southampton remain mired in relegation trouble. Nathan Redmond failed to capitalise on lax Arsenal defending when shooting straight at Bernd Leno one-on-one and shortly afterwards the Gunners went in front.

Iwobi's left-wing cross travelled across the box, with Lucas Torreira seemingly felled by Jack Stephens in his bid to meet the ball, and Mkhitarian's cross-cum-shot was cleverly flicked in by Lacazette.

It was 2-0 after 17 minutes as goalkeeper Angus Gunn was played into trouble by Stephens and Iwobi pounced on his hasty clearance before squaring for Mkhitarian to side-foot home from the edge of the box. Lacazette wastefully blasted over from six yards shortly before the break, while James Ward-Prowse fired wide on the volley for Southampton from Granit Xhaka's wayward pass early in the second half.

Daily Mail

Highlands deny Leopards victory in Limpopo

THOHOYANDOU - Highlands Park were unable to punish 10-man Black Leopards as the sides played to a goalless draw in the ABSA Premiership yesterday afternoon.

Lidoda Duvha made four changes from their Nedbank Cup loss to Bidvest Wits on Monday, as goalkeeper King Ndlovu, Pentjie Zulu, Tshwarelo Bereng and Khuliso Mudau returned to the line-up.

Peter Shalulile came close to grabbing the lead for the Lions of the North twice in the first five minutes of the game but was denied by Ndlovu on both occasions, while Lifa Hlongwane had the best chance for Leopards in the 12th minute with a low shot that was smothered by Marlon Heugh at the near post.

Hlongwane was unlucky not to open the scoring for Dylan Kerr's charges seven minutes before the break as his curling strike from outside the box crashed against the upright with Heugh well beaten.

The woodwork came Highlands' rescue shortly after the break when Hlongwane rattled the frame of the goal as the host upped the intensity in search of an opening.

After the hour, Leopards were reduced to ten men Mudau received his second yellow card five minutes after getting a first caution, the second for a dive inside the box.

Mokete Mogaila had a glorious chance to capitalise on the extra space for Highlands in the 68th minute after breaking away to go one on one with Ndlovu, but the youngster shot straight at the Leopards shot-stopper.

The visitors were forced to make a change 12 minutes before time as Sello Motsepe succumbed to injury and he was replaced by Denzil Haoseb.

Kick-Off

Injury-hit Man Utd hold title-chasing Liverpool

LONDON - Liverpool moved top of the Premier League table, despite dropping points at fierce rivals Manchester United yesterday, who were hit by a few injuries.

The Red Devils were without two key players as Nemanja Matic and Antony Martial missed out through injury, while Liverpool welcomed Virgil van Dijk and James Milner into the side.

The home side did not enjoy the best opening 20 minutes of the encounter as Ander Herrera was replaced by Andreas Periera, while Juan Mata was forced off and replaced by Jesse Lingard.

There was proving to be more substitutions than chances as Liverpool were forced into a change after 30 minutes when Roberto Firmino made way for Daniel Sturridge.

United did go close to breaking

the deadlock five minutes before the break, but Alisson rushed off his line to thwart Lingard, who injured himself and was replaced by Sanchez. The second half continued in the same fashion as the first as both sides struggled to carve out chances, although there was a higher tempo. Set-pieces seemed to be the only way sides could get close to scoring as Joel Matip

and Georginio Wijnaldum headed wide of the mark after 70 minutes. With time running out for the sides to get a goal as Jurgen Klopp threw on Xherdan Shaqiri and



later Divock Origi for the final 15 minutes.

Daily Mail

IN PAIN: The Manchester United team doctor attending to Jesse Lingard's injury.

Impressive Stars claim Free State derby spoils

BLOEMFONTEIN - Free State Stars gave their survival bid a massive boost when they defeated local rivals Bloemfontein Celtic yesterday afternoon.

Stars coach Nikola Kavazovic rang the changes for the derby as Eleazar Rodgers, Yusuf Jappie, Sinethemba Jantjie and Sibusiso Hlubi were drafted into the line-up.

Ea Lla Koto hadn't been in action in two weeks, and their freshness

certainly showed in the early stages as they dominated possession for most of the early stages.

It was Celtic who carved out the first opening through in-form Tshagofatso Mabasa, who saw his close-range strike deflect just over Robert Sangare's crossbar.

Stars were eventually rewarded for their persistence when Harris Tchilimbou slotted home from close range in the 28th minute for his second derby goal this season.

The lead was doubled four minutes before the break when Jantjie made up for an earlier miss to fire past Patrick Tignymb with a fine finish.

There was enough time for Stars to bag a third goal before the break as Jantjie broke free down the middle before slotting home to complete his brace. After a quiet start to the second half, Celtic were awarded a lifeline when Rooi Mahamutsa committed a foul in

the box, resulting in a penalty, which Kabelo Dlamini failed to convert. The hosts were not to be denied three minutes later when defender Mbhazima Rikhotso found the back of the net from close range. Celtic managed to pull another goal back with four minutes remaining through Victor Letsoalo's close range finish. However, Ea Lla Koto managed to see out the closing stages of the half to claim a vital three points. *Soccer Laduma*



MTN Premier League 2018/19

PICTURES


ACROBATIC: Manzini Sundowns goalkeeper Lwethu Simelane makes a save, while Wanderers' Sifiso Maseko closes in. This was during the MTN Y'ello Sunday games at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday, where Wanderers won 2-0.



ONE DOWN: Action between Manzini Sundowns and Manzini Wanderers game. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



BEST DRESSED: Sundowns' Sthe-mbile Dlamini and Wanderers' Khosi Nkonyane pose after they won the best dressed fans awards.



HEAD AND KICK: Manzini Sundowns' Phumlani Dlamini foul plays Wanderers' Ogochukwu Ohakwe.



MOVING ON: Wanderers' Ogochukwu makes a move during their game against Sundowns.



CLEAR: Sanele Mngomezulu clears the ball ahead of Mpendulo Ngidi.



G-STRING: Some of Wanderers' supporters enjoying themselves during the game.



MAHHALA HHA: Manzini Wanderers supporters celebrate one of their goals against Sundowns.

DULA WESELI: Wanderers' technical bench in a relaxed mood before the start of the game.



FOUL: Mike Dombo receives a yellow card.



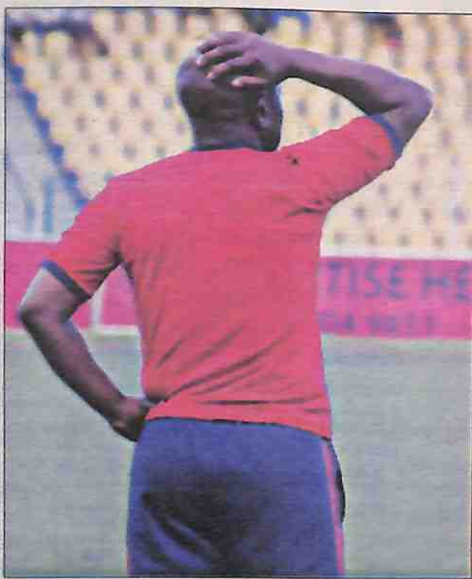
MTN Premier League 2018/19

PICTURES



UNDER CONTROL: Mbabane Swallows Sandile Hlatjwako controls the ball ahead of Mbabane Citizens' Renie Mncwango. This was during the MTN games held at Somhlolo National Stadium which ended in a goalless draw. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

SWALLOWS 0 CITIZENS 0



EISH! A Mbabane Swallows official expresses his frustration after a missed chance.



BLOCKED: Mbabane Swallows captain Tony 'TT' Tsabedze being blocked by Mbabane Citizens players.



OUCH! Swallows Richard Sewu being fouled by a Mbabane Citizen's player.



UNBELIEVABLE: Mbabane Swallows fans in an awe as their team misses scoring chances.



THIS WAY: Swallows Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko dribbles past Citizens' Ayanda Kunene.



COOLING OFF: Mbabane Swallows' Paito Dube and Tony Tsabedze cooling themselves down.



DASHING: Sandile Hlatjwako dashes with the ball while a Mbabane Citizens defender gives chase.



RIGHT - GIVE WAY: Tony 'TT' Tsabedze paves his way past a Citizens defender.

FOOTBALL TALK

All your latest WORLD FOOTBALL News

● Arsenal head the chase for Crystal Palace right-back Aaron Wan-Bissaka, 21, who is rated at £40m. (*Sun*)

● Newcastle are prepared to break their transfer record and have agreed a £51m deal to sign Brazilian striker Joelinton, 22, from Hoffenheim in the summer. (*Sport1, via Star*)

● Barcelona are ready to bid 110m euros (£95m) for Atletico Madrid midfielder Saul Niguez, 24, who has also been linked with Chelsea. (*AS*)

● Manchester United and Bayern Munich are monitoring Barcelona's Croatia international midfielder Ivan Rakitic, 30. (*Mundo Deportivo*)

● Barcelona midfielder Ivan Rakitic, 30, says he wants to stay at the Nou Camp after facing questions about a potential exit. (*Marca*)

● Former Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has told close friends that interim manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer should be given the job permanently. (*Mail*)

● Ole Gunnar Solskjaer says Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba, 25, made himself a target for critics with his flamboyant lifestyle. (*Express*)

● Arsenal are set to hire Roma Sporting Director Monchi when his contract expires at the end of June. (*Star*)

● Burnley and England keeper Joe Hart, 31, could be set for a move to Major League Soccer in the United States. (*Sun*)

● Striker Salomon Rondon, 29, on loan at Newcastle from West Brom, has revealed he is happy to remain with the Magpies beyond this season. (*Newcastle Chronicle*)

● Everton have made an approach to sign Paris St-Germain defender Thomas Meunier, 27. (*Le10Sport, via Talksport*)

● Arsenal want to bring in their former winger Marc Overmars as their technical director but the move is being blocked by his current club Ajax. (*Mirror*)

● Arsenal will offer defender Rob Holding, 23, a new deal after he suffered a long-term injury in December. (*Mirror*)

● Brazil international full-back Marcelo is ready to leave Real Madrid and Juventus are interested in signing the 30-year-old. (*Calciomercato*)

● Leicester Manager Claude Puel has pleaded with Foxes fans to stick with his young side after they lost their fourth consecutive home game. (*Leicester Mercury*)

● Liverpool Managing Director Billy Hogan says transfer funds will be available to manager Jurgen Klopp this summer. (*Liverpool Echo*)

Tambuti, Malanti through to 'Solo Inje' U-20 Cup quarters

STORIES BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SOCCER - LUBOMBO based side Tambuti and Northern Hhohho ensemble Malanti Chiefs have booked their spot in the last eight of the Eswatini Bank Under-20 Cup.

This was during the preliminary games played at the Old Trade Fair Ground in Manzini yesterday, where Tambuti won 4 - 2 against Mbabane Highlanders while Malanti Chiefs won 7-6 after penalties against Matsapha United as the match finished 2-all in regular time.

The two teams started well, and the tempo of the match was high from the onset, and Tambuti eventually scored the first goal through Xolani Matsenjwa in the 25th minute. The lanky forward connected well a Lindelwa Mngometulu cross from the left flank to break the deadlock.

Results

Malanti Chiefs 2-2 Matsapha United (Malanti Chiefs win 7-6 on penalties)
Tambuti 4-2 Highlanders

The green and white ensemble were back at it again in the 25th minute as they doubled their lead through Masiko Dlamini, who finished off with an easy tap-in after Matsebula Ndimiso had done all the work on the left flank.

10 minutes later, Ndimiso Mndzebele scored the third goal and once again through the quick interchange of passes in the final third as the match went to the recess with Tambuti leading 3-0.

After the break, Highlanders came back stronger as they went in search of the first goal, and they were quick to make an impact registering one in the 50th minute through Bayanda Dlamini, who finished off with a low volley.

Mlandvo Dlamini got the second for the black and white ensemble but their joy was

short-lived as Tambuti scored the fourth goal through Ndimiso Mndzebele, who claimed a brace for his team and a ticket to the last eight of the tournament.

In the second match, seven-man Malanti Chiefs stunned Matsapha United with a great comeback to eventually win the match 7-6 on penalties. The two teams join Manzini Sundowns and Vovovo, who won on Saturday. They will now join the other four other teams in Mbabane Swallows, Royal Leopard, Green Mamba and Young Buffaloes.

The two teams started well, and the tempo of the match was high from the onset, and Tambuti eventually scored goal

'I am happy with my boys' performance'

SOCCER - TAMBUTI coach Ishmael Zwane expressed pleasure at his side's convincing 4-2 win against capital city side Mbabane Highlanders to book a spot in the last eight of the Eswatini Bank Cup Under-20 tournament.

The coach said this when interviewed after the encounter played at the Old Trade Fair Ground yesterday.

The mentor said his charges stuck to the game plan which made him a happy man.

"I think we had a great match, considering the fact that we had limited time for training - only twice a week and we managed to be so commanding and played the ball around. It's a big pitch and I told the boys they just needed to keep the ball moving and get them tired, and it worked like a charm. We are ready for any opposition in the quarter-finals and we will take it one game at a time and see where it takes us," he said.

His Mbabane Highlanders counterpart Mangaliso Mavuso blamed their loss on silly mistakes. "All the goals we conceded were due to us losing concentration in defence and were outright silly.

Had we concentrated much better, I think the score-line would have been different. It is so disappointing to be knocked out so early in the tournament. I hope we can pick ourselves up and focus on the league," he said.

Simon wins first PMC golf competition

BY JONGILE XUBA

GOLF - THE first instalment of the Project Managers of Choice (PMC) Golf Tournament was won by Simon Motsa after some impressive golf on Saturday afternoon at Manzini Club.

The tournament featured an impressive field of 45 golfers.

Motsa accumulated a score of 38 points on count back to claim the championship. He was followed by Eerfaan Dada, who got 38 points while Michael Mahlalela finished third with 37 points. Sive Dlamini came fourth with 37 points and Augusta Quintela rounded up the top five with 36 points.

PMC General Manager Mcebo Maziya thanked all the golfers for taking part in the event.

He said the company (PMC) was ready to assist them with consultations on any construction projects.

"We are happy to be part of this wonderful sport and support such an initiative. We would

PMC Golf Tournament results

First - Simon Motsa
38 points c/b
Second - Eerfaan Dada
38 points
Third - Michael Mahlalela
37 points c/b
Fourth - Sive Dlamini
37 points
Fifth - Augusta Quintela
36 points

like to thank all the golfers, who came out to be part of the competition and I must also congratulate the winners," he said. The PMC Golf Tournament has been sponsored by Project Managers of Choice company to the tune of E30 000.

The tournament will be played on the last Saturday of every month at Manzini Club.



FIRST WINNER: Golfer Simon Motsa receives his prize from Project Managers of Choice General Manager Mcebo Maziya after finishing first with 38 points during the PMC golf tournament at Manzini Club on Saturday. (Pic: Jongile Xuba)

Way Inn lose in pool opener

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

POOL - WAY Inn were the early casualties of the Manzini Regional Pool Association (MRPA)'s League as they went down 10-13 to Correctional Services on Saturday.

This was during the start of the Dixies International sponsored tournament. Way Inn are one of the most decorated teams in the sport locally, and it was expected that they would make easy meal of Correctional's team, but that was not the case.

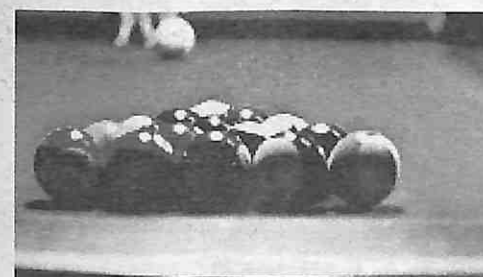
MRPA's Chairman Muntu Dlamini said they were pleased with the progress of games on Saturday, and looked forward to the unveiling of the league yesterday with a game pitting Manzini Pool Club against Police Academy.

"It was an incident free start, and we hope things will be like this until the end," he said.

The league is sponsored to a combined tune of E40 000, with E30 000 going towards the league and E10 000 reserved for a knockout tournament.

THE WEEKEND'S RESULTS

Garrison	13	Bhunya1	1
Way Inn	10	Correctional	13
Mankayane	13	Figa5	8
Nick's	13	Stairs	6
France	13	Figaredo	12



'Birds' fail to take off against Citizens

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

Swallows..... (0)0
Citizens..... (0)0

SOCCER – NOT good enough! If Mbabane Swallows are to challenge for the MTN League title, they need to produce a much better performance than they did against Mbabane Citizens at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Citizens produced a very good defensive display to frustrate the 'Birds' into a 0-0 draw, a game Swallows needed to win to move to third place on the log and improve their chances of winning the championship.

Nonetheless, it was a priceless point for relegation threatened Citizens and a complete damper to Swallows' title ambitions.

In fact, this point should equate to a win for Citizens, as they would have not expected to gain it after comparing the two teams' sheets. Swallows' fans were left frustrated after a glut of missed chances, but in all fairness, the opposition also created good chances of their own.

They almost took the lead when a thunderbolt of a free-kick by Dan Shabangu from 45 yards was pushed over the bar with Sandanezwe Mathabela in Swallows' goal after only three



COOLING OFF: Mbabane Swallows Paito Dube and Tony Tsabedze cooling themselves off during the game.

minutes into the game.

Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko then thought he had put Swallows in front in the 16th minute when he nipped the ball between the keeper's legs, but the goal was ruled out for offside.

Citizens' Ghanaian striker Richard Botwey then took the game by the scruff of the neck and attempted to penetrate Swallows' defence to break the deadlock.

He went close in the 32nd minute when Shabangu delivered a precise free kick into the box and his header missed the top corner by a few inches. Swallows seemed to rely on the counter

attack at this point, but their opponents were solid at the back.

Botwey was back in the 42nd minute, as he seemed content with causing some damage. His long-range shot was well-saved by Mathabela at the near post.

Effort

This effort was closely followed by a rasping shot by Tony 'TT' Tsabedze, which missed the target narrowly.

The score board was black at the break, but both teams had dished out a good measure of entertainment in the first half.

At the resumption, it was Swallows

that created the early opportunities as Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu turned inside the box and released a scorching towards goal. Sandile Dlamini did well to push the ball out for a corner kick, which was almost headed in by Sizolwethu Shabalala.

'TT' had delivered from the corner spot.

Shabalala then wasted the best chance of the game when he was set up by Sandile Hlatjwako in the 55th minute. Unmarked just outside the six-area box, the striker blazed his shot well-wide when it appeared easier to score.

Straight after that miss, coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe substituted the striker and replaced him with Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa.

A goal was elusive for Swallows, and Citizens were gaining confidence with each passing minute. As a consequence, the stalemate rightly persisted until the end of the game.

TEAMS

Swallows – Sandanezwe, Sewu, Mncedisi Dlamini, Ndumiso Ndaba, Stepheni Mukatuka, Paito, Wonder, D4D, Sandile (Lilopo), Sizolwethu (Sikhali), Tony.

Citizens – Sandile, Sifiso Shabangu, Ayanda Kunene, Riene, Siyabonga Ndlangamandla, Dan, Lungelo, Mxolisi Bhembe, Sifiso Mdluli, Mancoba Vilakati, Botwey.

Referee – Leticia Vienna.

God was with us - 'Koki'

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – MANZINI Wanderers coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati says God was with them during yesterday's clash against Manzini Sundowns.

Vilakati said the heavens helped them to beat the 'Kappa Boys' following their 2-0 victory over their neighbours at Somhlolo National Stadium.

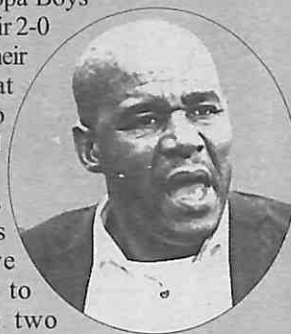
"God was indeed with us today, as we managed to convert the two chances we created today.

I was expecting a draw due to our previous results and my players came to the party today and delivered a win for the team," he said.

Meanwhile, his Sundowns counterpart Ernest Mavuso attributed the loss to poor lapse in concentration.

"We didn't play well today as we were caught napping in both goals scored by the opposition. We are still not mentally and physically fit as a team, but I am happy with the attitude of my players as they all showed commitment.

"We need to regroup quickly and focus on the upcoming matches despite the tight schedule of the league. I am confident we will cope under the circumstances and possibly grind positive results," he said.



I will save Wanderers - Dombo

BY JONGILE XUBA

SOCCER – MANZINI Wanderers winger Mike Dombo is adamant his side will not be relegated.

The player said this after he was named man of the match as he scored a brace in his team's 2-0 win over Manzini Sundowns.

"We played well today (yesterday) and I am happy to get the award. I am not worried about relegation, because as long as I play I know we can survive. Wanderers won't go down because I don't see myself playing in the NFD," he said.

Dombo added that not starting in the last two fixtures, which they lost, was a bit hard for him as he was happy to be back in the team and to have done so well on his return to the fold.

"My confidence is back now after not starting in the last matches. I would like to thank the coaching staff for

having faith in me and giving me game time, which I hope to repay with my display," he said.

He dedicated his award to the fans, saying they were the reason he pushed himself so hard on the pitch. Meanwhile, Mbabane Citizens goalkeeper Sandile Dlamini, who was man of the match in the second game against Mbabane Swallows, said he was happy with the award.

The stopper made a couple of good saves and was rock solid for Citizens at the back.

He said it would have been nice to win the match and the award. Dlamini said their aim was to move away from the relegation zone. "We have a mandate to survive relegation and the point will help us achieve that.

I am happy to win the award even though a win would have been better," he said.

SAVER: Mike Dombo.

BY JONGILE XUBA

SOCCER – MBABANE Swallows coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe believes his team still has a chance of retaining the title despite dropping points against bottom side Mbabane Citizens.

The coach was speaking after his team played to a goalless draw at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Coach Hlophe said although the result may have hampered their title chances, it did not mean they had to stop fighting in the remaining fixtures.

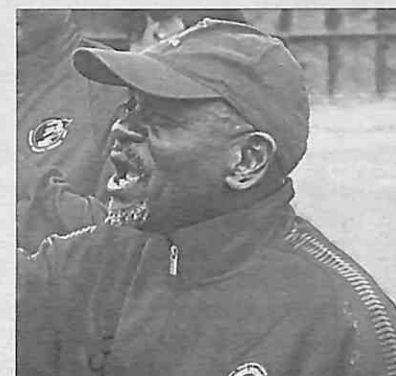
"Looking at the result, it is not a good for us but that does not mean we should throw in the towel. We played really well today (yesterday) but were only unfortunate not to collect maximum points. We have to keep fighting," he said.

Coming to the match, 'Crooks' said

they did not play their usual game and they were still not scoring goals, which was a huge concern. However, he said he was pleased with the fact that the team was not conceding goals too.

"We have to continue working hard. The team will come okay, and that's for sure," he said.

The coach also singled out captain Tony 'TT' Tsabedze and Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko as leading by example and raising their level of play over the last couple of games. Meanwhile, Mbabane Citizens coach Charles Manda said the game was a tough one for them, and they were happy to come away with a point. He added that they were not worried about relegation yet and would take each game at a time. "The boys played really well against a strong opposition and they are starting to gel well. I am not worried about relegation as there are still a couple more games



POSITIVE: Mbabane Swallows coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe.

to be played, so we need to keep fighting," he said. Coach Manda also voiced his concern about his team's inability to score when they are playing well and that they would have to sort that out if they were to survive relegation.

MTN T-shirts delay Swallows-Citizens game by 10 minutes

BY MTHUNZI MAZIYA

SOCCER – FAILURE by Mbabane Swallows to wear MTN branded T-shirts for their warm up led to a 10-minute delay for their match against Mbabane Citizens at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

MTN is the sponsor of the country's elite football league.

Citizens' full squad wore the said T-shirts for their warm up, forcing MTN's

Senior Manager Consumer Meshack Maseko to enquire from Premier League of Eswatini's (PLE) stadium rep, Sibusiso Dlamini as to why Swallows were not clad in the sponsors' branded T-shirts.

Response

The response from Dlamini was that Swallows would do so when they took to the field for the start of the game. However, when the teams were about to come out of the tunnels, Swallows were still not clad in the sponsors branded T-shirts.

Dlamini tried to no avail to reason with them to do so, but they failed to comply, leading to a delay in the start of the match for about 10 minutes. The match was due to start at 3:30pm but ended up starting at about 3:40pm.

A Swallows marshal who was close to the tunnels explained that they could not wear the T-shirts because the consignment arrived at their dressing room very late.

Swallows' PRO Jackson Dlamini said he did not know anything about T-shirts.

RESULTS

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE

Manzini Sea Birds	0-2	Royal Leopard
Malanti Chiefs	2-2	Vovovo
Matsapha United	1-3	Mbabane Highlanders
Tambuti	0-1	Young Buffaloes
Green Mamba	2-1	Moneni Pirates
Manzini Sundowns	0-2	Manzini Wanderers
Mbabane Citizens	0-0	Mbabane Swallows

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Arsenal	2-0	Southampton
Manchester United	0-0	Liverpool

ABSA PREMIERSHIP

Black Leopards	0-0	Highlands Park
Bloem Celtic	2-3	Free State Stars

LOGS

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE

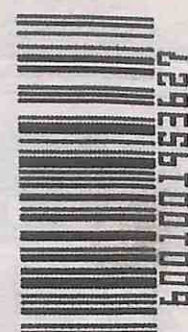
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Leopard	19	13	3	3	32	11	21	42
Green Mamba	19	12	3	4	33	10	23	39
Buffaloes	19	10	7	2	27	12	15	37
Swallows	19	11	3	5	23	14	9	36
Highlanders	19	10	6	3	24	16	8	36
Sea Birds	19	7	3	9	19	23	-4	24
Malanti	19	5	7	7	16	25	-9	22
Wanderers	19	6	3	10	19	26	-7	21
Pirates	19	5	5	9	18	28	-10	20
Sundowns	19	5	5	9	16	25	-9	20
Tambuti	19	5	5	9	18	22	-4	20
Matsapha	19	6	2	12	19	28	-9	17
Vovovo	19	4	5	10	12	23	-11	17
Citizens	19	2	9	8	12	22	-10	15

SPORTS

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Monday February 25, 2019



DOMBO ENDS 'WESLIANS' LOSING STREAK

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Manzini Wanderers.....	(1)2
Manzini Sundowns.....	(0)0

SOCCER - MANZINI Wanderers winger Mike Dombo proved himself as the pillar of the team after netting the all-important brace which saw off rivals Manzini Sundowns.

The Congolese winger found the back of the net twice in each half, helping the hub giants secure a top eight in the MTN Premier League log.

This follows their 2-0 victory over the 'The Kappa Boys' during the Manzini derby played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The former Matsapha United player's sterling performance also helped the 'Weslians' end their recent two-match losing streak.

Wanderers started off the match brightly as they forced a desperate save from the opposition goalkeeper Lwethu Simelane through a John Pako shot four minutes into the match.

The South African player's effort caused an early shower for the national Under-20 goal minder Lwethu Simelane, who was stretched off after sustaining a shoulder injury.

Simelane was replaced by his deputy Phila Mamba in the 17th minute.

Wanderers' striker Mfanufikile 'Fash' Ndzimandze missed a sitter in the 22nd minute from a break attack.

Sundowns nearly took the lead two minutes later through their Congolese striker

- Congolese winger netted brace in hub derby win
- 'Weslians' jumps to top eight



THE TEAMS:

Sundowns: Lwethu (Phila), Sanele, Sandile, Kingu, Phumlani, Kangumbi, Ndimiso, Sibusiso, Biaya (Antwi), Sibonginkhosi, Linda (Vusie)

Wanderers: Ncedo, Machado, Mthobisi, Sihle, Sifiso, Lihle (Menzi), Dombo, Mancoba, Mfanufikile (Ugo), Ngidi, Pako (Njabulo)

Phila Mamba.

Dombo then registered his brace two minutes before fulltime with a clinical header from a cross delivered by substitute Njabulo Magongo, much to the delight of his team's faithful.

Leave me alone - 'Koki' tells Birds supporters

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - MANZINI Wanderers head coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati has lashed out at Mbabane Swallows supporters, urging them to just leave him alone.

Vilakati said his former employer's supporters should just let him be.

He said this soon after watching his team beat Manzini Sundowns 2-0 at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

"Mbabane Swallows supporters should just leave me alone as I do not owe them anything. I know they have not been sent by the Management Committee, it's just them. They should focus on their own team instead of booing and insulting my players," he said.

Complaining

Swallows Public Relations Officer (PRO) Jackson Dlamini politely declined to comment on the matter when contacted yesterday.

This is the second time for Vilakati to have a spat with local fans after previously complaining against Mbabane Highlanders fans for doing the same during his era as Mbabane Swallows coach.

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